

Trini Tidings 2020



Mid 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.

We Remember Them...

Earlier this year, John Dickerson wrote: "If you have ever lost someone you loved, you know the feeling of seeing the world through a bank teller's glass. You observe other people laughing and enjoying their day, but you are apart from them, separated by a thick bulletproof barrier. You wonder how they can savor that plate of pasta or play music that loud, given what's happened." He



goes on to note that in this covid-19 world, that experience is getting more and more universal.

And yet, as we know, our opportunities to grieve have been reduced. We can't go to funerals together. It is difficult to drop by to someone's house for a visit. In a time when there is so much grief to be felt, there are so few ways to grieve. We may not even know how.

Sunday November 1 is All Saints' Day. Traditionally, on that day (or the Sunday closest), we take time to honour and remember those from the Trinity family who have died; people for whom we have led funerals. This year, we want to open that up a little bit, to perhaps include others who the Trinity family has loved and lost whether or not they were connected to our church congregation. We want to make room in a year when there has not been a lot of room for saying goodbye together.

So, if there is someone that you are mourning this year and you would like to include them in our memorial, please let us know. Are you missing

someone that you would like us to remember together? Send us a picture, and a sentence or two about who they were and what they meant to you. **Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, October 28.**



The best way to go Viral in a pandemic!



If you are active on Facebook, you know how things can travel. If one person

shares something, it often gets re-shared over and over again. Many of us share things we enjoy, or find meaningful.

However, we often stop short of sharing things that relate to our church or our faith, even when we find them enjoyable or meaningful. **This November, we are inviting Trinity Facebook users to join our "like and share" challenge.** If you are not a member of the Trinity

Facebook group, your first step is to find us and join! If you are someone

who is mostly a lurker, and who doesn't post things much on Facebook, your challenge is to "Like" anything you see in the Trinity Facebook group. For an extra challenge, comment on a post you find there! If, however, you are someone who does already post and share – regularly or even just once and a while, your challenge is to "share" things from our Facebook group – a Sunday sermon perhaps, or an invitation to worship. And if you comment and share, even better!

If you are active on Instagram or Twitter, 'like' or 'retweet' as appropriate. Let's make our ministry contagious.





A message from your Stewardship Team...

This year, we want to take some time to be grateful and generous in a time when, for everyone's safety, we are also pulling back and hunkering down. We invite you to celebrate good things with us.

On November 15, regardless of how we are able to join together on Sunday morning, we want to give thanks for good things in difficult times. We invite you to submit examples of things that you have been grateful for during this pandemic. Think about what has happened in your life since March, or think about what has happened in your life today. What good things can you see? You are invited to respond via phone to the office, or email to the office (trinityu@mts.net), via social media #thanksgiving #glimpsesofGod or whatever way works best for you. Send in pictures, thoughts or just a word or two, and it will be incorporated into our Sunday morning worship.

Speaking of good things.... Thank you:

- To our office administrator, Jacquie, who continues to look after all the many tasks required to keep our church operating.
- To our caretaking staff and volunteers who continue to keep our building running, including the necessary sanitization during this time.
- To our music team who continue to provide music for our Sunday worship.
- To Julie for her spiritual leadership and guidance.
- To Pam, our Zoom host, for offering tech support each Sunday enabling individuals to attend Sunday worship online.
- To everyone who continues to give of their time and talents.
- To the individuals who have continued to support Trinity during this time, through your financial gifts by way of e-transfers, credit card payments, PAR, and, now that we are meeting in person, Sunday offerings. These financial gifts, whether they be one time, regular or increases to your offerings are all appreciated.

Unfortunately, we continue to lag behind our offering goal for our budget. If you are able to provide extra financial support at this time, it would be appreciated.

October Giving Goal
\$14,468

*Please help!
 Your generosity is
 greatly appreciated*



"Some people grumble that roses have thorns; I am grateful that thorns have roses." Alphonse Karr

Trinity United Church
 Operating Budget vs. Actual 2020
 to September 30, 2020

	Budget 2020	Actual to Date	% Budget to Date
Income			
Offerings	\$ 187,000.00	\$ 112,835.43	60%
UCW	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	0%
Rentals	\$ 26,850.00	\$ 20,547.50	77%
Honouraria	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 1,550.00	26%
Special Events	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 492.27	10%
Interest	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,405.36	117%
GST Rebate	\$ 600.00	\$ 950.89	158%
Total Operating Income	\$ 230,650.00	\$ 137,781.45	60%
Expenses			
Personnel	\$ 219,097.00	\$ 138,705.37	63%
United Church of Canada	\$ 13,246.00	\$ 6,623.00	50%
Office	\$ 10,915.00	\$ 6,902.75	63%
Program Supplies	\$ 3,845.00	\$ 1,495.30	39%
Interest Groups	\$ 2,425.00	\$ 881.24	36%
Property	\$ 34,800.00	\$ 20,834.18	60%
Total Operating Expense	\$ 284,328.00	\$ 175,441.84	62%
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (53,678.00)	\$ (37,660.39)	70%

An Update on the Portage Soup Kitchen

You may or may not have heard that at the start of the Pandemic, First Presbyterian Church had to let go of operating the soup kitchen. Portage Community Revitalization Corporation was able to temporarily take over this essential service in a new way – and offered meals ‘to go’ in an outdoor location. As the weather and protocols shift, they have now partnered with Portage Evangelical Church to provide the Soup Kitchen meals inside. They have new coordinators who are welcoming donations and volunteers.



coordinate with other organizations that help, especially as we get into the

colder seasons (Rest-a-Bit, Portage Plains United Way, Portage MCC Thrift Shop, McKenzie United Church Thrift Shop, Salvation Army, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Youth for Christ, Portage

Community Revitalization Corporation, Friendship Center Organization, etc.)

- Monetary donations
- Donations or reduced rates for equipment (plates, bowls, containers, cutlery, etc.)
- Donations or reduced rates for sanitary equipment (masks, latex gloves, hand sanitizer, and cleaning products) to safely serve our patrons who are most vulnerable

They are particularly looking for:

- Volunteers to cook meals in advance, particularly on Mondays! (There is a reimbursement of \$200 available to those who prepare meals, thus making it a time donation if they are not able to donate the cost of the food).
- Volunteers to serve meals; there is a particular shortage on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The time commitment for servers is 10 am – 1:30 pm.
- Non-perishable food donations
- Donations of other items like baby food, toiletries, etc.
- Leaders who are willing to utilize their connections to



If you are in a position to help, please be in touch with one of the new coordinators: Volunteer Recruitment: Ashley Morrison (204) 903-7989 • ashhmorrison2008@gmail.com Donations: Cole Provo (204) 249-5767 • colesprovo@gmail.com Administrative: Emily Toews (204) 595-8847 • etoews@homail.ca

The previous Friday book study is now the Tuesday book study! We had our first gathering on October 13th and discussed chapter one of Sue Monk Kidd’s book “God’s Joyful Surprise”. Anyone who wants to join us is most welcome. **We meet every Tuesday from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at the church.** If you are interested or would like the church to order a copy of the book for you (\$23.09), please be in touch with the office (204-857-4471).

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.

Lasting Legacies



Who are the ones who have had the greatest impact on your life? What lessons have they taught you? What characteristics do you carry with you because of them? Consider honouring someone for their influence on your spiritual life by making a donation to the Trinity Memorial Fund. These funds are used to further the Worship and Christian Education ministries of the church. Since our last issue, we have received gifts in honour of the lives of:

*Loreena Pogue
Roy Tibbett
Brian Sanburn
Norman Quigley*

TRINITY SUNDAY MORNINGS

While public health orders remain at caution level YELLOW, Trinity is open for worship each Sunday morning. Tupper Street Doors open by 9:45 a.m. and worship begins at 10:30

a.m. Contact tracing and physical distancing protocols are in place, and you are asked to use hand sanitizer upon entering. If you feel comfortable wearing a mask, please do so. Masks are available for those who do not have but wish to wear one. If you have any cold or flu symptoms, we would ask that you stay home and use our online or print options.



If public health orders change, check our website and social media for latest guidelines. However, if our district is moved to ORANGE or RED, in person worship will be suspended, and we will move to print and online versions only.

In support of the schools' breakfast program, **October & November's House Groups** are

collecting donations of cereal (Shreddies, Crispex, Cheerios, Mini Wheats, Chex, Granola Bars, must be peanut free, i.e. Nature Valley). Donations can



be left in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary, or at the office during the week.

Pastoral Care in Hospitals and Care Homes

You are also welcome to attend worship through your computer, tablet or land line telephone via the Zoom platform. You can find instructions for logging on on our website, in our Facebook group, or in the last issue of this newsletter (also on our website). We consistently use the meeting ID: 646 070 0716 and the passcode is trinity.

The sermon, and sometimes a little more, from our Sunday Zoom feed is uploaded to our youtube channel for any time viewing. You can also receive a print copy of the worship service (or email version) any time by being in touch with Jacquie in the church office.

Homes

Due to Covid-19, church/clergy visiting to hospital and personal care homes is currently suspended. Emergency pastoral care may be permitted at the request of family, with the permission of the health care facility. If you would like to make particular pastoral care arrangements for yourself or a family member, please be in touch with Julie at the church



and we can work together with health care providers to see what may be possible.

COMING UP IN WORSHIP at TRINITY Sunday Services

October 18

"Who can you trust these days?"

October 25, 2020

"Love Is All"

Guest Worship Leader
Norman Collier

November 1, 2020

"All Saints' Day"

Remembering our Saints

November 8, 2020

"Who gets your loyalty?"

November 15, 2020

"ThanksLiving"

November 22, 2020

"The Reign of Christ"

Guest Worship Leader
Norman Collier

November 29, 2020

Advent begins

Planned Communion Service

Want to be part of Trinity's Worship Think

Tank? Julie's looking for a few folks who would be willing to brainstorm or think through various options for worship... What would be an appropriate theme for Advent? What would be the safest way to do baptism? Right now, the topic to think through in particular is all things Christmas. So if you are willing to join the Christmas think tank, or a more general worship think tank, please be in touch with Julie at the church.



First Presbyterian Church Take Out Turkey Fall Supper

**Sunday, November 1
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

Must pre-order by Sat., Oct.24

Call 204-385-2847

Adults \$15.00

12 & under \$8.00

Deliveries can be arranged for those who cannot pick up.

