



Around Trinity

happenings in the life of our church...

January 2024

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 18 Ladies' Lunch
Jan. 25 Men's Lunch
Feb. 25 Annual Meeting

LADIES' LUNCH

Date: Thursday, Jan. 18 (12 noon)
Location: Chicago Joe's (Victoria Inn)

Come on out and greet the new year over an informal lunch. Friends welcome. Contact **Lee-Ann** to reserve a spot (345-6255). Bring a Loonie for the draw.

MEN'S LUNCH

Date: Thursday, Jan. 25 (12 noon)
Location: Applebee's

Contact **Gary** to reserve a spot (344-7302)
or g-salonen@shaw.ca

LENTEN BOOK STUDY?

Christina Stricker has offered to conduct a Lenten Book Study at Trinity using the recently published United Church book "Act/Fast: *Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis*". This book invites us to explore many facets of life including grief, anxiety, hope, love, despair, awe, etc. to describe our relationship with all of Creation/God.

This would be a weekly study in an afternoon for about an hour. Cost of book would be approximately \$15-18.

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact **Marlene** immediately at 807 345-5328 as books would need to be ordered. (Lent begins Feb. 14 and continues to March 31.)

ANNUAL MEETING OF TRINITY

Sunday, February 25, 2024
(following church and a light lunch)

AGENDA (will include)

2023 Annual Reports from all Committees
2023 Financial Statements
Nominating Report
2024 Budget
New business

CHRISTMAS SERVICES (Pat Jackson)

With Christmas Eve on a Sunday this year, Trinity was blessed with two wonderful services. The 10:30 am service was led by Rev. Rob Smith, Pastoral Relations Minister, Canadian shield Region. We have enjoyed having children light the Advent candles each Sunday as they did for this service. A delightful string ensemble of children played the Offertory music as well. At the 9:00 pm service, we were pleased to have Rev. Randy Boyd as the leader. The young string players offered a piece before Randy shared some time with the children. The choir was very involved, and sang anthems interspersed with Scriptures. With a few guest singers and the adult string quartet,,pp this was a beautiful part of the evening. Randy used a few videos, and provided a Reflection to remember called "Faithful Choices".

MOVIE NIGHT IN FEBRUARY

Christian Education is currently making plans to host a Trinity Movie Night in February. Two possible evenings have been suggested (Feb. 9 or 16). Keep both days open as more details will be available soon.

ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 14	Rev. Bert Vancook	(Pinegrove)
January 21	Christina Stricker	(Trinity)
January 28	Anne MacDonald	(Pinegrove)

UNIQUE WORKSHOP PLANNED (Shane Judge, Outreach Chair)

Trinity United is going to host a unique medical workshop this spring. The goal is to help front-line health care workers experiencing burnout or PTSD. Over four days in early April, doctors, nurses and therapists will be trained how to hold group psychotherapy sessions. The trainees will be taught techniques to help people who aren't responding to traditional medical approaches to mental illness. The training will include how to administer low-dose ketamine as a legal psychedelic. The ketamine is meant to help patients "un-stick" their thought processes. The leaders of the training are a retired psychiatrist and his wife who is a nurse. About a dozen medical professionals are expected to take part in the training which will be held in the Chapel and the Assembly Hall starting April 3rd.

The Administrator for the event is Doctor Nancy Fitch of Marathon. This will be the third time she's organized an event like this. Doctor Fitch says so far two OPP officers off work for PTSD and a paramedic from Thunder Bay have driven to Marathon weekly for seven weeks for treatment. Her goal is to train professionals in Thunder Bay to deliver this service in the city. One psychiatrist from St. Joe's Care Group is expected to attend. Doctor Fitch says she plans to bring soup and sandwiches for the participants over the four days of the event. Trinity is providing our facilities at a lower rent than is typical. It's part of the Outreach Committee's efforts to help improve life in Thunder Bay.

HIGHLITES OF DECEMBER 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

- work has begun on the Revision of Trinity's Community of Faith Story to initiate discussions regarding the search for a new minister.
- discussion regarding potential rental/partnership contracts are ongoing and continue. Trinity provided successful rental streaming for First-Wesley's Cantata.
- Treasurer **Les Mayes** reported a healthy financial picture for November due largely to some large bequests, basement remedial work donations and the Christmas Bazaar. Solar panel income is good. Expenses down since we haven't had to pay a clergy salary as well as lower heat costs.
- Jan Hunter, the new Office Administrator will have a performance review in 3 months but things are working out well
- Shane provided interesting information regarding a session he attended recently on the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. It is expected that Council will be presented with a proposal to consider assisting with this charity.
- Christmas baskets, made up mainly from congregational donations, were delivered in place of the traditional Seniors' Christmas Party during the week of December 17th.
- Property continues to research costs to upgrade the lighting in the Assembly Room as well as a possible lift installation. New plug-ins were installed in Trinity Hall around the stage and new dedicated lines will be installed for the organ and attendant speakers.
- the switch to the new UCC Protect Joint Insurance plan provided by HUB is proving to be financially cost effective
- White Gift donations will be given to RFDA.
- Council meeting dates and times were amended for January and February. The meetings will now occur on the second Monday of the month 11:00 am .to 1:00 pm
- Trinity's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 25 after church
- Nominating Chair, **Anne MacDonald** requested the Chairs poll their committee members prior to the January Council meeting as to whether they will remain. New members are being sought.
- **Josie** will be sending out requests for Annual Reports early in January. To simplify the completion of the reports, people will be asked to use an Arial font size 12. **Shane** volunteered to take on the compilation of these reports. Deadline for receipt of the reports is January 29.
- A Drop-In Retirement Tea is planned for January 6th, 2024 to honour **Joan Bailey**, Trinity's Office Administrator who is retiring on December 31st.