

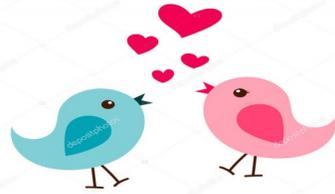


Trinitopics & Church Announcements

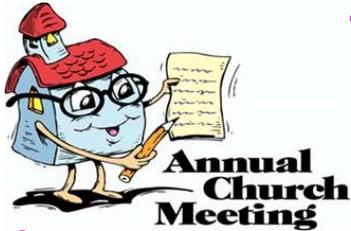


To Grow in Faith, Fellowship & Service Through Christ Jesus
3 ~ Thursday, February 4th, 2021

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



Trinity Office ~ Closed at this time
Phone: 204 728-4796
E Mail: trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca
Website: www.trinitybrandon.ca



Annual General Meeting

Sunday, February 21st, 2021

1:30PM via Zoom and Phone

(details will be shared closer to the event)

A warm welcome to all.

Reflect and celebrate our 2020 blessings.

Plan and collaborate to intentionally live our mission in 2021.

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP ~ PAGE 2

World Day of Prayer ~ 2021

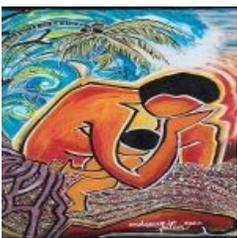
There was a Zoom meeting of the committee this week and information is being shared throughout the city. As most everything, it is going to be very different.

First Presbyterian Church are the hosts and we are learning about the country of Vanuatu, pronounced vaa·noo·aa·too.

On February 15th, there is going to be a link available to access, with the hour long service on the WICC website (wicc.org). There is a 'taste' of what it will be like on the site right now, if you are interested.

There is also lots of other info about this year's World Day of Prayer on the website.

WICC is asking that anyone wishing to donate do so with the 'donate' button or send a cheque to:



Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada
47 Queen's Park Crescent East
Toronto, ON M5S 2C3

For more information please contact:
Darlyne Smith
City of Brandon Coordinator.



Faith doesn't have to be complicated;
Love God ... Love Each Other

**Trinity Fellowship
Each Sunday @ 11 am
Via ZOOM or Telephone**

Message from Rev. Doug:

Last week, last minute, I put together a Zoom gathering open to our community to have some virtual fellowship time but many of you weren't given sufficient notice to participate. I'm giving more notice this time hoping we get an even bigger turnout as we had a great hour of connecting with church friends. It's also a great opportunity for first time Zoom users to get some experience at something new.

Again, it will happen at 11:00 am Sunday Feb 7 – I'll activate the meeting 15 minutes prior and be available to help first timers get on. (You can call 204-441-8140)

**** New to Zoom?:**

- You need either a computer with a webcam and a microphone (most laptops have this as standard equipment), a tablet (e.g. iPad), or a smart phone.
- When you click the link below, a variety of things may happen the first time.
 - If it asks if you want to launch Zoom meetings – click yes;
 - to allow Zoom to access camera – click yes;
 - to allow Zoom to access microphone – click yes.
 - Smartphone and tablet users may be asked to download the Zoom app. - follow the prompts.
 - You may be asked to test audio (usually optional) – follow the prompts if you need to.
 - When it asks to join the meeting with video – click yes.
- The first time is the most challenging, just work through the steps. After that, super easy.
- If you don't have the equipment to do Zoom, you can conference call in with your phone using the supplied numbers – this may incur long distance charges depending on your phone plan.

Don't be shy to ask for help.

***** See the info below to join the meeting *****

Doug Neufeld is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Trinity Fellowship Zoom

Time: Feb 7, 2021 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96319515437?pwd=YmpoSE1PVzI1dnV6QUtpTm9YT0lkZz09>

Meeting ID: 963 1951 5437

Passcode: 302233

One tap mobile

+14388097799,,96319515437#,,,,*302233# Canada

+15873281099,,96319515437#,,,,*302233# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 204 272 7920 Canada ** Use this number in Manitoba**

Meeting ID: 963 1951 5437

Passcode: 302233

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aBI0pFjsU>

Voting on Affirming Documents and on Becoming an Affirming Ministry

Recently Trinity distributed copies of the Affirming Vision Statement, Marriage Policy and Action Plan, accompanied by a cover letter dated Jan. 14, 2021. The cover letter suggested that all three documents would be presented for a vote at the upcoming Annual General Meeting, however it will be only the **Vision Statement** and **Marriage Policy** that will be voted on at this time. Reverend Neufeld clarified this in his virtual service on January 24, 2021.

(If you did not receive these documents, please contact Darlynn Smith, Al Friesen or Rev. Neufeld).

What will approving the Vision Statement and Marriage Policy mean for Trinity?

- ◆ Although congregational approval of both documents is required for becoming an Affirming Ministry, doing so does not complete the Affirm process and will not make Trinity an Affirming congregation according to Affirm United,
- ◆ Approval of the Vision Statement and Marriage Policy will update these policies to align better with our current beliefs and practices, whether or not we become an Affirming Ministry.

What about the Action Plan?

The Action Plan is a living document that addresses how the congregation will live out its faith and commitments to justice and inclusion after it becomes an Affirming Ministry. It consists of possible initiatives that Trinity may decide to undertake in consultation with church leadership, Equity & Diversity committee, and the congregation. The Action Plan remains open for discussion, review, and revision to best address the changing needs and priorities of the congregation and the community.

- ◆ The Action Plan does not require a separate vote for approval, rather, it will come into effect at such time as the congregation votes to become an Affirming Ministry,
- ◆ Attendance at events or participation in initiatives that may be implemented from the Action Plan is entirely voluntary, in the

same way as you currently choose what events you wish to attend or initiatives you wish to support,

- ◆ There is no requirement that you participate in any events or activities of the Trinity ministry with which you are uncomfortable.

What about the vote on becoming an Affirming Ministry?

- ◆ Affirm United requires a vote, separate from approval of related documents, on becoming an Affirming Ministry,
- ◆ The timing and format of the vote on Trinity becoming an Affirming Ministry is yet to be determined and will be influenced by feedback from the congregation and the realities of the pandemic,
- ◆ Affirm United strongly advises a minimum of 75% approval of those who vote, to become Affirming. Many congregations record a positive vote in excess of 90%.

What if you still have questions about the affirming process and what it might mean for Trinity?

We welcome your questions and comments via email, Canada Post, or telephone calls:

Doug Neufeld, (rev.doug@wcgwave.ca or 204-441-8140)

Al Friesen, (friesenal26@gmail.com or 204-728-2305)

Communication with other members of the Equity & Diversity Committee

***“Whatever your perspective,
we invite you to join the conversation.”***



**Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination,
and charm and gaiety to life and to everything. Plato**

Reflections on Trinity's Journey of Faith and Action

What an overwhelming year it has been! Its almost a year since the pandemic started and here we are, still isolated in our homes trying to stay safe and healthy. Added to this are the challenges of living through a Canadian winter. As if all this were not enough, we are lamenting our inability to meet in person with our treasured friends and to worship together inside the walls of our church sanctuary. All this has taken a heavy toll on many of us.

We are grateful, however, that our worship and the work of the church has been able to continue through virtual services, newsletters, emails, and phone calls. We are so thankful for Reverend Neufeld's dedicated spiritual leadership and for the help of volunteers to bring us together in meaningful worship in these challenging times. The church Board and committees continue with their work to help us "to grow in faith, fellowship, and service through Christ Jesus" even during the pandemic.

The Equity & Diversity committee continues to lead us in discernment and learning, reminding us of life in a world of love, kindness, and respect for all. These are affirmations of what we at Trinity already do and what we offer those around us in a loving and caring way. We work together to show our love in helping others within the congregation through Pastoral Care, UCW, Prayer Shawl ministry; in our community through Outreach with food drives for Samaritan House, baking muffins for Bear Clan, and hampers for Christmas Cheer; and even around the world through Mission & Service initiatives.

We have always been and continue to be a congregation of diversity as we embrace those with physical and mental challenges, and those from varying cultures. In recent years Trinity was blessed with a talented and energetic music director who happened to identify with the LGBTQ community. We have focused, not on our differences, but rather on our similarities and strengths and on the gifts that God has given us, as we live out our motto of being a welcoming, friendly family church.

As we continue along the journey of discernment and learning towards becoming an Affirming Ministry, some in our congregation have expressed concerns about how things might change and what Trinity might look like. Sharing concerns and searching for answers is important as we seek to understand the changing world around us and how to respond to God's call in these times.

Affirming Ministries are not dramatically different from other United Church ministries. Most things will remain just as they are; we will continue to worship, to sing and pray together, to learn as we study God's word, to enjoy

fellowship over coffee, to support each other and the less fortunate in our community. We will have the same minister who will continue to serve as in the past. Reverend Neufeld said in a recent meeting, "My message from the pulpit has been affirming since I first arrived, and this will remain the same in my future approach."

While many things will remain the same, there will be some things that may look and feel a little different about an Affirming Ministry. There may be visual indicators such as a banner with the Affirm logo and more people wearing rainbow ribbons as some are already doing. You may hear more explicit statements of welcome and justice-seeking for all of God's people – including those whose sexual orientations and gender identities have been marginalized and excluded within the church and in society. You may see a greater emphasis on involvement in the community as we seek to live out our faith in a God of love, compassion, and justice for all. You may see a congregation that is continually growing and learning, as we have done in the past, to broaden our witness to God's inclusive love in a challenging and changing world.

We at Trinity have faced many challenges in the past, such as improving the building with a new kitchen or elevator, we have faced financial difficulties, we have searched for new ministers and tried to maintain a viable board and full slate of committees. Even with differing views and priorities, we have worked our way through these challenges with dialogue and in a spirit of love. Whatever the challenges of becoming affirming may be, we can draw on these experiences to build a stronger, more loving and compassionate ministry at Trinity.

Whatever our ministry, God has given each of us unique talents and gifts through which we can serve. Whatever our ministry, we volunteer for those things we are good at and feel comfortable with, in those areas where we are best able to show our love and compassion. Whatever our ministry, we respect our differences and complement each other as we work together in love and service as God has called us to do. This is our mission. This is what we at Trinity have done in the past, and this is what we must continue to do in the future.

"As I have loved you, so you also must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
(John 13: 34 & 35)



UPCOMING RETREAT:
ZEEBU 2021

FREE ONLINE EVENT IN 2 PARTS

Friday, February 12th – 7 pm to 9 pm

Saturday, February 13th – 9:30 am to 12 noon

THEME:

ALL OUR RELATIONS

The event will include:

Interactive Theme Time

Worship and Music

Games Night

Home groups divided by age

Anyone interested
please contact
Lois Riley **this weekend**.
204 728.3443
lriley@mymts.net

PLEASE REGISTER BY FEB 5TH,
SO WE CAN SNAIL-MAIL YOU A PACKAGE FOR THE EVENT.

NURSE CAME IN AND SAID DOC, THERE'S A MAN IN THE WAITING ROOM WHO THINKS HE'S INVISIBLE, WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM? THE DOCTOR SAID TELL HIM I CAN'T SEE HIM TODAY.

Accidentally rubbed ketchup in my eyes.....now I have Heinsight

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips. I asked him "Are you the friar?" He replied "No, I'm the chip monk..."

New Airbag For Bikes

Motorcyclists who fall off their bikes at high speeds might have much smoother landings in the near future. There are reports that "airbag jeans" are becoming closer to reality. The company Airbag Inside Sweden AB has designed a prototype for the special pants, which look fairly ordinary on the outside but are lined on the inside with airbags that inflate if a rider falls off the bike. While similar technology exists to protect the upper body of motorcyclists, nobody has yet figured out how to make it work on the lower body. In this iteration, the jeans are tethered to the bike, and the airbags inflate if the rider is abruptly jettisoned. The Swedish company hopes to have them on the market next year, assuming they pass European safety tests, and the French company CX also is working on a similar concept. There's no word on when such products might hit the American market, but Elizabeth Blackstock at thinks the idea is long overdue. "If the jeans are approved, we could witness a fairly exciting revolution in motorcycle safety," she writes. In a post at , Janaki Jitchotvisut is intrigued but is holding out to see more details about how the airbags engage and how easy they are to wear. "Figuring out how to maneuver around human physiology to make any kind of airbag pants easy to get on and off is essential if you want riders to want to wear them.



Everyone belongs; that belief anchors our United Church. It's why your Mission & Service gifts support gatherings of people who are left on the margins of society and support education events that help us learn what we can do about it. Disability is one aspect of social justice the United Church is working on. Did you know that one in five Canadians live with at least one disability? That's 6.2 million people. Of these, 1.2 million can't afford aids, devices, or prescription medications. People living with severe disabilities have half the income of those with none.

Seniors are almost twice as likely to have a disability as people who are of working age. Disability is an issue that affects us all. That's why the United Church partners with people from other denominations to raise awareness. People like Anglican disability activist Lynda Katsuno, who is widely considered a pioneer in the field. Lynda has lived with disability since she was in a car accident in 1973. At the time, she was a primary school teacher and loved her job working with children. "I became a disability activist when I realized it takes political will to change society for the better." —Lynda Building a World Where Everyone Belongs: Lynda's Story Your Generosity Matters 2021 17 Building a World Where Everyone Belongs: Lynda's Story After the accident, she wasn't sure if she would be able to return to what she loved because the school wasn't accessible. Lynda credits a committed principal and board of education superintendent for making the changes that would enable her to return to her job. "I became a disability activist when I realized it takes political will to change society for the better. Our community is made stronger when we include people with disabilities. If people with disabilities were fully welcome, the world would be a richer place. It would be a place where there is hope and no fear," she says. Ideals of mutuality, inclusivity, and justice drive Lynda's passion to make the world a better place for all. "I don't want to be seen as a poor, pathetic person. I want to be seen as a child of God," she says. Your generosity supports events and education that help create healthy, strong, welcoming communities inside and outside the church. Communities where no one is left out. Where we are all valued as children of God. Let's build a world where everyone belongs. Make your Mission & Service gift for belonging today.

On February 12 from 12:00 to 1:00 CST
we will look at

[Zoom Tips for Annual Meetings.](#)

Join us for an information-sharing and discussion session on best practices for holding a church annual meeting online using a platform like Zoom. [Details and registration are here.](#)

Anyone interested, contact
Darlynn Smith or Alison Murray



TRINITY 55 PLUS GROUP

Thank you all for all your continuing donations and for supporting
..Assistive Technology for Children with DisAbilities....

We are well on our way to reaching our goal..

As winter continues, our Mission for Mittens continues.. Mittens
for kindergarten age to the older children in Middle School..
and always for the Homeless will be appreciated....

They can be dropped off at 26 Driftwood Crescent or we will pick up...
call Ruth or Glenn prior 204 728 4683 and we will put a container on the step for safe drop off.
Looking forward to when we we can meet again.

“ Trinity 55 Plus Striving to Make a Difference a Little at a Time”

INTRODUCING...

Mark Mercure



HOME HEALTH CARE PHARMACY



Manager/Pharmacist

Mark graduated from the University of Manitoba in 2006 and began his career as a pharmacist with Super Thrifty in 2008.

Mark has a specialty in Geriatric Pharmacy, having achieved the status of Board Certified Geriatric Pharmacist in 2010.

From 2013 until July 2018, he provided Consultant Pharmacy services to five personal care homes in Brandon as manager of Pharma-Medic Services.

Mark joined the team at Home Health Care Pharmacy in September of 2018. His favourite thing about being a pharmacist is the opportunity to provide solutions for older adults who have specific and often complex medication related issues. As a Super Thrifty pharmacist, Mark appreciates how the company's "We Care" philosophy applies to its customers, staff and the local communities alike. Mark is also certified to administer injections.

1-204-727-2483 | Toll-Free: 1-800-572-1002 | www.superthrifty.com | 3000 Victoria Ave unit A, Brandon

Congratulations to **Mark** on his advancement at Home Health Care Pharmacy and to **Todd** for his part in donating many oral health kits. Both of these men are members of Trinity congregation and both have children in our Sunday school.

Thanks Edna Stewart for article



Dentists donate oral health kits to those in need

The Manitoba Dental Foundation have banded together and created oral health kits which have been handed out to many organizations who help people in need.

Todd is a Board member and regional representative for the foundation.

As well he is a dentist at the **Keystone Dental Centre**
Unit 2 - 1502 9th Street Brandon
(204) 727-2552



Dr. Todd Kruk

Thank you to Barry & Gloria Hill for sending me the article (below) about the Boissevain Festival.

Everett Hopfner spend a while at Trinity as our pianist while he was studying at Brandon University. As noted in the article, he is now employed by BU.

Boissevain Festival of the Arts piano goes virtual

by PAUL RAYNER
Recorder staff

It might look a little different, but the Boissevain Festival of the Arts will continue 2021.

The annual festival gives musicians a chance to have their performances evaluated by professionals in the field. With the pandemic, much of the traditional way of holding these concerts and workshops is impossible. However, the Boissevain event will be proceeding in a different form.

"The Boissevain Festival of the Arts Committee has been hard at work since last year trying to provide some of festival experience for music students in the area," explained Tenley Dyck of the festival Committee. "Local piano teachers were contacted

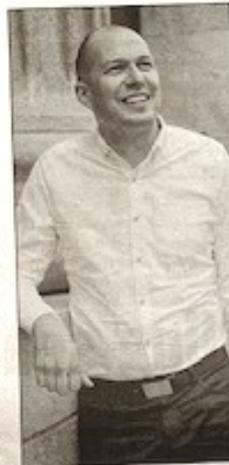
at that time and notified of our intent to proceed. Although many festivals in the province decided to cancel their music festivals completely, it was our hope to do whatever we could to keep this event alive in our community."

Shawn Kleebaum, local teacher and tech advisor, stepped in as their IT advisor and helped make the new festival a reality. There will be no vocal or choral performances this year due to COVID restrictions, but they found a way to allow piano students to participate. Instead of live performances, participants will be sending in video recordings, which will be adjudicated by Everett Hopfner, a director at the Conservatory of Music in Brandon University. He will then speak to students

virtually during traditional piano festival week of March 1-4. Awards will be distributed Sunday, March 21, with details dependent on current health regulations.

They have had over 100 entries, showing how important the festival continues to be for the communities.

"As with so many events during the pandemic, screen time is not the same as live performances and the camaraderie of gathering at the same facility. However, to move forward with an online event is still preferable to nothing at all, and provides students with the opportunity to work towards goals. We hope that, in addition to the educational aspect, students will have positive interactions and happy memories of this unique experience."



Everett Hopfner
Boissevain Festival 2021
Piano Virtual adjudicator

A self-described new music explorer, Canadian pianist Everett Hopfner is celebrated for his passionate performances and his dedication to community-based music education. As a soloist and collaborative artist, Everett loves performing music that challenges assumptions and pushes boundaries.

Everett has toured across Canada as the winner of the 36th Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition, where he was commended by the jury as "an actor, a poet, a true artist" and "a figure of the future." Residencies at the Banff Centre, New Music on the Point, the Jung Deutsche Philharmonie, and Casalmaggiore International Music Festival have integrated Everett into a diverse community of creative artists, leading to dozens of premieres and in-

novative collaborations. He has been presented by IMA-TRONIC piano+ in Karlsruhe, Cluster Festival in Winnipeg, and Lachetmann/Perspektiven in Stuttgart.

Everett Hopfner currently serves as director of the Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music at Brandon University, where he maintains a busy teaching studio and oversees programming for hundreds of musicians of all ages and disciplines. He enjoys sharing his enthusiasm, imagination, and constructive pedagogical approach in workshops, festivals, and master classes. Everett is grateful for support from his teachers Nicolas Hodges, Catherine Vickers, and Megumi Masaki, the Manitoba Arts Council, and a close-knit circle of inspiring colleagues and friends.

Reg. \$9.25

zytec Extra Strength

120ml with
moisturizing Vitamin E,
Glycerin and Aloe

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

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



Margaret Izzard ~ still in Reston Health Centre

Continued best wishes and prayers to Georgina McEvoy. Alison reports things are improving! :->

Jean Hutchings has been spending time in the hospital, again; however, she is hopeful that following some therapy she will be back home again soon. Our thoughts & prayers always with you!!

Our thoughts and prayers to the family of Frank Basiuk, who passed away January 27th. A well liked and talented man!

Rideau PCH is getting close to their construction being completed and are hoping for a March return of residents who were displaced due to water break. Marlane says that Garry's stay at Virden has been a positive one. She is now driving out every Sunday to visit him.

Please contact me if you have a special event to share!!

May you always have:
Love to share, Cash to spare,
Tires with air, And friends who care



Sunday, February 1st
46th Sunday of Pandemic
Mental Health: Healing takes time;
asking for help is a courageous step.

Our Friends in Personal Care and Senior Homes

Dinsdale	Lois Aube
Fairview	Audrey Campbell, Lillian Atchison, Linda Garson, Louise Hodge, Betty Russell, Keith Vrooman, Alma Yule
Souris PCH	Emma Garden
Rideau	Don Chambers, Murray Hicks, Robert Jarvie, Eleanor McCreath, Garry VanRenselaar
Valleyview	Laura Cliffe, Bernice Erskine, Shirley O'Driscoll, Lois Wolfe
Riverheights Terrace	Judy Diswinka, Patty Hargreaves, Al & Helen Lauder, Dave & Joyce McClelland, Vera Skayman
Rotary Villas	Beatrice Lee, Marg Lovstrom, Frank Rabe
Victoria Land-ing	Pat Rathwell, Ieleen Turner, Alice Wesley

UCW Birthdays
February Today
Carolyn Heard
February 5th

Sunsets:
January 22nd
5:06 pm
February 5th
5:42 pm



Trinitopics & Church Announcements

The newsletter is prepared every 2nd week
Delivery is being made to all non email

The next issue will be February 18th, 2021

Darlynne Smith ~ Editor

darlynnegbsmith@gmail.com

204-728-7713 @ home ~ 204-724-2923 @ cell

May God hold you in the palm of His Hand