

TRINITY CONNECTED



Harrowsmith-Verona Pastoral Charge

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Giving Thanks When Thanks is Due

It may not be Thanksgiving, but it's that time of year; time to count our blessings and appreciate how lucky we are to be where we are, doing what we do, with everyone who is always so eager to pitch in and do what they can.

We'd like to take a look back and give thanks to all who have helped out; our Trinity team.

To everyone who participates in the weekly church services - our greeters, lay readers, musicians, choir, Mission and Service readers, and our youth time leaders.

To everyone who helps with events; our fundraisers, our breakfasts, and our dinners - the set up and tear down crews, the cleaning crews and the organizers.

To all our staff - our minister, our custodians, our treasurer and office administrator.

To all who sit on a committee - the committee of Session, committee of Stewards, Property Committee, and Funeral Committee.

To our UCW women - for their special service in March, and for the cake donated for the church's 139th anniversary.

To those who spend the time to decorate our hall

and sanctuary during special seasons.

To our Sunday School teachers who are brave enough to teach our kids every Sunday!

To those who took their time to polish all the brass and silver within our facility.

To those who organize and run the food pantry, and for organizing and distributing the food hampers during Christmas and June.

To those who have flexed their muscles and accomplished some construction and renovations in our facility - in the Memorial Board Room and in the Upper Hall and Kitchen.

The list is extensive, and we don't want to forget anyone so **thank you ALL** for everything that you do to keep us running smoothly and able to continue with our weekly Sunday services. Your time and efforts mean more than words could express!

Sincerely
Trinity United Church



UCW Sunday in March

A worship service was created by the National Executive of the United Church Women to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United Church in Canada. This service was to be held nationwide on Sunday March 2nd.

The Trinity UCW ladies delivered this special service on Sunday March 23rd. This service included special prayers, music, readings and a history of how the UCW was formed and where it is projected to go in the future. One of those special prayers is:

***Compassionate God,
Hear us as we pray in this Anniversary year,
For the UCW, with its history and hopes
We pray for the church and the various ministries
For your Church and its varied ministries
For the work of justice and the healing of Creation
For care of strangers, neighbours, family, friends,
For those isolated by sickness, sorrow, violence, fear
For those who face illness and death
For those broken by the world
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen***

During the service, a presentation was made by Darlene Nicol, welcoming the newest member, Rebecca Peters, into the UCW family.

Following the service a "Soup-er Fellowship" was delivered; dished up was homemade soup and crackers, fruit, and homemade cupcakes.

The service was met with appreciation, and no one left hungry!



Wishing **everyone** who has celebrated and will celebrate a birthday in the upcoming months a very happy birthday!

***Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you.
May God's richest blessings fall upon you!***

Carl Pritchard	June 11 th
Alice Kennedy	June 16 th
Ardith Wolsey	August 14 th

Threads of Joy, Pieces of Art - A Quilting Triumph!

On Saturday May 3rd, Trinity United Church was filled with many colourful quilts created by our Trinity Quilters. There was definitely a WOW factor as you entered the door into the sanctuary! Bonnie Brown was our featured quilter with her many quilts adorning the choir loft.



As the show wrapped up, Beth Abbott said she would like to donate her colourful quilt hanging to Trinity. Many thanks to Beth and to all the quilters! Thanks also to the Trinity folks who helped with the luncheon for this fundraising event. **We raised \$1000 for Trinity!**

August Church Closure

At our Session meeting on May 6th, we decided to close the church for the month of August, beginning on August 3rd.

As we are all aware, we have been all year finding either pulpit supply or alternate activities to make sure that we have excellent leadership in our weekly services.

Sheila Anthony and Ian Mackay's sharing agreement was not sustainable. Both were retired and the stress of weekly services was becoming more of a chore. Sheila's death was the final blow.

For this reason, we think that taking the August Sundays off will us a much-needed break.

Our Fellowship Hall and kitchen have not been

re-furnished since 2006 and needs plastering, a fresh paint job, tile replacement and floor waxing during a less-busy August. The bell tower and front steps also need major repairs.



We hope that you can respect our decision and will be refreshed and eager to get back to "the family" beginning on September 7th, after Labour Day.

Should anyone need Pastoral Care during our closure, please contact Rev. Ian Mackay at 613-374-3691 or contact the church office at 613-374-2777.

Congregational Decision

Earlier this year, we were approached by Perth Road United Church to consider a 50/50 sharing of a full time minister.

At a Congregational Meeting on May 25th, we discussed questions about the sharing of resources, the challenge of pastoral care, the financial position of both churches and the actual lack of availability of ministers in our district.

We decided by a secret ballot not to accept the sharing option by a margin of 37/6.



As a result, we will continue to manage our services led by Rev. Ian Mackay and a selection of "Pulpit Supply ministers."

Sunday School Promotions

Someone once said, "You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives." And this is exactly why our Sunday School teachers are so important to our church.

On Sunday May 25th, we celebrated our Sunday School teachers and the promotions of all our Sunday school classes. Tracy Irwin celebrated her 47th year teaching and received her 47th year pin, Carol McInnes celebrated her 32nd year teaching and received her 37th year pin and Rachael Smith-Tryon celebrated her 18th year teaching.



Each teacher presented the promotions to their students; Harmony Auger, Isaac Peters, Levi Peters, Anthony McInnes, Amber Tryon, Jocelyn Tryon, and Carman Tryon. All have been promoted to the next level of their Christian Education learning.

Some of our Sunday School students are also celebrating big life milestones. Amber Tryon is graduating from high school and will continue her post secondary learning at Algonquin College. Carmen Tryon and Isaac Peters will be graduating grade 8 and continuing their education at Sydenham High School, and Anthony McInnes will graduate grade 8 and will continue his education at Bayridge High School. **Congratulations to everyone! We are so blessed to have you all in our church family.**

Proud Past, Hopeful Future

It was a most memorable, uplifting occasion. A small group from Trinity managed to take the time to attend a region-wide worship service commemorating and celebrating the 100th anniversary of our United Church. It took place on June 15th in a large convention hall, the EY Centre, in Ottawa. There were six of us mixed in with more than 1400 people representing many United Church congregations scattered throughout eastern Ontario and western Quebec. We sang, we prayed, we shared in several religious indigenous rituals with drum beating. A wide variety of musical instruments lifted up old-time, beloved hymns of praise as well as contemporary gospel songs of faith. We received consecrated gifts of bread and wine, assuring us of our oneness in Christ, of life eternal. The sermon, ***Proud Past – Hopeful Future***, was delivered by the Hon. Rev. Dr. Robert Oliphant, United Church minister,

member of parliament and secretary to the Minister of Foreign affairs. His message was personable,

powerful and inspiring. The service, in its fullness, was a marvellous expression of the power of faith living. Our denomination, especially in these stressful times, is very much alive and doing well. We can be rightly proud of who we are. We can take heart in all that we continue to do in multitudes of needful, valued ways. I am deeply grateful to the many people who led us in this centennial service of celebration. It was extremely well organized and handled skilfully through an abundance of good heart and caring. **HALLELUJAH!!**



The Next Chapter Starts

In a special part of the worship service held on June 1st, the church was pleased to receive and welcome five new members: Rob and Kim Blackhall, Margaret Carstensen, Jim Moffitt, and Sandra Moore.

Membership is not a casual, religious ritual. Membership is the completion of the sacrament of Holy Baptism, the blessed sacrament of belonging.

In Baptism, God is saying, "Yes" to us. In confirmation, we are saying, "Yes" to God. Our "yes" to God sets us within a fellowship of faith, a community into which we belong

Membership is a sacred and shared commitment in active faith and willing service. It becomes a wholesome expression of our gratitude to God and of Gods' gracious gift of life and love for us all.

Rob and Kim Blackhall

Rob and I are so happy to have joined the Trinity United Church family. It is truly coming home for us as we were married in this Church and our three daughters were baptized here. I have such memories of growing up in this church and this community.

Rob and I spent 32 years living and working in Oakville - he as a business owner and me as a nurse/Hospital Administrator. Our daughters enjoyed all that the Oakville community had to offer while growing into the amazing women that they are today. Our family has grown over time to include spouses and furry grand-babies but some of our families best memories are with Nana and Papa in Verona. (Nana and Papa are Alice and Norm Kennedy)

Jim Moffitt

As a newly baptized member of Trinity United, I would like to say how pleased and grateful I am that Rev. Ian Mackay was happy to do the

honours. It only took 78 years and about 9 or so churches to get it done, but better late than never.



I was born and raised in the Twin Elm/Richmond Ontario area. I met Beatrice in 1970 and we were married in 1972 at Boyd's settlement United Church. We have lived in a variety of cities, towns and country over the last 53 years. We have raised 3 wonderful children. With them are 3 in-laws, 7 grandchildren, 2 grandson in-laws and 1 great-granddaughter. Our lives are full of joy watching the next two generations grow and thrive. It was another wonderful aspect of the baptism that all 3 of our children and so many of the rest could be there for me.

I have been a truck driver for a good part of my life. I have been a mechanic, a house renovator, and an apartment superintendant to name a few of my occupations.

I look forward to many years of enjoying continued fellowship at Trinity and helping out wherever I can.

Margaret Carstensen

I was born and grew up in London Ontario, where my family went to Saint David's Anglican Church. We had no junior choir, so with my parents permission, I joined Trinity United Church, so I could be with all my friends in the junior choir. Now, many years later, I am honoured to join your congregation and to be a Choir member with a Trinity United Church choir once again.

I spent 45 years working as a nurse in many critical care areas in Kingston, as well as management and education positions in Miami and Augusta Georgia. When I retired, I came

back to Canada to live with my wonderful daughter and son-in-law and my two amazing grandchildren in Verona. I mustn't forget to mention our menagerie of four legged friends who keep us very busy. We are blessed to be in an area where I can kayak, bike, and walk the trail in the summer, and I read, knit, and sew during the winter months.

Sandy Moore

My perfect day would begin with sharing breakfast with a couple close friends, then (as an accomplished introvert) heading for the woods to explore a new hiking trail. I would identify some new bird species and finish the day with a good book (and some chocolate). I was privileged to grow up in Harrowsmith having my little sister, Carolyn, as a (mostly) willing accomplice to my adventures. We climbed Everest, paddled the Amazon, trekked to the North Pole and even graduated from Sydenham High. At SSFC in Lindsay I met my future husband, Steve, and we moved to Yellowknife – the obvious (!?) next adventure when you are 19. We left the north briefly to attend university (Waterloo and UPEI) but otherwise our working career was in the NWT, Steve as a biologist and I an accountant. Now retired, we have found the most perfect place on Holleford Lake, surrounded by wetlands and forest creatures including Ray The Tabby. We keep our apartment in Yellowknife so we can still enjoy ‘real’ winter, the northern lights and the midnight sun.

The Human Scene Something to Ponder

Perhaps you picked up your newspaper one morning and read an editorial that went something like this:

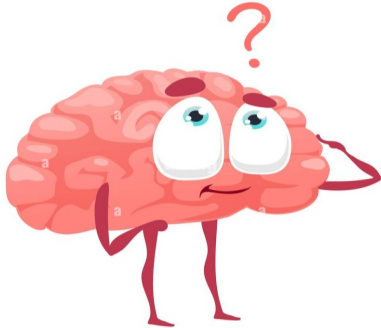
“The world is too big for us. Too much going on, too many crimes, too much violence and excitement. Try as you will, you get behind in the race, in spite of yourself. It’s an incessant strain to keep pace and still, you lose ground. Science empties its discoveries on you so fast that you stagger beneath them in hopeless bewilderment. The political world is news seen so rapidly you’re out of breath trying to keep pace with who’s in and who’s out. Everything is

high pressure. Human nature can’t endure much more!”

Was that editorial written last week or last month or last year?

Believe it or not, it appeared in a newspaper called *The Atlantic Journal* on June 16, 1833 – more than 192 years ago.

**For interest’s sake,
submitted by Ian Mackay**



Looking Ahead - Worship Schedule

Sunday June 29 th	Rev. Ian Mackay	10:00 am
Sunday July 6 th	Rev. Catherine Oxenford-Grant	10:00 am
Sunday July 13 th	Rev. Peter Bartlett	10:00 am
Sunday July 20 th	Rev. Micheline Montreuil	10:00 am
Sunday July 27 th	Rev. Peter Bartlett	10:00 am
All of August	Closed	No Service

Here's to 139 Years and Beyond!

On Sunday June 8th, Trinity celebrated our 139th anniversary. We welcomed the Reverend Doctor Peter Bartlett who has graciously accepted to provide pulpit supply. Peter began his sermon by speaking about the major astronomical event that took place last year on April 8th. This summary is edited from his sermon.

Experiencing a total eclipse invites a unique combination of awe, wonder, and a sense of being connected to something larger than oneself. It can serve as a moment for introspection and contemplation, prompting people to consider their place in the universe.

And the beginnings of Trinity United Church back in 1886, one hundred and thirty-nine

years ago. Let's reflect upon our denomination's beginnings and the journey to here. A journey that represents an evolution of Christian followership in the early 20th Century, so long after those first Jesus followers stepped forth in the very 1st Century. Including an evolution in the faith journey of Trinity, from your Methodist roots witnessed by the building of the original church in 1886 on Alexander Spike's land, to joining union 29 years later. To today... The journey of our Christian faith has always been one of evolution and transformation.

So, when wondering about how to continue being the church through darkened times, how about you continue embodying the heart of the church that you



have always been. How about continuing pursuing new ways, with community partners, including other faith partners. You have a very rich history in that regard. So, how about you just keeping making history repeat itself? Lest we forget, the beginnings of the United Church of Canada itself are firmly rooted in the country church coming together, just as you have done so many times before. How about you keep proclaiming the power of your little light shining forth love and hope and never losing faith.

Yes, that's how you do it.

Your Feedback is Requested

At our last Session meeting the idea of a weekly social gathering was suggested, and I heard through the grapevine that the UCW was also talking about it as well. We all understand how important social interactions are to our happiness and good mental health, even more so in the wintertime when we get cooped up because of the cold weather.

We are looking for feedback from you as to whether you, other family members of your friends and neighbours would be interested in such a gathering. The activities will be decided based on your input. Here are some suggestions: euchre, cribbage, canasta, hearts, bridge, board games, bingo with cake prizes as rewards, and so on. One of the young lads even suggested that we play Laser Tag. Yikes!

The following are times when the church Fellowship Hall is available:

- Tuesday evenings
- Wednesday evenings
- Thursday evenings
- Fridays (all day, evenings)
- Sunday afternoons

Please share your thoughts so that we can make the best decisions possible. You can chat with: Marg Smith, Ian Mackay, Jane Mackay, John McDougall, Nancy Moore-Carr, or Sharon Sole (sharon.sole43@gmail.com or 613-539-1070)





Trinity United Church
Verona, Ontario



A NIGHT IN OLDE VERONA

Saturday September 27, 2025

Trinity United Church

6689 Road 38, Verona

Menu

Pasta and Sauce
(meat & vegetarian options),
Garlic Bread, Dessert & Drink

\$12 per person
\$6 for children under 10

Time:
4:30pm to 6:30pm

Reserve your spot by email: office@h-vpastoralcharge.org
or by phone: 613-374-2777

Tickets also available for purchase at the door.

All proceeds will benefit Trinity United Church Community Outreach Projects