

Trinity Happenings

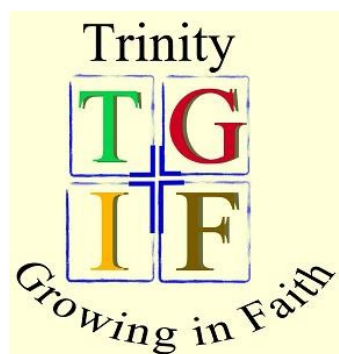
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Our Mission

*We are here to:
Worship God,
Walk with Jesus,
Change lives,
and Serve the
community, through the
power of the Holy Spirit.*



Welcome to Trinity

We welcome all visitors and new comers who have come to join us as we pray and give thanks, praise and worship, and learn about the word of God here at Trinity.

Feel free to meet us downstairs in the auditorium after the service for coffee.



REVEAL -- SPIRITUAL VITALITY

There's nothing more important to those of us who lead this church than your spiritual growth. Whether you're just starting to explore the Christian faith, or you're a long-time Christ-follower, we want to do everything we can to help you on your spiritual journey.



Therefore, I want you to know about a very special opportunity. We're asking for your feedback on our church and your spiritual journey through a Spiritual Life Survey. There are four things you need to know about this survey:

- It's comprehensive and thought-provoking
- You should set aside 30-35 minutes to take it
- It's completely anonymous so you can be open and honest with your feedback
- It's *extremely* important. The findings from this survey will shape our decisions about how to create the best possible ministry strategies.

We want to hear from EVERYONE. Please take the survey and encourage all of your friends who call our church their church home to participate as well. Thanks! The survey will be done on-line beginning NOW and for the next TWO weeks. For those who are not on the internet, or who feel unsure, we will have computers at the church on Sunday April 25th and May 2nd. Let's make sure that we have full participation!

The web link is: <http://www.revealnow.com/slsurvey?uid=5842>

THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A sermon series from Easter to Pentecost

Fifty days after Easter, while the disciples were in fervent prayer, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon them. This year as we celebrate the season of Easter and prepare for Pentecost we will be focusing on the "Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit". Our intent in the sermon series is to 1) provide an understanding of the Holy Spirit, and 2) to kindle in our hearts a readiness and willingness to be empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Sunday sermon series is as follows:



- April 11 - "The Gift of the Holy Spirit at Baptism" - Mark 1:9-11- Fr. Andrew
- April 18 - "The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament" - Canon Brian
- April 25 - "Jesus' Promise of the Holy Spirit" - John 14:15-21 - Canon Brian
- May 2 - "Gifts of the Spirit Part 1" - 1 Cor. 12:7-9 - Canon Brian
- May 9 - "Gifts of the Spirit Part 2" - 1 Cor. 12:10-11 - Fr. Andrew
- May 16 - "Evangelism by the Holy Spirit" - Mat 28:18-20 - Canon Brian
- May 23 - "The Day of Pentecost" - Acts 2:1-13 - Fr. Andrew

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY - April 25 "4th Sunday of Easter"

8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion

10:00 a.m. - Family Communion

Children in Aud., Nursery in Undercroft (ages 0 – 4 yr.)

MONDAY

6:30 p.m. - Refreshments in Aud.

7:00 p.m. - Studies: "The Prodigal God"

"The Truth Project"

7:00 p.m. - CWT Practice in Sanctuary

TUESDAY

12:45 and 7:00 p.m. - "Beth Moore Study" in Upper Rm:

"David: Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed"

WEDNESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Men's Breakfast at Candyland Café

10:30 a.m. - Holy Communion Service

12:00 & 7:15 p.m. - "Revelation" Study in Upper Rm.

7:15 p.m. - Trinity Rocks' Practice

7:30 p.m. - Newcomers' Com. Meet in Tower Walk

THURSDAY

5:00 p.m. - Busby Gala Cmte. meet in Lower Hall

8 a.m.- 6 p.m. - Nearly New Set Up Day

7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice in Sanctuary

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. - Nearly New Sale in Aud.

10:30 a.m. - "Nooma" Study in Upper Rm.

SATURDAY

8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Nearly New Sale

SUNDAY - May 2 "5th of Easter"

8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion

10:00 a.m. - Family Communion

Children in Aud., Nursery in Undercroft (ages 0 – 4 yr.)

BITS AND PIECES

*Congregation attending Trinity last Week, April 18th, was: 8:00 a.m.= 49, 10:00 a.m. = 132, for a total of 281, including 8 children & teachers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOCUS:

PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE SERIES

This week our Life Focus will be "learning to be an example of loving and obeying God" Our Bible story is centered on the life of a young Christian whose name is Timothy. His story can be found in the book of Acts chapter 16; and in 1 Timothy chapter 4; and 2 Timothy chapters 1 & 3



KING EDWARD CHOIR

Presents our spring sing for Mother's day weekend. This is a light concert for all ages and tastes. Many old favourite songs and some new ones will be performed. Thank you for your on-going support.

Saturday May 8th @ 7,30 pm Collier Street Church

Tickets \$20 available from Susan Reichenbacher or any KEC member

MILESTONES

Our congratulations to:

** Florence Simpson on her 90th birthday.

** Jeanine Carder on her 80th birthday.

** Dalton and Maxine Swan on their 61st Anniversary.

** Peter & Barb Williams on their 41st Anniversary.

SERMON NOTES -- Follow Up To Last Sunday.

Since last Sunday several people have commented on the Bible reading where in 1 Samuel 16:14 it says that "the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul." The life of Saul is instructive for us and it is an important warning. As a young man Saul was powerfully anointed by the Holy Spirit (so much so that he could hardly stand). However, in subsequent years his deliberate refusal to obey the instructions of the Lord, his use of witchcraft and his participation in a seance when he needed guidance (1 Sam. 28:7) resulted in the removal of the Holy Spirit. The consequences of this were tragic both for Saul and for his family.

The Bible is clear in many places in its prohibition of these spiritual practices: "And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft,¹¹ or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead.¹² Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord. It is because the other nations have done these detestable things that the Lord your God will drive them out ahead of you.¹³ But you must be blameless before the Lord your God." (Deut 18:10) [you shall not] worship the sun, the moon, or any of the stars—the forces of heaven—which I have strictly forbidden. (Deut 17:3) In Acts 19:18 the new believers burnt their witchcraft books at great personal cost.

In the lives of a believer the result of these forbidden spiritual practices can be: confusion, prayer becomes tedious, the Bible no longer speaks to you, and your heart grows cold. We are not to bend the knee at other altars.

Many people say that they read their horoscope for amusement only and that it has no bearing on their lives. However, several believers have been surprised at how difficult it has been to stop. This is an indication that it may have more of a hold on us than we are willing to admit.

The remedy for this is straightforward: confession, repentance, cleansing and the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Another believer or clergy may be of assistance with these prayers.

While our focus in Lent was building into our lives good spiritual habits like daily Bible reading, prayer and fasting to facilitate our spiritual growth, it may be that the Lord is using this season of Easter to have us remove from our lives those things that quench the work of the Holy Spirit. This is important preparation for us as we count down to Pentecost.

CAN DAILY BIBLE READING BE BENEFICIAL?

During Lent we were challenged and encouraged to consider building daily Bible reading and prayer into our daily schedule. We shared with the congregation various means of doing this, including having a short passage emailed to your computer or Blackberry. Having celebrated 40 days of success with the ice cream on Easter Day, we are pleased to hear that many people have been able to maintain this good habit. We have shared a few responses over the weeks and the following is another one from one of our Trinity members.

Good Morning Brian: From time to time these daily messages really inspire me – it seems this is exactly tailored for “busy” people (professional / business people “chasing the dollar”) – this, to me today, put everything into perspective.

The One Necessary Thing:

*“That I may **know Him**...Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but **one thing I do**...**“one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”** (Philippians 3:10, 13 and Luke 10:42)*

Paul's **goal** in life was to **grow in intimacy** with the **Lord**: *“That I may **know Him**.”* He wanted to know the Lord so well that his life would be transformed into “resurrected living” in this spiritually lifeless world. He humbly admitted that he had not yet reached such spiritual maturity. *“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended.”* Thus, in light of his own need to grow, coupled with the excellence of the goal, he had a **single focus** in his life: *“**one thing I do**.”* This one thing was his **ongoing quest to know the Lord more and more**.

This focused quest is similar to the heart that Mary demonstrated, as recorded in the gospel of Luke. When Jesus visited the home of Mary and Martha, Mary *“sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word”* (Luke 10:39). Martha was functioning as a busy hostess, desiring to bless her Lord. However, her busy labors distracted her from the one she was attempting to serve. *“But Martha was **distracted with much serving**”* (Luke 10:40). The solution was obvious to Martha. She would insist that Jesus send her sister to help. *“Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me”* (Luke 10:40).

How startled Martha must have been when Jesus indicated **she** was the problem, **not** Mary. *“Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things”* (Luke 10:41). The many concerns of Martha's ministry were causing anxiety and inner turmoil. Her desire to serve the Lord had deteriorated to self-pity and irritation. Then, Jesus offered an astounding revelation that put everything into perfect spiritual perspective. *“But **one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her**”* (Luke 10:42).

What an amazing truth: *“**one thing is needed**.”* That **one necessary matter** is **Jesus**. Mary chose Jesus. She was at the feet of her master, getting to know Him, listening to His words of truth and grace. This was Paul's heart: *“**one thing I do...that I may know Him**.”*

Dear Lord Jesus, shape in me a heart like Paul's, like Mary's. Stir in me a passion to know You better. May this become the consuming goal in my life. Forgive me for allowing busy service to eclipse You, the one I desire to please. Help me to spend frequent quiet times at Your feet. Then, when I rise up to serve You, may my heart always remain at Your feet, abiding in You, Amen.

(This daily Bible reflection is sent each day by email from The Blue Letter Bible. To subscribe go to: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/devotionals/> or to the the Bible League http://www.bibleleague.ca/verse_signup.php)

GOD'S PLACE IN THE BRAIN

In last Saturday's National Post, columnist Robert Fulford responds to atheist Richard Dawkins.

Richard Dawkins [a keen atheist and advocate of evolution] has done his best to explain that reason should govern all human decisions, and religion should be set aside as a relic from the past that does nothing but hobble progress. Nevertheless, the public has declined to embrace reason as he does, and even occasionally shows signs of backsliding into faith.

He must have noticed that Jurgen Habermas, the most eminent of contemporary German philosophers, nobody's idea of a believer, has recently been muttering about a blind spot in rationality if it's accepted as a guide to life.

“An Awareness of What is Missing: Faith and Reason in a Post-secular Age” (Polity Press) contains Habermas's tentative conclusion that there may be a necessary role for religion in the future. He's made the not entirely original observation that modern societies function best, as human communities, when they have religious traditions they can draw on. If religion disappears, where does that leave the human future?

As well, those committed to the Dawkins atheistic point of view have recently been dealing with certain discomfiting suggestions about relations between religion and the brain. “God's Brain” (Prometheus Books) by Lionel Tiger and Michael McGuire opens up the possibility that faith is rooted in the very structure of the brain. Discoveries in neuroscience suggest that religion should be seen as a natural product of the brain's development, a source of the serotonin that makes life bearable.

As Tiger and McGuire claim, the brain is more comfortable believing than doubting. Richard Dawkins, absorbing that research, must live in dread that one day he will read scientific evidence that religious belief is essential to survival and therefore to, uh, evolution.

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THE PRODIGAL GOD

A New Look at the Parable of the Prodigal Son

On Monday evenings at 7 pm we have begun a new study on one of Jesus best know parables and best loved parables. The book we are using for the study is called THE PRODIGAL GOD by Tim Keller. We have a few extra copies of the book available for sale at a cost of \$20. It will open new and challenging perspectives on this well know parable. Tim Keller says:

MOST readings of this parable have concentrated on the flight and return of the younger brother—the “Prodigal Son.” That misses the real message of the story, however, because there are two brothers, each of whom represents a different way to be alienated from God, and a different way to seek acceptance into the kingdom of heaven. The original listeners were not melted into tears by this story but rather they were thunder- struck, offended, and infuriated. Jesus’ purpose is not to warm our hearts but to shatter our categories. Through this parable Jesus challenges what nearly everyone has ever thought about God, sin, and salvation. His story reveals the destructive self-centeredness of the younger brother, but it also condemns the elder brother’s moralistic life in the strongest terms. Jesus is saying that both the irreligious and the religious are spiritually lost, both life-paths are dead ends, and that every thought the human race has had about how to connect to God has been wrong.

Celebration of Women Dinner

This great annual event will take place on **Tuesday, June 1 at 6 p.m.** Again, mark those calendars! The theme this year will be “**Islands.**” The gentlemen of the parish will do the set-up and the clean-up, and isn’t that a treat? The women of the parish are asked to bring salads and desserts. The Sharing Fair under the auspices of the **Sisters of the Good Shepherd** of Toronto will be here, too. Hopefully, you will remember the lovely items they produced on earlier occasions, all made by women in Third World countries as the only way they can earn money to care for their families.

The S.o.t.G.S. buy items from third world countries, then import the stuff to Canada and arrange to sell it here, through various churches. We are one. This year we will have a Rep. from the S.o.t.G.S. bringing up the boxes, and taking them back - less heavy, we hope. The stuff the women produce is amazingly intricate and often beautiful. Most of the women in our parish will know all about this money-maker. The S.o.t.G.S. make no money out of this venture and they will have paid the third world women immediately when they acquire the things.

Nearly New/Garage Sale - April 29, 30, and May 1

This big fundraiser is coming up quickly, and the Women's Fellowship is asking for help. Please remember that it requires a great deal of work, which the Women's Fellowship does happily twice a year. But, and it's a BIG BUT, ladies and gentlemen, we need your help. We need people to sort "stuff" that comes in on Thursday and to sell on Friday and Saturday. We especially need gentlemen to help on the sale days but also to be very visible and to provide some security. Although we can never understand why someone would steal from a church by shoplifting, it still happens if we are not constantly aware of what is going on. Please mark these dates on your calendars and give us a hand. Posters are up around the church, so please show us you are willing to help us with this project. AND please don't forget to bake some goodies for the Bake Sale when you're feeling smug about having cleaned out your closets! Baking should be packed in small packages of 4 or 6 items and delivered on Friday



VACATION BIBLE CAMP (VBC) July 5 to 9

“High Seas Expedition: Exploring the Mighty Love of God”

This is an invitation to our Trinity congregation to partner with the VBC team for this summer's Camp. It really does take a “church” to raise up a VBC!

There are so many ways that people of our congregation can assist with this outreach program.

Firstly, you can **pray regularly* for the organizers, leaders, and the children who will come to the Camp.

Secondly, you could *contribute financially* to the program. There are many materials needed to put together an attractive and engaging program for our children, grandchildren, and neighbours. If you should choose to help in this way, please just make your cheque out to 'Trinity Anglican Church' with a note to indicate that the donation is for the VBC program.

Thirdly, *spread the news* that we are having VBC at Trinity and that we welcome children from our congregation and beyond. This is an opportunity to have children hear the Word of God in a fun and interactive way using music, crafts, drama, and games.

Thank you in advance for your help with this important outreach to children.

Judy Thompson 737-1905

Gay Welsman 728-6132

