



# Trinitopics & Church Announcements



To Grow in Faith, Fellowship & Service Through Christ Jesus  
# 25 ~ Thursday, December 3rd, 2021

Rev. Doug Neufeld  
Phone: 204 729-1946  
E Mail: rev.doug@wcgwave.ca  
Urgent needs: Cell 204 441-8140



Trinity Office Now Open!!  
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri  
9-noon 1-4 pm  
Phone: 204 728-4796  
E Mail: trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca  
Website: www.trinitybrandon.ca



### From Trinity Christian Education

We welcomed back our Sunday School children and youth! Wonderful!!  
Please note that youth 12 years and over must be double vaccinated and ALL children will be required to wear a mask.

**Advent Season Worship Services:**

December 5: Advent 2 - White Gift  
December 12: Advent 3  
December 19: Advent 4 - Communion  
December 24: Christmas Eve Service @ 7:00 p.m.  
December 26: No Worship Service  
January 2, 2022: No Worship Service— Rev. Doug on vacation





**Church Decorating for Advent Season:**  
The Worship committee would like to thank those individuals who came out to decorate the sanctuary and narthex for the Advent season. They did a beautiful job! The decorating was done over three days as everyone wasn't available for the one day. Please extend your thanks and appreciation to our decorators: Gloria & Murray McMillan, Marlane Wilson, Joanne McMillan, Helen Hicks, Sheila McCausland and Darlene Silvius. Vivian Privat came out to hang her Christmas banners.

 **PRAIRIE TO PINE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL 

**New Mailing Address for  
Prairie to Pine**

**60 Maryland Street,  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3G 1K7**

**Patient/Resident Well Wishes**

In this holiday season, with our hospitals, care and senior homes so restricted, please remember the option of being able to go on the Prairie Mountain Health website and leave a message for a shut in. Be sure to leave your name with the message so folks know that it is you contacting them.

It just takes a few minutes  
and might brighten  
someone's day!





**Trinity United Church, Brandon**  
**“To Grow in Faith, Fellowship, and Service through Christ Jesus.”**

**Congregational Meeting**  
Sunday, December 5, 2021 @ 11:00AM



**AGENDA**

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Opening Prayer
- 3) Motion #1: That all those present have voting privileges.
- 4) Motion #2: That the Agenda be adopted as presented (amended).
- 5) Motion #3: That the minutes of the Congregational Meetings on Sunday February 21 & Sunday September 26, 2021 be adopted as presented.
- 6) Motion #4: That all Committee Convenors and Chair be accepted together in one vote.
- 7) Motion #5: That all Committee Convenors and Chairs for 2022 be accepted as presented.
- 8) Motion #6: To accept the signing officers as presented.
- 9) Motion #7: To approve the draft budget as presented (amended.)
- 10) Closing Prayer

\*\*\*\*\*

**Church Vacancies are as follows:**

Vice Chair \*Ministry & Personnel Christian Education

**Willing to continue serving on the Board in present role:**

Chairperson	Past Chair	Worship	Business Admin
Pastoral Care	Property	Outreach	
Worship	Equity & Diversity		

\*Note : M and P have only one returning committee member.

Note : Prairie to Pine (appointed) and UCW (appointed)

See you Sunday following Worship!

**Update Trinity's Christmas Gift Card Fundraising Project**

Forty-seven households participated in this fundraiser with a total of \$21,925.00 worth of orders, resulting in Trinity earning \$801.26. These earnings include an additional \$61.25 as a result of the November promotions.

Thank you to everyone who supported this Gift Card Fundraiser through FundScrip.

**Our two gift card fundraisers have earned Trinity \$1714.50 to date.**

We were successful because of your generosity.

**The gift cards have arrived.** You can pick your cards up from Eden in the church office  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday.

**Please note Trinity has purchased twenty \$100 Gift Cards from Sobeys/Safeway .**

**Please see Eden in the office if you would like to purchase any cards.**

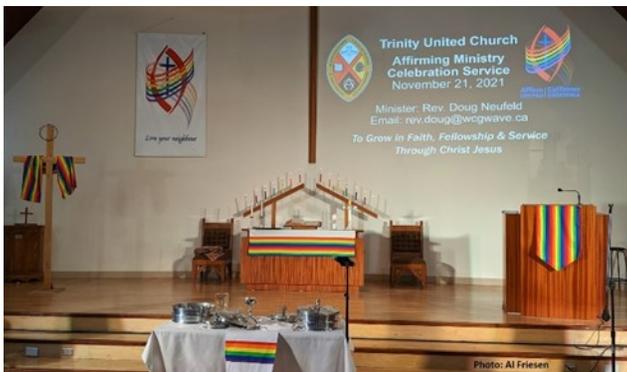
Stay tuned for more information on future Gift Card Fundraisers. Blessings to Everyone!

# Affirming Ministry Service of Celebration

Trinity United, Brandon, November 21, 2021

As parishioners arrived at Trinity, on the second Sunday of in-person worship since the start of the Pandemic, they walked through the narthex with Affirm-themed displays and entered the sanctuary adorned in the vibrant colours of the rainbow representing the celebration of love, diversity, inclusion, and justice for all. The celebration was the culmination of a five-year journey when a visioning exercise identified becoming an Affirming Ministry as a priority goal, the formation of the Equity & Diversity Committee three years later to provide leadership in education and discernment, and a recent unanimous vote to become an Affirming Ministry.

The Affirming Ministry certificate was presented jointly by Julie Hutton of Minnedosa United Church and Laura Crookshanks of Knox United, Brandon, both of whom had previously shared their family stories with the Trinity congregation. The presentation was followed by recitation of the Affirming Vision Statement and the unveiling of the giant Affirm logo banner at the front of the sanctuary. The service concluded with observance of the holy sacrament of communion. On their way out of the sanctuary parishioners were given cookies, with coloured icings, sprinkles, and candies, individually wrapped and sealed with a rainbow heart sticker.



The theme of the celebration service was based on Mark 12:30-31 *“You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.”* The second is this: *“You must love your neighbor as yourself.”* No other commandment is greater than these.” The homily, offered by Reverend Doug Neufeld, stressed the importance of loving with all our mind, and that it is only in loving all our neighbours that we can truly claim love for God.

Communion serving assistants Sherri Splett and Miranda Edwards (L, R) with Rev. Doug Neufeld (Photo: Darlyne Smith)

This celebration brings the total count of Affirming Ministries in Canada to 267, with 31 in Manitoba and the third one in Brandon. Trinity now joins these ministries in working to forward the goals of Affirm United of education, advocacy, and support across the country seeking justice and hospitality for all – publicly, intentionally, and explicitly.



Equity & Diversity Committee (L to R) Alison Murray, Pat Bowslaugh, Barb Robertds, Rev. Doug Neufeld, Donna Neufeld, Al Friesen and Affirm-Certificate presenters Laura Crookshanks, Julie Hutton. (Photo: D. Smith)

Serving rainbow cookies: Donna Neufeld, Alison Murray, Linda Friesen and Darlyne Smith. (Photo: Al Friesen)



## Trinity and Christmas Cheer Hampers

The season of Advent is approaching, and the Outreach committee is making plans to help people of our community with Christmas hampers. We will be working with the Christmas Cheer Board to help supply hampers. The Mission statement of the Christmas Cheer Board is

“To provide Christmas dinner and gifts for the children, for families in the Westman area who would otherwise go without.”

This year, as we have only recently begun gathering for worship, the Christmas hamper program will look somewhat different than in previous years.

The committee will be packing a small number of hampers for families in our church community. Members of the Pastoral Care committee will also be supplying cookies for our Trinity hampers. If you have suggestions of families in our Trinity family in need of support, please contact a member of the committee. Items and monetary gifts will be forwarded to the Christmas Cheer Board to support their efforts in supplying hampers.

So here is how you can help –

- ◆ Bring in non-perishable food items (see list of needed items below)
- ◆ Donate new unwrapped gifts for children
- ◆ Bring in knitted winter items such as mittens, scarves, hats
- ◆ Donate monetary gifts to support the purchase of hamper items
- ◆ Volunteer your time to the Christmas Cheer Board – Delivery dates are Dec. 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>

**White Gift Sunday is December 5<sup>th</sup>** - December 5<sup>th</sup> is the Sunday where we will receive your gifts. The food donation wagon will be placed in the narthex beginning this Sunday November 21<sup>st</sup>. Please make any monetary donations to Trinity United Church on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to everyone for your support.

### Christmas Cheer hamper food needs:

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ◆ Soup, Canned fruit and vegetables | ◆ Crackers, cake mix                |
| ◆ Cranberry sauce                   | ◆ Peanut butter, jam, cheese spread |
| ◆ Pasta, Pasta sauce                | ◆ Fruit juice                       |
| ◆ Canned meats (tuna, salmon, ham)  | ◆ Stuffing mix                      |
| ◆ Cereal                            | ◆                                   |

**Trinity Outreach Committee** – Connie H.(204)725-2676, Linda F. (204)728-2305  
Kathy K. (204)726-4111, Lois R. (204)728-3443, Heather M. (204)726-4255, Mark M. (204)717-1734

Why are balloons so expensive?



*Inflation!*

## Trinity 55 Plus Group ~ 2021-2022

The message went out and we are so happy to share what we received.. Blessings to all those who answered the call ...They are always so gratefully received.. It's a long winter and we will continue to receive any donations, and for covid safety call 728 4683 to let us know if you wish to drop off— 26 Driftwood Crescent... or we can pick up..

Please remember donating only one pair can make a difference for someone during our cold winter.



55 plus ... Kindness and caring continues ... latest 'batch'  
So very much appreciated by those who receive the mittens, toques , socks, etc.  
Thank you!



*"Trinity 55 Plus  
Striving to make a difference ...  
a little at a time".*



### ADVENT CHOIR

Trinity Choir is excited to sing together again!  
**You are invited to join the Advent Choir.**

Leader Davis Placatka  
Accompanist Holly Walker

When:            Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>    7 pm-9 pm  
                      Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>   7 pm-9 pm



(please arrive 6:35-6:50pm to allow check in just like worship check in)

During these sessions we will practice, sing, and record an anthem to be shared with the Congregation at the regular service. The choir will not sing live at worship.

Masks will be worn at all times, seating will be in the pews (social distancing), and we will rejoice.

Any further enquiries please call Miranda (204 720 1086) or drop an email to [miranda.ed@hotmail.com](mailto:miranda.ed@hotmail.com).

Enjoy this Christmas by sharing the Good News in song!

## Theological Education Provides a Roadmap to Vitality

**"We want to help communities of faith re-focus on core principles of church health."** *(Published on December 1st, 2021)*



Vancouver School of Theology just celebrated its 50th anniversary. The school, which receives support through Mission & Service, has thrived for over half a century thanks to your generosity.

"We are committed to serve and support the church," says VST's President and Vice-Chancellor Richard Topping. To that end, the school has big plans for the coming year: to expand facilities in order to create more teaching space for its growing student body, to begin new partnerships, and to invest in helping congregations flourish.

"Many congregations struggle with issues of viability: for example, managing and maintaining buildings, paying for staff, and other related expenses. Through our **Congregational Vitality through Community Engagement** project, we want to help communities of faith re-focus on core principles of church health and begin to explore new ways of becoming a thriving church," says Topping.

Right now, through the Congregational Vitality Initiative, VST is working hard to identify the challenges that congregations are facing and help them see what the future might look like. As the research unfolds, VST will gather the best resources and practices that lead to congregational vitality and make them available to the whole church. With proven resources in hand, congregations will be equipped to become more healthy and vital. For communities of faith that are struggling or need extra support, the school plans to offer hands-on support.

"Your gifts are crucial to the work of our school. It is a source of encouragement to our work during these days when the whole of our operations is online because of COVID-19 restrictions. Through the hard work and dedication of a staff, faculty, and student body, who not only work hard but also care deeply, we have been able to continue keep our calling: to educate and form thoughtful, engaged, and generous Christian leaders for the church and the world in the 21st century," says Topping.

Thank you for your gifts through Mission & Service. By supporting theological education, you ensure not only that the church has strong leaders but also equip them and the whole of the church with a roadmap to vitality, too. Thank you.

I forgot my cat outside.  
I am too scared to let him in now.



It is better to have a friend  
with two chins ...  
rather than two faces

Me: "I am  
surprised at how  
winded I am by this  
exercise"

Personal Trainer:  
"This was the tour  
of the gym"



If you think you are  
smarter than the  
previous  
generation...50  
years ago the  
owners manual of a  
car showed you  
how to adjust the  
valves. Today it  
warns you not to  
drink the contents  
of the battery.

In a world where you  
can be anything ...  
Be Kind



“Music speaks what cannot be expressed,  
soothes the mind and gives it rest;  
heals the heart and makes it whole,  
flows from heaven to the soul.”

### UCW Birthdays

December 6th

June Pedlow

80 years  
young!!



Happy birthday

December 1st Mabel Ramsay

December 6th Donna Neufeld

December 22nd Ruth Sawyer

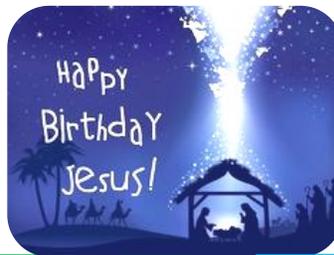
December 20th Holly Walker

December 23rd Carole Winstone

December 23rd Leonard Wray

December 27th Keith Privat

December 25th



Happy 55th Anniversary  
**Eddy & Hillary Baker**

December 24

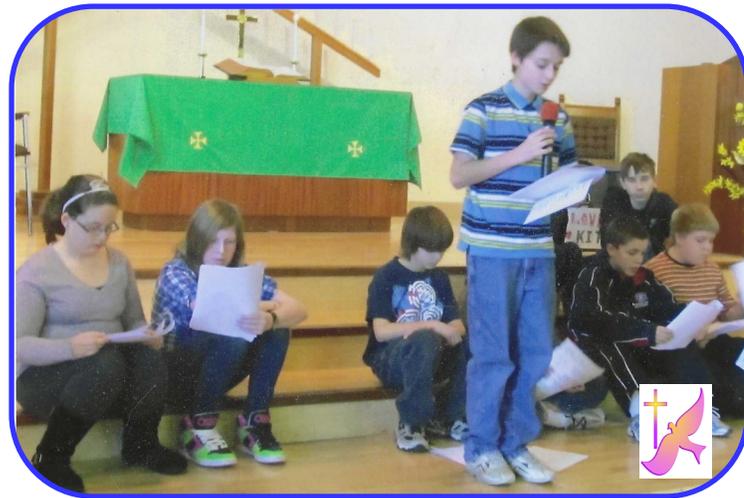


Happy 52nd Anniversary  
**Don & Marion Kitz**  
December 27th

### Prayers for Mabel Ramsay's brother & Mabel & families

'Found out that my 62 year brother who has been in Manitoba Development centre in Portage is one of 12 with COVID. He is in the hospital with pneumonia. He was born with oxygen deprivation and has been in Portage / Ninette since he was 9 years old.

He could use our prayers,  
Mabel Ramsay'



A blast from the 'not too far back' past! I am not sure exactly when this picture was taken; but the young man standing is now our choir director, Davis Placatka. We have been enjoying his leadership for our choir practices.

Our thoughts and prayers to Keith & Vivian Privat and family on the passing of Viv's mom this week. She was 93 and still living in her own apartment.



If you know someone, or yourself, who would like a care call from Rev. Neufeld; call 204-441-8140  
204 729.1946



What has to be broken before you can use it?



Please think about our folks in hospital and care homes and drop them a greeting through the Prairie Mountain Health website.  
<https://www.prairiemountainhealth.ca/pmh-well-wishes>

*Our thoughts and prayers to anyone we have missed who are spending time in hospital: or having health issues.*



**November 28th  
 Trinity is Affirming!**

*Thanks to Rev. Doug, Al Friesen & Trinity Equity & Diversity Committee*

*Hallelujah*

**Our thoughts & prayers to**  
**Irene Brown:** in Assiniboine recuperating after a fall. Reports are that she is doing well.  
**Judy Diswinka:** In Assiniboine on three.  
**Ruth Bilowus:** on Assiniboine three.  
 Thinking of all of you ladies and hoping that you know that we are thinking of you!!  
 Prayers & Blessings!!

**Alan Silvius:** Had surgery on November 9th; he is at home and 'working from home'!  
 Blessings to your continued positive convalescence!  
 Our continued thoughts and prayers!



The powerful words from 1 Corinthians 13:13 are as relevant now as they have ever been: *Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love – and the greatest of these is love.*

Please be sure to call or e-mail  
 Marlane Wilson, 204.729.8574  
 with any reports of folks in hospital or needing some contact.



- Our Friends in Personal Care and Senior Homes**
- Dinsdale:** Lois Aube
  - Fairview:** Lillian Atchison, Audrey Campbell, Gordon Fraser, Linda Garson, Louise Hodge, Dennis Hume, Betty Russell, Keith Vrooman, Alma Yule
  - Souris PCH:** Emma Garden
  - Rideau:** Don Chambers, Murray Hicks, Jean Hutchings, Eleanor McCreath, Garry VanRenselaar
  - Valleyview:** Cliff Bowslaugh, Laura Cliffe, Bernice Erskine, Shirley O'Driscoll, Lois Wolfe,
  - Riverheights Terrace:** Judy Diswinka, Patty Hargreaves, Al & Helen Lauder, Vera Skayman
  - Rotary Villas:** Marg Lovstrom, Marg Speers

In conversation with **Pat Bowslaugh** she says that hubby, **Cliff**, loves rides and going out to visit Scott & family. This time last year he was in sunny B.C.

**AS A KID, I USED TO WATCH THE WIZARD OF OZ AND WONDER HOW SOMEONE COULD TALK IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE A BRAIN. THEN I GOT SOCIAL MEDIA.**



**Trinitopics & Church Announcements**  
 The newsletter is prepared every 2nd week  
 Delivery is being made to all non email  
**The next issue will be December 16th ~ last one for 2021**  
 darlynnegbsmith@gmail.com  
 204-728-7713 @ home ~ 204-724-2923 @ cell  
 May God hold you in the palm of His Hand