

Trini Tidings 2020



Early Fall

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

Phone: 204-857-4471
e-mail: trinityu@mts.net
Website:
www.trinityunitedportage.ca

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – noon
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Coming to Church on Sunday Mornings

Trinity United Church will open its doors for public worship on Sundays **beginning September 13**, provided public health orders allow, and the district remains at caution level YELLOW. Should we be moved to ORANGE or RED, in-person worship will be



suspended and we will move back to online and print options only.

Online church continues!

While Trinity is able to open up our building for worship once again, we know that there are many who cannot or prefer not to gather in person at this time.

Beginning September 6, we will be live-streaming our Sunday worship from the sanctuary via the Zoom platform. Pam Lotun will be your host, and will also be training others who wish to host our live-stream going forward. We will also record portions of the Sunday morning gathering to be uploaded to our YouTube channel for any time viewing. You can find the link to our YouTube channel on our website, or go to YouTube and search for “Trinity Portage”.

Here’s how to access our Zoom Livestream. If you have a mobile phone or tablet, download the zoom app, and on Sunday mornings, go to the app and click “Join a meeting”. Enter the meeting ID: 646 070 0716. You will be asked for a passcode which is: trinity. When you enter the meeting, say “yes” when you are asked to join audio, or you won’t be able to hear anything. You can still control whether your microphone or video is on.

If you access through a browser, rather than the app (on a desktop computer for example), you can just [click this link](#), and it should take you right to the live feed. This link will change after a few weeks, so check our website to find the most current link.

You can also listen to the live feed on your land telephone line. You will have to dial a long distance number, so depending on your phone plan, you may incur long distance charges. When you dial in, you will have to enter the meeting ID: 646 070 0716, and as part of the zoom security, will be asked to state your name. Any of the following numbers will access the zoom feed, even though they are routed through different parts of Canada: 1 204 272 7920 (Manitoba); 1 587 328 1099 (Alberta); 1 647 374 4685 (Toronto); 1 647 558 0588 (Toronto); 1 778 907 2071 (British Columbia); 1 438 809 7799 (Montreal). If you have trouble getting through on one, try another!

If you need help accessing Trinity online, instructions may always be found at our website. If you have questions, you are welcome to contact us via our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) or give us a call in the church office during the week.



Thank you! with an update from the Stewardship Team

Thank you for your continued financial support through this time! We acknowledge and greatly appreciate the people who have continued to give by way of PAR (pre-authorized remittance) every month, including those who

have increased their PAR contribution and the people who have sent donations, including all of you who have made periodic or one-time donations. We acknowledge and appreciate the donations made through Canada Helps, e-transfer, credit card payments and through All Charities Campaign. These financial contributions allow us to continue to meet our financial obligations!

Trinity has received some income from the Canadian Federal Grant program TWSE (Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers) in the amount of \$5,314 and is applying for further funding in the new program.

On a positive note, our Credential Investment has recovered and as at June 30, was \$12,286 higher than it was on December 31, 2019.

Covid has been difficult on us, as with most charity and non-profit organizations. We are reporting declines in revenue year (2020) over year (2019)

as follows: May 28%, June 48% and July 45%.

The income for the church as of July 31 was \$87,655. By way of comparison, last year at July 31, 2019, our income was \$93,538. Your continued financial support is appreciated.



Donations can be dropped off or donations can be made via eTransfer and through Canada Helps. You

can also give using debit or credit card in the church office. PAR is easy to set up; simply email or call Jacque at the church office (trinityu@mts.net or 204-857-4471). If you are already on PAR, don't forget that you can increase or decrease your PAR donation by contacting the office any time.



September Giving Goal - \$13,462

*Please help!
Your generosity is greatly
appreciated.*

In support of the Free Little Pantry, September's House Group is collecting donations of non-perishable food items. Donations can be left in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary, or at the office during the week.



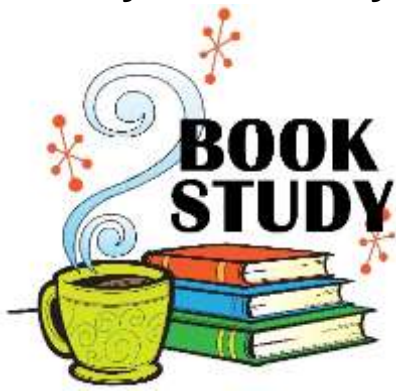
Grieving in Pandemic Times

Grief is always difficult, because as a society we don't make much room for grief. We expect ourselves to "snap out of it" or "get over it" quickly, even when some change has turned our life upside down. We try to keep ourselves busy, in order to distract ourselves from the pain of loss. In these pandemic days, grief is even more challenging, because so many of the ways we use to process our grief are not possible right now. We cannot gather communities together to lament. Funerals are private, or put off until later. And yet, we are missing so much right now. This fall, one of the things we are exploring is to find alternative ways to help people honour their losses and process grief these days. In the meantime, one of the ways you can choose to honour the memory of someone who has died is to make a gift to Trinity's memorial fund. These gifts provide a lasting legacy of someone's impact in your life. Include with your gift a memory that we can share online or in this format in a coming issue. Since our last issue, we have received gifts in memory of...

*David Guy
Lloyd & Cheryl Green
Carey Halmrast*

Gifts were also received to the Memorial Fund in honour of Robin Young and Beth Kerr, for their Confirmation Leadership. A gift was received to the Operating Fund in memory of David Guy.

Friday Book Study



The Friday book study continues in a new form! This year, leadership for the Friday morning study group will be led by retired diaconal minister, Marg Scott. However, circumstances will require us to find a different date, time and place! In order to gather in a space with adequate room for distancing, we will meet at Trinity, and we are currently in conversation about the book, day and time for this fall. If you are interested in the book study, but have not been part of this fall's consultation, please be in touch with the office (204-857-4471) to register your interest, so that we can keep you in the loop!

UPDATE 2020

Trinity Deaths & Baptisms
since the
May 2020 TriniTidings
Deaths
Marguerite Yvonne Legault
May 30, 2020

Margaret Isabel (Thompson)
Taylor (formerly Johnston)
June 28, 2020

Baptism
Isabella Rebecca
Annalise Mills
June 20, 2020

When we come back to church in the building, what should we expect?

As we all know, the pandemic has asked us to make a lot of changes in the way we do things. Sunday mornings at Trinity aren't going to look the way we are used to, but we will be grateful that we can come together in this new way **mid-September**. Here are some things to know before you arrive:

When you arrive, please enter through one of the black Tupper Street doors (sanctuary or office level). All other entry doors (including the green south door) will remain locked. The elevator will be available for use – one person at a time, with external operators as required.

When you enter, masked volunteers will ask you to use hand sanitizer, and will take your name and phone number, in the unlikely event that we are required by public health to do contact tracing, and need to know who was present in the building on a particular day.

You will be asked to keep 6 feet/2 meters distance from people who are not in your household. Many pews have been blocked off to assist with keeping our distance.

Screens will be used, so that we can limit the number of things people need to touch. However, if you need a hymn book, bulletin, or cushion, please pick them up from the back and leave them in the pew where you sit so that we know they have been used.

Offering plates will not be passed during the service, but you are welcome to leave financial donations in the plates that will be at the back of the church.

If you feel comfortable wearing a mask, you are most welcome to do so. Masks will be available for those who do not have but wish to wear one.

While we are excited about the opportunity to be able to gather together again, there are several things that we simply will not be able to do together yet. We will not be able to sing hymns together, or have coffee and cookies. We are not yet ready to celebrate communion in a way that feels safe for all.

And at this point, we are not ready to offer separate children's programming. We wish to wait and allow the school systems to develop some patterns and protocols. In the meantime, children are welcome to come and stay with their household groups. Activity packets will be available for pick up at the back of the church. (again, used activity packets can be left in the pew where you sit).

If you have questions about these or other particular safety protocols at Trinity, please be in touch with the church office, or speak to any member of the Leadership Team. We look forward to welcoming you (back) to church this fall!



Don't Come to Church *IF*...

We've heard these instructions many times over

the last several months, and yet they bear repeating. As we strive to maintain a safe

worshipping environment for all who may come through our church doors, we would ask that you please use the online options, rather than coming in person *if*:

You have any cold/flu symptoms (cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, headache, shortness of breath, etc.) or any of the other Covid-19 symptoms

listed on the provincial screening tool. (available online at <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>)

Are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19

You have travelled out of the province in the last 14 days (not including western Canada, the territories and Ontario west of Terrace Bay).



New ways to participate in the life of the church

As we adjust to new patterns and new ways of being, you can participate in new ways too!

Are you a musician who can sing, or play an instrument? Would you be willing to make a video of yourself that we could use in church? Would you be willing to be recorded (video or audio)? Do you have an instrument you could play live in the church on Sunday morning? What about story telling? Would you be willing to read or tell a bible story on video/audio for our worship? If you are interested,

please be in touch with Julie or the church office.

Hospital and Care Home Visiting

At this time, hospital and care home visiting by the church has been suspended, due to Covid-19. Residents and family members are only allowed a small number of visitors, and guidelines are continually shifting. If you would like to make particular pastoral care arrangements, please be in touch with Julie at the church and we can work together with health care providers to see what is possible.



Connecting online



Find us through our webpage www.trinityunitedportage.ca, at our Facebook page, or in our active Facebook Group – Trinity United Church, Portage la Prairie. Our youtube channel is Trinity Portage, at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCifQQLFzrDcGyY-J3xjDoKA/videos>

You can also follow us on Instagram at trinityportage, and our Twitter handle is @ChurchPortage.

COMING UP IN WORSHIP at TRINITY Sunday Services

September 6

Our Psalms of the Summer series ends with Psalm 27

“Thin places and the cost of fear”

September 13

“When it seems hopeless”
In person worship resumes

September 20

“Looking for the Complaints Department”

September 27

Guest Worship Leader
Wilma Shirriff

“Church:

People Called Together”

October 4

“Rules that bind and rules that free”

October 11

“Giving Thanks for Now”

October 18

“Who can you trust these days?”

October 25

Guest Worship Leader
Norman Collier

November 1, 2020

“All Saints’ Day”