

Trini Tidings 2022



Spring/Summer

**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 a.m. – noon & 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

If you are around the church, keep your eyes peeled for microphone headset #4. It seems to have disappeared, and we can't imagine where it could be. So if you see it sitting in an out-of-the-way place, you will be the hero of the day. If, by chance, it went home with you in a pocket after reading scripture or something, please do drop it off! We miss it and would like it to make its way home again!



COMING UP IN TRINITY WORSHIP

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

May 29, 2022

“Picking Up the Baton”

June 5, 2022

“Festival of Pentecost”
Guest Worship Leader
The Rev. Norman Collier

June 12, 2022

“Living Water & Broken Cisterns”
Celebration of Baptism

June 19, 2022

Confirmation, Communion &
Church Juice!

June 26, 2022

“The Sounds of Silence”

July 3, 10, 17, 2022

Summer Worship services at
McKenzie United
(85 - 11th Street NW)

July 24, 31 & August 7, 2022

Summer Worship services at
First Presbyterian Church
(17 Royal Road South)

August 14, 21, 28, 2022

Summer Worship services at
Trinity

Trinity UCW Catering Groups



Anyone who is willing to be added to our catering group lists would be most welcome. Also, a reminder for those who are already serving on a list – please return messages left by phoners, perhaps give a cell phone number if you are not regularly checking your landline phone.

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



Church Connections



While you can always find us by using the telephone, we have many electronic and online options to keep us connected as well.

Regular emails are sent with updates – if you have not been receiving these and you would like to, please email us at trinityu@mts.net with your preferred email address. If you have not been receiving email and you are already on our distribution list, please be in touch so we can discover the glitch!

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](https://www.instagram.com/trinityportage), and our Twitter handle is [@ChurchPortage](https://twitter.com/ChurchPortage).

The UCW Unit C is grateful to everyone who supported their petunia sales fundraiser. The proceeds will enable children in the "Chance to Grow" program a chance to participate in sports, music and other nurturing activities. A small amount will also come back to the church. Thank you!



“The Raincoat”

by Ada Limon

When the doctor suggested surgery and a brace for all my youngest years, my parents scrambled to take me to massage therapy, deep tissue work, osteopathy, and soon my crooked spine unspooled a bit, I could breathe again, and move more in a body unclouded by pain. My mom would tell me to sing songs to her the whole forty-five minute drive to Middle Two Rock Road and forty-five minutes back from physical therapy. She'd say, even my voice sounded unfettered by my spine afterward. So I sang and sang, because I thought she liked it. I never asked her what she gave up to drive me, or how her day was before this chore. Today, at her age, I was driving myself home from yet another spine appointment, singing along to some maudlin but solid song on the radio, and I saw a mom take her raincoat off and give it to her young daughter when a storm took over the afternoon. My god, I thought, my whole life I've been under her raincoat thinking it was somehow a marvel that I never got wet.



Ada Limón is a Mexican-American poet, born in California and now residing in Kentucky. “The Raincoat” is one of her most renowned poems, an invitation to reflect on the people in our lives who have helped us in ways we may not have noticed - and at the same time, read through the eyes of faith, a portrait of the loving parenthood of God.

Anti-racism Opportunity

The Prairie to Pine Regional Council is inviting lay representatives to attend a June education series. **In four Wednesday evening sessions June 8, 15, 22, and 29, 7:30-9:00 CDT**, participants will explore the new book Wait – is this Racist? and explore ways to be intentional about being an anti-racist church. Are you interested in being a Trinity rep to this series? If so, be in touch with the church office or members of the Leadership Team. We could have a whole interest group!

“Anti-racism is the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself.”
- Ijeoma Oluo

Games Night



Tentatively planned for Monday, June 20 at 6 p.m. at Island Park. Rain date will be June 27, same time and location.

Staff Summer Vacation Schedule

- Don Morrison will take vacation July 4-July 18.
- Julie Baker will take vacation July 11 - August 8. For emergency pastoral care while she is on vacation, John Zondag (Presbyterian Church Minister) will be available 204-239-6719.
- Jacquie Bennet will take vacation August 8 - 22.

Wait Is This Racist?: A Guide to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

This book is here to guide you and your church through this challenging and uncomfortable work. Intentionally interactive, practical, and biblically based, *Wait—Is This Racist?* guides church leaders and staff through an examination of all aspects of church life, including leadership, preaching and liturgy, music, small groups, buildings and grounds, and more, to help churches create an action plan that will take them toward not only becoming anti-racist but also actually doing anti-racist work.



Offering educational tips, powerful stories, and insightful questions, anti-racism consultants Kerry, Bryana, and Josh will accompany you through this necessary work so that your church can truly become a justice-oriented organization that leans more fully into the kin-dom of God. A copy of this book will be available in the church library.



Korean Peace Appeal

The National Council of Churches in Korea has issued a plea to churches around the globe to help gather signatures in support of peace.

The Korean War began in 1950. While open clashes ceased in 1953 with the signing of an armistice, a peace treaty has not yet been established and the war is not over. For more than 70 years the Korean people have endured a constant state of hostility and war, which has solidified the division of the peninsula.

The Korea Peace Appeal is a global campaign that seeks to collect 100 million signatures by 2023, the 70th anniversary of the armistice. The National Council of Churches in Korea has challenged The United Church of Canada to add Ten Thousand Signatures by the summer of 2022.

Join with Korean partners and all who seek peace on the Korean Peninsula, the region, and the world. In adding your signature to the petition, you are saying:

- End the Korean War and establish a peace agreement.
- Create a Korean Peninsula and a world free from nuclear weapons and nuclear threat.
- Resolve the conflict with dialogue and cooperation instead of sanctions and pressure.

- Break from the vicious cycle of the arms race and invest in human security and environmental sustainability.



Past Executive co-chairperson of the Prairie to Pine Region, Rev Kwang Beom Cho, offers this personal appeal to United Church members to participate. He notes:

I, as a United Church of Canada's minister who came from the Korean Peninsula, would like to work together with you.

Most of all, I want to pray with you to bring an end to this mad war situation and bring lasting peace to the Korean Peninsula. I want to make it possible for the few remaining first-generation separated families and their descendants to be able to see the faces of their families comfortably at any time.

I want to resolve the 70-year-old division matter, which is divided by powerful countries and still used politically and militarily, with good neighbors who oppose war and seek peace. Your signature could be the beginning of a solution to this age-old problem. Your support and prayers will be able to become a loving hand that heals the pain of this history.

To read his full letter, see the Prairie to Pine website: https://prairietopinerc.ca/a-personal-appeal-to-help-end-the-korean-war/?mc_cid=3b2f0a1ba6&mc_eid=2d86a7683b

For more on the United Church response, see: https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/korea-peace-appeal?mc_cid=3b2f0a1ba6&mc_eid=2d86a7683b

To learn more about the Korean Peace Appeal check out this website:

<https://en.endthekoreanwar.net/>
There are petitions in the church office, as well as at the ushers' stations in the sanctuary.

Are you on P.A.R.?

Have You Considered PAR?

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.



Looking for a Miracle

A series for the summer



For many years it has been the practice to share summer services between First Presbyterian, McKenzie United and Trinity United churches. During the summer months when vacation plans take people out of town, it is an opportunity to gather a congregation of more than just a few, build new relationships and be the church in a new way. Then the pandemic took that option away. However, 2022 marks the return of joint summer services. And we are excited to share that each Sunday through the summer, a worship leader will take a look at a different biblical miracle story. Together we will ask the question about what happened, what it represented, and what meaning, if any, it might hold for us today. Are bible miracle stories cold comfort to a modern scientific world? What are miracle stories about? What are they for? We hope that you will join us as we wonder together. This year, we will follow the covid-protocols of the hosting church. Conveniently, it seems that all three of our churches are practicing very similar guidelines. Mask use is encouraged in all churches and

no churches will ask for proof of vaccination to attend. Only Trinity is currently using Zoom for online church, so Zoom church will only be available for services held at Trinity this summer. Here's the schedule!

July 3, 10, and 17, join us Sunday mornings at McKenzie United Church. Worship will be led by some of the guest worship leaders that McKenzie has been appreciating this year.

July 24, 31 and August 7, worship will be held at First Presbyterian Church, led by John Zondag. He has already teased 2 of his miracle stories: a) when God's people received manna in the wilderness, and b) when Namaan suffers from leprosy, and he goes to the prophet for healing, and Elisha tells him to go wash in the river 7 times. Not very magical, but it works!

The last three Sundays August 14, 21 and 28 will be held at Trinity – and both in person and online options will be available. Church will be led by Julie Baker, who is pondering what miracle stories to explore. Perhaps the one in the book of Daniel where Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego survive fiery furnace? If you have a suggestion about which miracle story you would like to hear more about, be in touch with the church office as soon as possible. We expect to be able to publish the list of stories before the end of June.

Auna-Marie Brown
Celebration of Life
June 25 at 1:00 p.m.

Program starts at
1:30 p.m.

Portage la Prairie
Island Park Band
Shell

RSVP to

aunamariescelebrationoflife@gmail.com



A Gift in Memory



Summer is a time for weddings and family reunions which bring people together often across great distances. It is a time to remember our roots and the ties of family and friendship that connect us. It is also a time when our thoughts naturally turn to those who are no longer with us. We remember their laughter, their smiles, their stories and we know that they remain part of the roots that keep us grounded even if they are no longer present with us in the same way anymore.

The Trinity Memorial Fund seeks to honour the life and faith of loved ones in ways that keeps their memory and significance alive. We also receive memorial gifts to the Operating Fund, the Mission and Service Fund, and any other ministry of the church.

We thank God for the lives of these faithful people, in whose memory we have received donations since our last issue of TriniTidings:

Marg & Wally Pehura
Ellen Keele
Steve Cheverie
Bernice Stephans

Take Note – June 19 2022 Confirmation, Communion and Church Juice!



What is Confirmation? In our tradition, when children are small, their parents/guardians often decide to welcome them into the church with the sacrament of baptism. When children grow up, there is the opportunity to confirm, or re-affirm their belonging in the church family with a profession of faith. People may choose to do this at any age, and more than once. However, the first time it also formalizes membership in the local church. When you are confirmed, or join the church through profession of faith, you also receive rights and responsibilities in the church. You can be part of decision making that is restricted only to members. Membership is not the most important part of confirmation, however. Confirmation is much more about claiming your own welcome in the family of faith. Over the last number of weeks, Julie has been meeting with a group of youth exploring confirmation. We've played games, told stories, asked questions, ate snacks, explored how values influence the choices we make, and consumed a lot of church

juice. (Apparently juice at the church is a different experience than juice at home.) On **June 19** we will formally celebrate confirmation with those youth at Trinity. You are most welcome to join us.

Finding Hope: Jesse's Story

When he was 12 years old, Jesse had a traumatic brain injury. Then his mother died of cancer. Without her, his life spiraled out of control.



Two years ago, he survived the painfully cold winter sleeping in a storage unit. He had lost all hope and reached out to Stella's Circle, a Mission & Service partner, for help.

"Since that fateful morning, their staggering support and generosity have completely altered my life. Because of them, I now dwell in a home I can call my own." Jesse is completing a greenhouse technician college program and leads a new social enterprise that grows produce for sale. "I have newfound hope and a proper foothold to help propel me into a more prosperous future," he says.



Jesse's story is proof that your generosity through Mission & Service truly does help change lives!

Credit: Stella's Circle



Leaving Your Legacy

As Christians, what we leave behind is much more than a track record of daily events. A meaningful legacy enables the gospel's message to ring clearly and ensures those who follow us will discover what it means to be church in the 21st century. A gift in your will or other type of legacy gift can provide the church with the opportunity to explore and develop ways of undertaking ministry differently. Support that continues beyond your lifetime lays the foundation for a stable and exciting future that will continue to bring Christ's vital and vibrant message of community, compassion, and hope to others. Call the church office 204-857-4471 for information.

Trinity's Financial Update 2022 April

Goal - \$13,616

Given - \$13,031

**Please Help!
Thank you.**



Summer Giving Goals

May 1 – August 31

\$45,694

**Let's keep it up!
Your generosity is
greatly appreciated!**

Canna Lilies for Ukraine



Thanks to the commitment of Mitchell Omichinski, word has travelled through the community about the Canna Lilies for Ukraine and the plants are disappearing quickly off the shelves out at the mall location! Perhaps you saw the news item on Portage online. (Check it out at <https://www.portageonline.com/articles/canna-lilies-for-ukraine>)

Thanks to the Portage Mall, HB Book Centre, Whoop & Hollar Folk Festival and Jeffries Nursery for their sponsorship assistance. This project will wrap up by the end of June, so get your plant while supplies last. (pick up at mall location will end on June 1, and future orders will be arranged for pick up through the church office). For \$20, you can receive a lily as well as support United Church Partners in the Humanitarian Coalition for the people of Ukraine including ACT Alliance and the Food Grains Bank. Payment can be made though the office by cash, cheque (payable to Trinity United Church), debit/credit card and etransfer (to trinityu@mts.net)

Milestones & Markers...

Since our last issue

Funerals

Ellen Isabel Keele

March 24, 2022

William Douglas (Doug) Gray

May 28, 2022

Baptisms

Leni Maureen Talbot

Daughter of Colin &

Deanna Talbot

May 1, 2022

Hollie Kimberley Sissons
Daughter of Kale Sissons &

Rachelle Roteliuk

May 1, 2022

Broadview magazine's point of



journalism.

view is unique. It uses sources often missed by the secular press. It focuses on people often overlooked.

Broadview is good

A subscription is **\$25/year**, made payable to Trinity United Church. If you would like to subscribe,

please call the church office (204-857-4471 or e-mail trinityu@mymts.net) **before June 8**. If you are already a subscriber, you can expect a call from the church office to see if you wish to renew your subscription.

Summer Worship: Volunteers Needed

Since we do not have a house group for the summer, we could use your help to host the other churches on **August 14, 21 & 28** when we are back at Trinity. If you can help with hosting, ushering, sound or coffee, please call 204-857-4471) or email the church office (trinityu@mts.net)



Did you know about Stacking Chairs?

A new study performed by Life Way Research revealed that there is a "strong connection" between your personal holiness and the number of chairs you stack while tearing down a church service or other church function.

The report looked at thousands of churchgoers from all over the nation and found that all across the board, the more chairs you stack, the further along you are in your sanctification journey.



"People who stack lots of chairs were found to be very close to Jesus, while people who just stand around and talk were

found to be basically pagans," said a study intern. "There are lots of baby Christians out there, of course, who fall somewhere in between. Brand-new believers tend to mill about the meeting room and reluctantly grab a chair or two before slinking away and muttering something about having to go pick up their kids."

So if you want to be nearer to Jesus – ask Jacquie about joining Don in setting up chairs and tables for Sunday coffee time, and then stacking chairs Monday mornings.

