

Trini Tidings 2018



Lent/Easter

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

Phone: 857-4471

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Website:

www.trinityunitedportage.ca

Trinity Mission Goal:

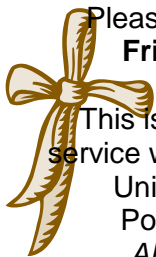
"Open our hearts and minds
to welcome each person
as a child of God."

Ecumenical

Good Friday Worship

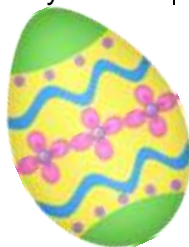
Please join us at Trinity
Friday, March 30
10:30 a.m.

This is a shared worship
service with the Anglican and
United Churches in
Portage la Prairie.
All are welcome.



Easter Sunday

House Group C invites you to
come to church a
bit early to enjoy a
light continental
breakfast - around
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.
If you can help with
food items, there is



a sign-up sheet on
the back bulletin
board. Looking
forward to
seeing you!

COMING UP IN SUNDAY WORSHIP at TRINITY

*Sunday Services and Sunday
School at 10:30 a.m.*

March 25, 2018

Palm Sunday
"Give it Up for Lent"
Giving up Popularity

Friday March 30

Good Friday worship at Trinity

April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday Celebration
"Give it Up for Lent"
Giving up Expectations
Communion Service
Breakfast before worship!

April 8, 2018

In Search of Resurrection

April 15, 2018

Easter is More Than a Day

April 22, 2018

Song Circling All the Earth

April 29, 2018

Unlikely Friendships

May 6, 2018

Guest Worship Leader:
Ross Taylor

May 13, 2018

We are the Church
(Junior Choir and
Sunday School Wind Up)

May 20, 2018

Pentecost Celebration
with Communion

May 27, 2018

Guest Worship Leader:
Norman Collier

June 3, 2018

Guest Worship Leader:
Norman Collier

June 10, 2018

Guest Worship Leader:
Ross Taylor

Trinity's Special Events Calendar

Saturday Breakfast

Saturday, April 14
8:30 – 10 a.m.

UCW Cookie Sale

Sunday, April 22
following worship

Ukrainian Nursery School

Art Show Exhibit

Saturday, April 28
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday Breakfast

Saturday, May 12
8:30 – 10 a.m.

Trinity Treasures Sale

Fri., May 25, 4 – 7:00 p.m.
Sat., May 26, 9 a.m. – noon

Saturday Breakfast

Saturday, June 9
8:30 – 10 a.m.

We've not yet set a
date for baptism this
spring, but if there's
interest, please be in
touch with Beth as
soon as possible.



Good Friday Participation!

Would you be willing to help
with the
Good Friday
service on
Friday,
March 30 at



10:30 a.m.? Trinity will be
hosting this year and we are
looking for people for the
following parts:

- Cross carrier(s) – non speaking
- Scripture readers (x2) – speaking
- Symbol presenters (X2) – non-speaking
- Readers for short reflection pieces (x2) – speaking

If you can help, please let Beth
know or contact the church
office (204-857-4471 or
trinityu@mts.net).

Trinity's Memorial Fund

Remembering is a sacred process. As we tell our stories we discover and rediscover who we are and where we are headed. Telling our stories helps us make sense of our lives and to build genuine community with one another.



As a faith community, we have a rich story-book in scripture and the stories of our ancestors in faith to guide us. When we tell those stories again and again, they begin to live and breathe in us. They become more than just words on a page or words spoken aloud. They become a living thing, taking a shape which is both unique and new because this moment is unique and new and also ancient and familiar because God's people have not really changed all that much.

Here at Trinity, one of the ways in which we help the stories of those who have gone before us to take new shape in our changing world is through our Memorial donations. When a Memorial donation is made, it helps us to remember and cherish the story of the person in whose honour it is given. It also helps us to continue to uplift the stories of our faith for current and future generations when we use the gifts in the Memorial Fund for worship and Christian Education. The Memorial Fund is often used to help with the little extras that enhance our worship and Christian Education programs like gifts for new members when they are confirmed.

Memorial donations can also be made to other specific funds. At the moment, we are working

on replacing the lift that runs from the Tupper St. Office Entrance down to the office area and up to the

sanctuary. Donations in memory of a loved one can be made to this project by specifying the "Give us a Lift" fund. We are also in the process of replacing the sanctuary roof, as shingles keep coming off every time the wind gets up. Donations to the Building Fund will help us with this kind of up-keep to our historic building so that it can continue to be of service to future generations. Memorial donations can also be made to the General Fund to support our on-going expenses, to the Mission and Service Fund to support the outreach work of the United Church of Canada or to any other particular ministry of the church, if desired. Please talk to us at the church office if you would like more information. Thank you for all the ways in which you support our life and work here at Trinity.

The Trinity Memorial Fund seeks to honour the life and faith of loved ones in ways that keep faith alive. We thank God for the lives of these faithful people, in whose memory we have received donations since November 2017.

*Eva Sissons
Jean Mutala
Katie Dickenson
Loreena Pogue
Roy Tibbett
Susan McLaughlin*

*Clayton & Mildred Zimmerman
Val Garlick
Mary-Liz Miazga
Audrey Hourie
Trudy McDonald
Marg & Wally Pehura
Philip Miller*

Gifts were also received to the Mission & Service Fund, in memory of Val Garlick, Joan Saunders, Margaret Walsh, Jeanne Saunders and Rick Blight. Donations to the Give Us a Lift Fund were received in memory of Eva Sissons, Clayton Zimmerman and Four Generations of The Gibb Family.



Did you get a copy of our

church's Annual Report? Pick up your print copy in the church office! You can also get all sorts of other information there from Jacquie, from offering envelopes to program information.

Holy Week Invitations from McKenzie United Church

Thursday, March 29
6 – 8:00 pm
Maundy Thursday



The evening will begin with a pot-luck supper, followed by an informal communion service, based on the communion that Jesus shared with his friends and disciples at the Last Supper. Please RSVP to McKenzie church 204-857-6027 to reserve your spot.

Sunday, April 1
Easter Sunrise service
6:45 a.m. McKenzie United Church parking lot
All welcome!



Trinity United Church is online!



You can go to our website www.trinityunitedportage.ca to get all of the information we can think of to put there. There's information about the church building and our activities. There are schedules and stories. You can access our Sunday School information and teacher sign up lists.



If you have a question and you want an answer, or if you want to chat online with church people, check out our Facebook Group – **Trinity United Church, Portage la Prairie**. You have to ask to join, but if you're interested, we'll add you, we promise! It is not a public group so that we can avoid spammers and those who want to sell things all the time. We do also have a Facebook page, mostly for information, rather than for interaction.



We are also on Instagram and Twitter. Our Twitter handle is **@ChurchPortage** and you can follow us on Instagram at **trinityportage**.



The newest foray for Trinity is that we now have a youtube channel, called **Trinity Portage**. You can subscribe to our channel, or just access our videos and playlists by visiting our channel at your convenience. On our channel you will find all of the videos made by Julie and Beth as we have been "Giving it Up" for Lent, including Sunday sermons from January 28, February 11, February 18, March 4 and March 11, with more to come.



UPDATE 2018

Trinity Funerals since the November 2017 TriniTidings

Funerals

Susan McLaughlin
December 9, 2017

Gardiner "Gard" Cecil Greenlay
December 29, 2017

Gerard Donald Bennett
January 5, 2018

William Lawrence
"Larry" Downey
January 12, 2018

Mary-Elizabeth "Mary-Liz" Miazga
January 15, 2018

Deborah Anne Bailey
January 25, 2018

Michael Bradly Anderson
January 27, 2018

Linda Diane Hollohan
February 15, 2018

Philip Oliver Miller
February 23, 2018

Frances "Frank" Edward Case
March 7, 2018

Weddings

Matthew Michal John Bayduza & April Anne Brown
December 30, 2017

Baptisms

Austin Avery Mulligan
Son of Jeff & Amanda Mulligan
January 7, 2018

Rhett Layne Mulligan
Son of Jeff & Amanda Mulligan
January 7, 2018

Kinley Elizabeth Joseline Threlfall
Daughter of Justin Threlfall & Keira Miazga Penner
January 7, 2018

Are you receiving TriniTidings?



If you know of someone who would like to receive TriniTidings, please have them call the office and we will add their name to our list. You may also contact us by e-mail trinityu@mymts.net

The Portage Ukrainian Nursery School 6th Annual Art Show



Saturday, April 28

1-3 p.m.

Trinity Auditorium

All are invited by the nursery school children to their 6th Annual Art Show and Auction on Saturday, April 28 from 1-3 p.m. in the Auditorium. Come and enjoy the children's Monet inspired acrylic paintings, watercolours, self-portraits, sketchbooks, batik quilts and portraits of their classmates done alongside local artist, Lee Beaton, through the ArtsSmart Grant program. Some small and large art pieces will be available for sale if you'd like to brighten a spot in your home or office.

Hospital Visiting



Because of the Personal Health Information Act, and a new hospital computer

system, it is so important to have someone contact the church office (204-857-4471) and request a hospital visit. Your ministers **will not know** that you are in hospital unless you find ways to tell us.

Save the date – The UCW is having a cookie sale following worship on **Sunday, April 22**. Come and pick your own. \$5/dozen.



Time for a Sabbatical!

The concept of a sabbatical is rooted in the biblical tradition of Sabbath ("to rest"). The purpose of Sabbath was to nourish the body, mind and soul with an emphasis on rest and

play as an important part of growth. It involves letting go of our regular work, worry and responsibilities in order to embrace something else for a short while. As the gospel story illustrates, Jesus experienced sabbatical when he sought occasional respite from the demands of his ministry (Matthew 14:13 etc.) On mountaintops and by lakesides, Jesus took time apart to commune with God, to gain perspective, and to strengthen himself spiritually.

In the United Church, sabbaticals for clergy renewal have been part of church policy since 2005, citing many benefits to clergy and congregations. As such, every United Church minister, after 5 years of service in one congregation, is entitled and encouraged to take a sabbatical study and refresher leave for at least 3 consecutive months in order to rest, disengage, study, reflect, and travel in order to return to ministry refreshed and renewed in body, mind, and spirit.

Given how time flies, it has been seven years since Julie Baker has taken a sabbatical. Can you believe she has served this congregation for 19 years? So, beginning April 23,



Julie will take sabbatical and return August 16. What will she be doing? Her theme for sabbatical is "appreciative inquiry". She wants to learn some of the Appreciative Inquiry methodology, as well as stopping to take time to appreciate things in her own life. So she's off to Vancouver Island, then to Ontario, as well as time locally in Winnipeg and here in Portage.

During May and June we will have a couple of guest worship leaders who will fill in here at Trinity, and we will continue our summer tradition of sharing worship services with McKenzie and First Presbyterian. More details on summer plans will appear in our May issue. Ministers from the surrounding area may also be called upon to help cover for emergencies if the need arises, as Beth and Julie have been available to help other congregations in similar circumstances. In addition, we know that this congregation is full of gifts and skills, and many people will step forward to ease the workload for Beth while Julie is away. We hope it will be a time of renewal and growth for all of us.

Old Eye Glasses – If anyone has old eye glasses that they wish to donate, they can be placed in the marked boxes at the back of the church. They will be donated to those in need through the Lion's Club. Cases are not needed.



Exploring Faith Supper Club



**Sunday Evenings
April 15, 22, 29 and May 6
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

Join us for four Sunday nights to eat together and explore what it means to seek to live a Christian life in our current context. Faith is a journey and it is always valuable to slow down from time to time and look for the sign posts along the way.

Beginning on Sunday, April 15 and running until May 6, we will meet in the parlour (come in through the green door off the parking lot) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Beth is bringing supper for our first gathering so **please let us know** at the church office (204-857-4471 or trinityu@mts.net) if you plan on joining us so we can have the appropriate amount of food.

For adults interested in becoming a member through adult baptism, confirmation or transfer, this will be appropriate preparation for that, but you don't have to be interested in membership to participate. If you have any questions, please talk to Beth.



From Hopeless to Hopeful

Our gifts for Mission & Service support counselling programs like The Counselling Centre in Brandon, Manitoba.



The Mission & Service support provided by The United Church of Canada helps to fund Project Hope, a program that provides professional counselling free of charge to those who are economically impoverished, such as non-status Indigenous clients, children, and seniors, who make up roughly 40 percent of the city's population.

"These are people who would otherwise fall through the cracks," explains Executive Director Heather Karrouze. She tells the story of a mom and three kids who recently fled an abusive relationship and are living in a hotel. "If it weren't for Project Hope, they wouldn't be getting counselling," she says. "Project Hope provides counselling support to the mom and her boys; to the pensioner who has lost his wife; to the non-status Aboriginal whose family is far away, up north.

"A number of years ago, the Brandon Counselling Centre began to explore ways to shift the disturbing trend of domestic violence it was hearing about in its counselling sessions. The centre created Building Bridges, a 12-week program for men to explore what makes for healthy relationships. Since starting the program, the counsellors have seen a small shift in their counselling sessions toward decreased domestic violence. The shift is slow, but there is progress.

"It is our vision to help people go from feeling hopeless to being hopeful, from feeling diminished to being empowered," says Heather. "Those [Mission & Service] dollars translate into lives being changed and, in some cases, being saved."

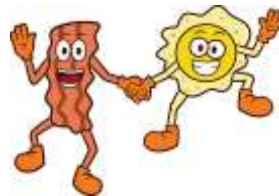
If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

(Matched with a companion video. View or download at www.youtube.com/unitedchurchofcanada)

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Saturday Breakfasts

This year we're inviting different people to organize each breakfast. Would you be willing to host a Trinity Breakfast? Available options include: April 14, May 12 or June 9. Can you gather a small group to help you? We hold them on the second Saturday of spring and fall months. You pick which month. You set the menu. It could be pancakes and bacon, sausage and eggs, fruit and quiche, or whatever your imagination comes up with! (your grocery costs will be covered). If you would be willing, the Leadership Team would be grateful! Sign up for your date through the church office.



Forced to Flee Simulation Portage la Prairie

April 25, 2018

10:00 am - 1:30 pm

(Stride Place – lunch provided)



This workshop aims to shine a light and create awareness of what it is like for many thousands of people around the world who have been forced to migrate from their home country to another. In the end, the simulation will help participants to understand some of the situations and emotions a refugee goes through.

Participants will be able to put themselves into the place of the displaced people and gain a glimpse into the challenges facing refugees.

Participants will also get ideas on how to engage their own communities in supporting refugees and displaced people. To register please email plip@portagecrc.com or call 204-240-2871. Sponsored by Portage Community Revitalization Corporation /LIP (Local Immigration Partnership)

Save the Date!



Splash Island
Thursday, July 19
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Give it Up for Lent



Having you been “giving it up” this Lent? This season, we have been inviting people to give something up for Lent. To prepare for Easter, you’ve heard of people giving up chocolate, perhaps, or wine, or some other pleasure to better understand Christ’s suffering, or to follow his example of fasting and testing in the wilderness.

However, this season we’ve been taking a fresh approach, and trying to give things up that might be getting in the way of experiencing the kind of life God wants for us, rather than sacrificing things that give us pleasure. To help everyone choose ‘give it up’ goals that are right for them, Julie and Beth have been taking it week by week, and making video reflections about their experience of giving up things like: control, processed foods, complaining, poor sleep habits, fear of failure, enemies, comparisons, watching the clock, the word “should”, excuses, clutter, and popularity. In Holy Week, there will be some daily challenges. You can watch the video reflections, including all of the Lent Sunday sermons by visiting our youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCifQQLFzrDcGyY-J3xjDoKA>

On Easter, we will conclude our Give It Up for Lent theme by giving up expectations. Join us on Easter Sunday and be surprised.

On the second Sunday of every month, we collect food at Trinity for the Salvation Army Food Bank. We also collect toiletries (towels, small soaps, shampoos, sanitary supplies, toothpaste, towels, etc.) for the Family Violence Abuse Prevention Centre (women’s shelter) at the same time. You are encouraged to bring food or toiletries with you to leave in the bins in the entryway of the church. Thanks for your support of these important community outreach projects.



TRINITY TREASURES Sale XIII May 25 & 26, 2018



Trinity will have another “Vintage Treasures Sale” in the auditorium on **Friday, May 25, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. & Saturday, May 26, 9 a.m. – 12 noon.**

We invite you, in your spring cleaning process, to consider saleable items as donations to the sale. **Please bring your donations in starting the week of April 30. Furniture and other large items will be accepted starting May 22 (note the 21st is a holiday).** We will not be picking up items, and clothing will not be accepted. Direct any questions to Iris Yuill at 204-857-8708, Auna Brown at 204-857-8911, Sandy Bazin 204-857-7116, Brenda Moorhouse 204-857-8252 or the office at 204-857-4471.

Rock Lake
United
Church
Camp offers
a camping
ministry for
children



ages 4 and up. Registration for counsellors and campers is now open for the 2018 camping season. If you are interested in finding out more, check out their website at <http://www.rocklake.com/>

They are also hiring for the 2018 Camping Season! A variety of positions are available, including counsellors. For more information, check out their website at <http://www.rocklake.com/>



Do you like to sing?

The Trinity Senior and Junior Choirs would both welcome new people. All that is required is a desire to sing with others. The Senior Choir is for teens and adults and meets to practice for Sunday each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Talk to Carol Zacharias or Julie Baker for more information. The Junior Choir is for children ages 4 to 12. They sing about once a month and learn the music through practice CDs and a rehearsal the Thursday before they sing at 7 p.m. The next Junior Choir practice is Thursday, April 19 to sing on Sunday, April 22. Talk to Jennifer Baker for more information.



Who Benefits from Sunday Morning?

It's a more interesting question than one might think. The Rev. Dr. Doug Ross, out of his experience of 50 years in ministry, shared his answer:



"There is a rhythm every Sunday morning, if you take time to notice," he said.

"There are those who are able to give—to usher, welcome, take up the offering, people who are physically able to get around.

"And there are others there to receive.

"It's a rhythm that happens every Sunday morning in worship and throughout the rest of our lives. Generous givers and willing receivers."

The church is a great training ground. Many people got their start in leadership in the church by teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, bravely getting up to sing a solo, or speaking in front of the congregation.

It happens every Sunday morning in over 3,400 congregations! The church gives; we receive.

The church is a laboratory for developing a sense of community. It is a cross section of people of all ages, income levels, work experience, education, sexual orientation, and ethnic and racial backgrounds. But in spite of their differences, they come together and make community.

People of all ages—children, teens, young adults, older adults and seniors—have a lot to offer:

- There is a ministry of children to adults on Sunday mornings. Children are so open,

spontaneous and responsive. And this opens up adults, softens their hearts and encourages them to open up and be themselves, too. The kids give; the adults receive.

- The elderly have a ministry too—a quiet ministry. "I'm old, my health and mobility are not great," said one senior. "I come to worship, because faith and church are important to me." Their presence is a quiet blessing to the rest of us. It testifies to the strength of spirit and reminds all of us that we can grow old gracefully and grow old with faith. They give; we all receive.

So, who benefits on Sunday morning? We all do. And through us, so do our communities.

For all that you have been given on Sunday morning, it only takes a moment to say thank you to God. So take that moment right now.

Then celebrate the benefits of Sunday morning.

[Based upon an interview with the Rev. Dr. Doug Ross]

You can celebrate the benefits of Sunday morning by creating a gift in your will. Or use life insurance or perhaps a gift of stocks.

Our Financial Development Officer Kathryn Hofley can help you consider the options. Please feel free to contact Kathryn directly any time:

Kathryn Hofley
Financial Development Officer,
Philanthropy Unit
The United Church of Canada
2438 - 85 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4J5
Phone: (204) 943-4844

Trinity Giving Goals January & February

Goal - \$29,269

Given - \$26,441

Thank you!



Goal for March & April

\$29,396

Please help!

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.



April is the Windiest Month!



According to Environment Canada, in southern Manitoba, our average annual wind speed is 16.9 km/h (10.5 mph), predominantly from the south but sometimes we get gusts of up to 129 km/h (80 mph). This is not news to anyone who lives in and around Portage.

However, every time the wind blows, the Trinity parking lot is littered with shingles. No one can quite remember when the roof was last done at the church – our best guess is sometime in the 1980s. So, this month, Trinity is getting a new roof! It is a large project, with all of the many angles and chimneys, not to mention the repairs that will happen to the bell tower at the same time. Donations to offset the costs of this major project are gratefully received. Estimates to complete the job are \$75 000. If you are around the church building as work is being done, please tread carefully, and obey any barricade instructions.

The Grief Team Needs You!

Do you like to take time for conversation with people? Trinity has a variety of visiting ministries that could use your energy and time and compassion. In particular, the Grief Team is a group of Trinity people who are willing to make contact with people who have recently had a death in the family. Sometimes it is a face to face visit; sometimes it is over the phone. It may be a one-time visit, or a few in a row. It is always a chance to let people know that we care. Resources are provided for orientation, sharing and support. If you would like to be part of the Trinity grief team, please contact the office, or speak to any of the coordinators: Iris Yuill, Brenda



Moorhouse or Carol McBurney.

We are pleased once again to host the **Prairie Sounds Music Festival** here

from Monday, April 16 through Friday, April 20. Feel free to stop in and enjoy fine entertainment from some of Portage's talented young musicians. Their highlight concert will be here at Trinity on Sunday, April 22 at 7 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

If you are leaving or arriving for a function during this time, please enter the building quietly if possible (noise in the stairwells tends to carry to upstairs).



A Springtime Prayer

Ever-renewing and energizing Creator, come, stir my dormant spiritual limbs.

Wake up my tired prayer.
Revive my weary efforts of care.

Sing hope into my discouragement.

Wash my dusty, drab attitude with the cleansing rains of your vision.

Go deep to my roots and penetrate my faith with the vibrancy of your grace.

Shake loose the old leftover oak leaves of my tenacious ego-centeredness.

Coax joy to sprout from my difficulties.

Warm the buds of my relationships so they bloom with healthy love.

Clear out my wintered debris with the wild breeze of your liberating presence.

Nudge me, woo me, entice me, draw me to you.

I give you my trust and my gratitude as you grace my slowly thawing spirit.

Light-filled Being, my Joy and my Hope, let the greening in me begin!

-Joyce Rupp "Out of the Ordinary"

Coming up at St. Benedict's Retreat Centre near Winnipeg

April 27- 29 *Finding the Quiet Centre* - The weekend will include periods of group silent meditation, lectio divina, solitude for rest and reflection as well as group learning through DVD teachings, mindfulness activities and creative expression. Private Room \$195; Shared \$175

For more information on any of these workshops or other upcoming events, check out <http://stbens.ca/> or call (204) 339-1705