

TriniTidings



Spring/Summer 2026

**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.

Attention

Gmail users! 

From time to time, Gmail may mistakenly filter emails sent from, or containing, mts.net addresses into junk or spam folders. If you've been missing messages from the church, you are certainly not alone. Unfortunately, this is an issue beyond our control, as MTS has advised there is no action they can take on their end. We kindly encourage Gmail users to check their junk or spam folders regularly, just in case church emails have landed there by mistake.

COMING UP IN TRINITY WORSHIP

You are welcome to join us in person at Trinity or access our online feed through our zoom platform. The zoom link is emailed out each week, is available on our website, and in our Facebook group. If you need help accessing our online worship, please be in touch with the church office. You are always welcome to come through the front doors and join us in person! Doors open before 10 a.m. and we start at 10:30 a.m. *Note: Zoom options are not available at McKenzie United & First Presbyterian Churches.*

May 24, 2026

“Festival of Pentecost”

10:30 a.m.

May 31, 2026

Prairie to Pine
Regional Meeting
Trinity Sunday

10:30 a.m. (Norman Collier)

June 07, 2026

“Indiscriminate and
Unexpected Call”
Communion

10:30 a.m.

June 14, 2026

“Dealing with the
Mosquitoes of Life”

10:30 a.m.

June 21, 2026

“Traditional Knowledge and
Modern Reconciliation”
with Guest Angela Roulette

10:30 a.m.

June 28, 2026

“Carrying Light Like Fireflies”
Last Day of Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

July 05, 2026

Summer Worship series begins
with our partner churches.
See separate article!

Church Connections



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

Regular emails are sent with updates – if you would like to be added to our email list, please email us at trinityu@mts.net with your preferred email address. If you have not been receiving emails 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).

Rock Lake United Church Camp

Summer is on its way, and with it comes the camping season. Consider sending your children to a week or even a couple of days at Rock Lake. It's an experience they won't forget. Located near Pilot Mound, Manitoba, the camp offers swimming, canoeing, archery, crafts, stories, campfires and so much more. More information and on-line registration is available at www.rocklake.com. Trinity UCW is offering two camperships of \$75 each to those children who could not otherwise attend Rock Lake, but would like to go. *Look for this symbol through the different parts of this newsletter to learn more info about the camp!*



Joint Summer Services



Well, it does not look like spring yet, but it is spring season. Maybe this year's weather is working with the vocabulary import of "spring" to spring back and forth. Nevertheless, our calendar keeps on moving forward with its unpredictable weather pattern. Very soon, and soon and very soon, we shall be having our joint summer services. Are you planning to be attending and connecting with people from different denominations during this summer? We have got you covered.

Trinity United Church, in collaboration with local partner churches, will host joint summer services starting at 10:30 a.m. from July 5 through August 30. The services rotate between McKenzie United, St. Mary's Anglican, First Presbyterian, and Trinity United churches, with a special joint choir scheduled for August 30 based on the theme of changes and transitions. Please note that online worship will not be available at First Presbyterian or McKenzie Church. For planning purposes here are the dates for the summer joint services:

July 05

McKenzie United Church
85 - 11th St. NW
10:30 a.m.

July 12

McKenzie United Church,
85 - 11th St. NW
10:30 a.m.

July 19

St. Mary's Anglican Church
36 - 2nd St SW
10:30 a.m.
(Online access available through a shared zoom link from St. Mary's; look for summer emails to confirm)

July 26

St. Mary's Anglican Church
36 - 2nd St. SW
10:30 a.m.
(Online access available through a shared zoom link from St. Mary's; look for summer emails to confirm)

August 02

First Presbyterian Church
17 Royal Road S
10:30 a.m.

August 09

First Presbyterian Church
17 Royal Road S
10:30 a.m.

August 16

Trinity United Church
15 Tupper St S
10:30 a.m.

(Online access available through zoom)

August 24

Trinity United Church
15 Tupper St S
10:30 a.m.

(Online access available through zoom)

To end the summer, we are planning for a joint service on **August 30** with all of the partner churches involved and pleased to also welcome MacGregor United Church that day. Mark the date and stay tuned for further information as we move through the summer.

Additionally, we invite choir members, musicians, singers, and anyone who wants to try singing, to consider taking part in the joint choir on that Sunday. If you are interested, please contact the office or Lori **before August 20**.

The UCW 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 has come back to the church. Thank you!



You Have a Voice in Shaping Our Future



We're inviting everyone in our church community to help shape the future of our church by sharing ideas for fundraising, cost savings and ways to grow and strengthen the congregation. Suggestion boxes are available in the sanctuary and in the office, and another open meeting will be held **June 07 following worship**. Every idea, big or small is welcome as we brainstorm together for a sustainable future.

Rock Lake United Church Camp is a beautiful facility located in Southern Manitoba. Fully secluded, away



from technology, you can fully immerse yourself in the beauty of nature and reconnect with the world around you. Our facilities have all the modern conveniences you're used to (except cell service) and are fully accessible to people with physical impairments.

A Gift in Memory



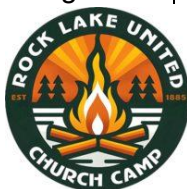
Summer is a time for weddings and family reunions which bring people together often across great distances. It is a time to remember our roots and the ties of family and friendship that connect us. It is also a time when our thoughts naturally turn to those who are no longer with us. We remember their 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:

Annette Lytle
Iris Schofield

We believe in creating a welcoming and supportive community where everyone can grow in faith, friendship, and connection with God. Through fun, fellowship, and the beauty of nature, we strive to inspire a deeper understanding of Christian values in a safe and caring environment.



Portage Ukrainian Nursery School is collecting Coats for Kids for BBBS until **May 31**. Donations can be left in a bin at the nursery school. Time to clear those closets and help keep someone else cozy!



Welcoming Elder Angela Roulette to Trinity Worship



We are pleased to welcome Elder Angela Roulette as our guest speaker during worship **June 21**.

Angela is a familiar and respected presence in our community, often sharing traditional teachings and stories at schools, gatherings and here at Trinity. A woman of the Anishinaabe tradition who lives in Portage la Prairie, she is passionate about fostering reconciliation and understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

Many may know Angela through the Women of Mother Earth Network and her involvement at Trinity, including the annual Christmas Day Dinner, sharing circles & the ribbon skirt project.

We look forward to learning from her wisdom, experience and teachings as she joins us for worship.

The Portage Ukrainian Nursery School Art Show & Auction



is back for its 14th year at Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment (Glesby Centre) from **May 27 - June 17!** You are invited to stop by, admire the children's creativity, and maybe even place a bid on a favourite masterpiece. All artwork will stay on display until the exhibit wraps up. A fun chance to celebrate little artists!

Plans for Spring Seeding 2026

FOCUS hopes to secure around 400 acres of cropland arranged for inputs this upcoming growing season. The donations we



receive at this time of year are used to plant the crops we grow and sell to support CFB.

Financial donations can be made out to

FOCUS and sent to Travis Rintoul, Box 1226, Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3J9. If you have questions or want more information, grab a flyer at the usher's station or talk to Dave Falk (204-856-6626)

Summer Worship: Volunteers Needed

Actually, I Can

As we do not have a house group for the summer, we are looking for volunteers to

help welcome and host the other churches on **August 16, 23 & 30** while we are back at Trinity. If you are able to assist with **hosting, ushering, sound, or coffee**, please contact the church office at 204-857-4471 or by email at trinityu@mts.net

June is Pride Month!

For many people in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, churches have been places of condemnation and judgment, not places of acceptance and love. Having a visible presence in Pride parades is a visible expression that the love of God extends to all people, regardless of gender expression or sexual orientation. If you would be willing to represent Trinity and The United Church of Canada in sharing that message of love, here are some options to check out:

Sunday June 7 – Winnipeg Pride Parade

Charleswood United Church is coordinating the United Church contingent. Walkers can carry their church banners, pride flags, and signs of celebration and affirmation for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The theme for this year's pride festival is "Celebrate YOU!" Marshalling for the parade takes place at the Memorial Park near the Legislative buildings. Look for the United Church signs. A rally is held at the Legislative buildings at 10:00 a.m. and the parade begins at 11:00 a.m. If you would like more specific information, please contact tmacnair@united-church.ca to be put in touch with the coordinator Rosalie. We will endeavor to have up to date information in our church office.



Saturday June 27 – Portage la Prairie Pride Parade

Information has not yet been circulated about this year's specific plans. We assume that marshalling for the parade will happen as usual in the Herman Prior Parking Lot at 10 a.m. with the parade beginning at 10:30 a.m.. If you are willing to carry Trinity's welcome banners in the parade, please be in touch with the church office.

Last year the parade route went past the Trinity building, which allowed a group to offer support on the sidelines if they were not able to walk. We assume that will again be the case, and so we invite anyone who is not able to walk in the parade to join us in front of Trinity. There will be a bit of a wait before the parade arrives, so you can come any time after 10:00 a.m. and you can visit or make a sign while we wait. Bring your creativity, your spirit of celebration, and a lawn chair if you don't want to sit on concrete church steps! To help with hosting our gathering in front of the church, please contact with the church office.

All Roads Lead to Selkirk United Church for the Regional Council

This year, the Prairie to Pine Regional Council is hosting an in-person meeting. Many people will be travelling from across the region to attend this important gathering on **May 28 - 31** at Selkirk United Church. Trinity will be represented by our ministers (Julie & Elijah) and our regional representatives (Brenda and Kelly). Our thoughts and prayers are with the delegates gathering for this meeting.



Be a Camper - The camping program is run by dedicated full-time staff supported by Cabin Leaders. Together they create a warm, fun-filled atmosphere where campers of all denominations and non-religious background are able to enjoy the outdoors and grow spiritually.



We have a variety of different camps for kids aged 7 to 15, and leadership opportunities for teens 14 and over.

Junior Camp (ages 7-9)

Rate: \$365

July 27 – 31

Teen Camp (ages 13-15)

Rate: \$395

August 09 – 14

Intermediate Camp

(ages 10-12)

July Rate: \$395

July 19 – 24

August Rate: \$365

August 03 – 07

Leadership Development Week

Rate: \$100 Deposit

July 13 – 15

Parent/Grandparent &

Tot Camp

Rate: \$110-150

July 16, 17

As we gather for worship, we remember that we gather on the area covered by Treaty 1, traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Dene, Dakota, and Oji-Cree nations and is the homeland of the Red River Metis. We commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



Milestones & Markers...

Since our last issue

Funerals

Winnifred "Winnie" McDonald

May 16, 2026

A Camping Prayer

Outside the flimsy walls
my body feels the chill
of this new day.
I could have stayed
under the covers,
cozy and comfortable,
dozing and content.

But out here, in the open,
I awaken - here is a
living world where
flowers dot the forest floor,
breeze makes trees dance,
dew sparkles on grass -
delightful and gracious
hosts to us visiting guests,
gifts so easily missed by
us indoor beings.

God of wild beings and
wild places, thank you
for the birds and their
exquisite songs,
the variety of green,
refreshing mornings that
make us feel alive,
awed and amazed
at the world beyond
our sheltered lives.

May our encounters
with
places of wild beauty
and the creatures
who
call them home
expand our hearts,
minds, imaginations.
May we be open to
your expansive
presence,
and may it expand our
love and care for all creation.

May we take time to
pay attention to and
find delight in the lives
of those with feather & fur,
fins & scales, and learn
their names, sounds,
habitats, and needs.
May we remember you
created and blessed them,
and that you made an
everlasting covenant
with the land,

all wild creatures,
and us.
May we love the world
in each small detail, and
also in its wonderfully
complex fullness.
May we tread lightly
and leave no trace.

Bless our summer travels
and encounters.
May they transform
us into new creations. Amen

-Wendy Janzen

Let's plan some activities at Trinity!

A group has been formed to brainstorm for ideas to generate income and the Church is welcoming ideas – please share your thoughts with the group or drop off your comments in the idea box at the church office. Whether your idea is a large or small, all brainstorming is

encouraged
and who knows
where or what
your ideas will
lead to....



Are you moved
to coordinate
an event or try
one of your
ideas, you
should go for it!!
If you have an
idea and want

to pursue it, it can be advertised
in our weekly bulletin along with
a request for help planning or
putting on your event.

A way to raise some money for
the church is to plan a fun event
– a trivia night (or afternoon), a
community barbeque, a reunion,
a community potluck, a dinner, a
year end windup for you sports
team, or a FIFA viewing
event.... imagine a big screen in
the auditorium at Trinity! Are you
holding an event at home or are
you celebrating a milestone –

donations for Trinity could be
collected at your event.

Any idea you have, large or
small, is worth pursuing! Let's
plan some fun events to bring
our community together, and
also, to invite our larger
community to come and have a
fun time at these events.

Respectfully submitted,
Your Stewardship Team

Trinity's Giving Goals April

Goal - \$10,941
Given - \$10,643



May

Goal - \$12,722

Please help!

*The ministry of Trinity United
Church is only made possible
through the generosity of people
like you!*

Support the Camp - The work
we do at RLUC would not be
possible without the generous
financial support we receive
through grants and donations.
Want to help make a difference
and support the awesome work
we do? You can now donate
securely through PayPal!
Consider making a one-time
donation, or set up a recurring
monthly donation
today. All donations
\$20 and over will be
issued a tax receipt.



16 Easy Summer Self-Care Ideas to Help You Rest and Recharge



1. Watch the sky instead of TV
2. Ride your bike to work
3. Spice up your water
4. Pick up a new outdoor activity
5. Swim your heart out
6. Connect with friends at events
7. What were your favorite childhood summer activities?
8. Embrace your body
9. Focus on self-efficacy rather than control
10. Plan picnics with loved ones
11. Indulge and eat different ice cream flavors



12. Why not learn how to make slushies at home?
13. Get dirty and garden
14. Volunteer and connect with your community
15. Declutter from previous seasons
16. Make delicious BBQ breakfast recipes



Do you want to support Trinity but don't have any cash to put in the offering plate? We can receive e-transfers to trinityu@mts.net or you can donate via credit or debit card by following the link on our website trinityunitedportage.ca



SCAN ME

Increasing Accessibility

In our journey to provide a barrier free, safe environment at Trinity, we continue to be aware of accessibility needs. One of those needs for many people relates to hearing on Sunday mornings. Increasing the volume doesn't always help with understanding, but sometimes if you can read what is being said (close captioning), it can make hearing so much easier. In the church, we have to go 'low tech' for this, but each Sunday, copies of the full text of what is spoken up front is available at the entry tables. Feel free to pick one up and follow along!

At Rock Lake United Church Camp, we offer a mix of outdoor adventure, creative activities, and faith-based programs to inspire fun and personal growth.



From swimming and hiking to campfires, our activities help build friendships, strengthen faith, and create lasting memories.

Sunday mornings you can access our online feed through our zoom platform from wherever you are! The zoom link is emailed each week, is available on our website, and is posted in our Facebook group. If you need help accessing our online worship, please be in touch with the church office. You are always welcome to come through the front doors and join us in person! Doors open before 10 a.m. and **we start at 10:30 a.m.**



Sunday School 😊

And just like that, the year comes to an end, and summer will soon be upon us. Sunday School will run through all of June, with our final session on **June 28**. Thanks so much to Cadence Matthews for all of her efforts to lead a Sunday School program through this past year.

Hello, Summer! Staff Vacation Plans



- Don will be on vacation June 29 – July 10
- Julie will be on vacation from June 29 – August 04
- Jacquie be on vacation July 13 - 27 and August 03 -07. *While she is away, the church office will be open Monday – Friday, mornings only.*
- Elijah will be on vacation August 03 – 18

One small way to help ease poverty concerns, one act at a time, is by supporting the Women of Mother Earth Network, which meets regularly in our church. They are currently collecting donations of clothing to share with local residents in need. Clean, gently used clothing in good condition is greatly appreciated. The need is ongoing, and items are being distributed almost as quickly as they are donated. Thank you for helping support our community in this meaningful way!

