

Trinity Happenings

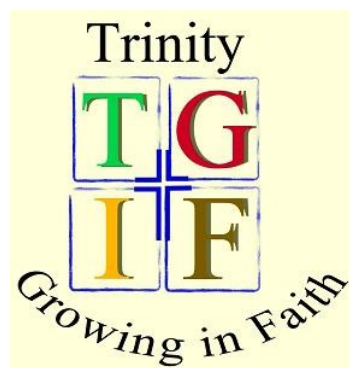
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December 21, 2008

Our Mission

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



CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE

Please consider donating a new pair of mittens for the 2008 Mitten Tree at Trinity. All mittens will be donated to the David Busby Street Centre. Whether handmade or purchased, any donation will be greatly appreciated.

If you have ever had cold fingers you know what it is like not to have a pair to keep your hands warm. The



Mitten Tree will be in the church beginning Nov. 30th.

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

-- with Rosie's Diner

On Thanksgiving Day we served 500 hot turkey dinners to those who are alone or on the street. It was amazing to see the number of people and the amount of food. Once again we will be partnering with Rosie's Diner to serve a hot meal on CHRISTMAS DAY. Rosie provides all the food, we provide the volunteers and the auditorium. As we did at Thanksgiving we will arrange 2 hour shifts beginning at 11:30 a.m. through to about 6:00 pm. If you will be able to help please speak to Canon Brian or phone into the church office. This is a wonderful outreach to those who are most in need.



Parish Info and Updates

CHRISTMAS SHUT - IN SERVICE & LUNCHEON. HOLY BAPTISM & FIRST COMMUNION -- December 28th

This past Wednesday we had our special Shut-In Communion service and Luncheon. Our thanks to the Choir for special music, to all of our drivers, and to Joan Winter and Betty & Stan Shier and their wonderful team for a lovely luncheon!

AMAZING GRACE -- Now on YouTube

The singing of "Amazing Grace" at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. has now been posted on YouTube. Our thanks to John Lewis for recoding this for us. You can find it by typing "Trinity Barrie" at the search bar on the YouTube website.

BUSBY CENTRE -- Trillium Grant

This past Monday there was a special news conference in the Busby Centre where Aileen Carroll presented the Trillium award to the Street Centre. Working on the finance committee to craft the application to the Trillium Foundation were: Bethany Obermeyer, Lori Bedford and Anne Harrison.

10:00 a.m.

We had a wonderful Alpha Course this fall. As the next step in their faith commitment Jeff Duncan will be baptized and Andrew Rogerson will be making his First Communion. There will also be three infants baptized: the daughter of Rob & Marnie Smith, the daughter of Marc & Kerri Tremblay, and the daughter of Tyler & Cara Millson (from Christ Church, Montreal). Join us for this special celebration of faith commitment!

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION 10:30 A.M.

Please note that our regular Wednesday morning Communion services will continue through the holidays. This year they happen to fall on Christmas Eve Day and New Years Eve Day. These may be convenient times of worship for those who prefer the daylight hours. For those who have difficulty walking there is handicapped parking at the top of the hill close to the door of the church.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT TRINITY

“Blessed be the Lord God”

**** Sunday December 21st. Fourth Sunday of Advent.**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Christmas Carol Service.
Nursery in Undercroft, Children in Aud., Jr.
Youth in Upper Rm., Sr. Youth in Naz.

Tuesday Dec. 23rd.

7:00 p.m. - Contemporary Worship Team
Practice in Sanctuary

**** Wednesday Dec. 24th. Christmas Eve.**

10:30 a.m. Quiet Communion in the Chapel
7:00 p.m. Family Communion, Combined
Music, Nursery.
10:00 p.m. “Midnight” Mass with full Choir.

**** Thursday Dec. 25th. Christmas Day.**

10:00 a.m. Family Communion
11:30 a.m. Serving Christmas Dinner with Rosie

**** Sunday Dec. 28th.**

8:00 a.m. Quiet Communion.
10:00 a.m. Family Communion & Holy
Baptism, Nursery in Undercroft.

**** Wednesday Dec. 31st. New Year’s Eve Day**

10:30 a.m. Quiet Communion in the Chapel

**** Sunday January 4th. First Sunday of the New Year**

8:00 a.m. New Years Blessing at the Altar Rail
10:00 a.m. Family Worship & New Years
Blessing

BITS AND PIECES

*Congregation attending Trinity last Week (Dec.14) was: 8:00 a.m.= 46, 10:00 a.m. = 158, for a total of 204 including 26 Children & Teachers.

***2009 CHURCH CALENDARS:**

Available now in the Church Office at \$5.00 each. This year's theme: *For there is hope for a tree...* Job 14: 7a

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Those wishing to put flowers in the Church for Christmas, in memory of loved ones, please call Judy Craig, 737-2669. Please make cheques payable to “Trinity Chancel Guild”.

GROWING IN FAITH WITH OUR KIDS

Brainstorming session on Jan 18th from 12:00 - 1:30 pm. Light lunch and child care provided. Free will offering. More information to follow.

FROM THE MAIL

****Thank You:** Many Thanks to Mary and Fred Latornell, Gwen Scott & Florence Simpson who tirelessly assisted with the Christmas Mailing.

****To Trinity Anglican Church,**

Warmest greetings to you and all your family. Hope to see you all soon. Best wishes for the New Year.

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas,
Warmest Regards to All,

Margaret Verbey (at Bob Rumball Home for the Deaf)

****To My Trinity Family:**

I wish to thank all my dear friends in the Trinity Family that have been so kind and giving to me in many, many ways. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. You are truly Children of God. In the midst of all of the celebrations, may your hearts be truly blessed.

Merry Christmas - Happy New Year
Lena-Marie Haw

If writing to Trinity, please remember that our address is P.O. Box 641, Barrie, ON, L4M 4V1.

“BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD”

Week #6 -- The Angels' Song

Today we come to the sixth week in our worship/sermon series called “BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD”. Our theme is taken from the songs of praise offered at key moments in the Bible. A song of thanksgiving pours forth as God is exalted for his goodness. This is a reminder to us of God’s generosity and the response of thankfulness by people of faith. Our sequence has been:

- Nov. 16th - Hannah mother of Samuel (1Samuel 2:1-11)
- Nov. 23rd - Mary mother of Jesus (The “Magnificat” Luke 1:46-55)
- Nov. 30th - Zechariah father of John the Baptist (The “Benedictus” Luke 1:68-79)
- Dec 7th - Simeon “Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29)
- Dec 14th - Saints in Glory (Rev. 5:1-14)
- Dec 21st - The Angels sing “glory” (Luke 2:14)

Last week our focus was on The Saints in Glory singing their praises as described in Revelation 5. Today our focus shifts to the birth of Jesus and the Angels song of praise. The Angels appear to the shepherds and sing “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

The song of our Savior’s birth enters human hearts at an opportune time to save the lost. One example is the story of Gladys Aylward, whose story involving the harrowing rescue of one hundred Chinese orphans is told in the movie *The Inn of the Sixth Happiness*. Another example is the ten Boom family, who harbored Jews during the Nazi occupation of Holland. Or consider the example of Mother Teresa, who gave herself so compassionately to the street people of India. St. Patrick’s Day celebrates Ireland’s patron saint, a young man who brought the gospel and modeled the Christian spirit of forgiveness to a land that once enslaved him. History is full of examples of people who were changed by the message of the angels’ song and who then changed their world.

The song also changes hearts. The shepherds could not refrain from singing the song sung to them. As they left the stable, Luke tells us they glorified and praised God for all the things they heard and saw. When Paul met Christ on the Damascus road, he went from breathing murderous threats against Christians to teaching that Christ is the Son of God. When the Philippian jailer witnessed the power of God after an earthquake opened the prison doors, but no one attempted escape, he immediately wanted to know how to be saved. The living reality of the song of the Christian faith changes lives.

Finally, this song changes values. People who embrace this song start looking at co-workers mercifully and seeking ways to love their enemies. They

strive to further God’s kingdom by sharing the gospel and by challenging oppression with compassion. God’s abundant grace is irresistible and spills into others’ lives, much like angels’ melody. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!

In what areas of the world might God be calling you to bring peace and goodwill? Identify some of your favorite hymns and choruses. What is it about these songs that resonates with you? Take some time to sing or recite them. Consider how these themes find expression in your life.

DAILY DEVOTIONS:

The following are some daily devotions which will serve as a follow up to today’s sermon and as preparation for next week’s theme. If you don’t already have a pattern of daily Bible reading & prayer this is a good way to begin. To assist in your prayers you can use the “Collect of the Day” from today’s yellow bulletin. It is a theme prayer in keeping with the Bible readings of the week. You will notice a significant growth in your spiritual life if you are able to take a few minutes each day for Bible reading and prayer. This will also be a good way to journey through Advent and prepare your heart for the celebration of Christmas. Sixth week December 22-26 Our daily readings focus on the work of angels here on earth and their song of praise in heavenly glory.

- Monday: Matthew 1: 18-25
- Tuesday: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23.
- Wednesday: Luke 1: 8-20
- Thursday: Luke 2: 8-20
- Friday: Revelation 19: 1-10

STEWARDSHIP:

As we reflect on God’s generosity and the response of thankfulness by people of faith (like Hannah & Mary & Simeon), it is an opportunity for us to consider God’s gifts in our own life and our response.

WEB SITE:

If you missed the previous week’s notes and Bible readings or if you will be traveling in future weeks you can keep pace with us on the church web site. Each week we will post the theme notes and the Bible readings. Visit us at www.trinitybarrie.ca

FEEDBACK:

This is the first time we have provided weekly theme notes and daily Bible reading suggestions in Happenings, on the web site and by email to our members. Your feedback would be appreciated. Email your comments & suggestions to: churchoffice@rogers.com



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From The Editor

Important notice for next week's Happenings:

In order to have next week's edition of Happenings ready in time for Christmas, we're asking everyone to please **submit any and all articles or notices for Happenings by the end of the day on Monday (tomorrow).**

Thank you and have a Merry Christmas!

Rob Smith

*P.S. Be sure to wish my wife Marnie a **Happy Birthday** when you see her, she'll be turning 27 on this Tuesday the 23rd of December.*

Vision Committee Update – December 2008

The Vision Committee met with Management Board and ministry leads after church on Nov. 23, 2008. 25 people met to review Trinity's progress towards the dreams identified last year and approved by the congregation last November. We also looked at the results of the Reveal Survey in which Trinity participated last spring.

In small groups, we talked about what we should plan to do over the next year. When the groups reported back, there was a remarkable degree of consistency in their recommendations:

- provide greater support for children, youth and family ministry
- expand our home/study group ministry to foster the building of relationships among participants and spiritual growth

We are establishing a working group to focus on the children, youth and family ministries, and are planning a meeting in January with all families with children nursery aged to Grade 8, and other interested Trinity members. Watch for more information on this meeting in Happenings.

Joan Hill for the Vision Committee

Remember the Little Red Stockings?

Please note that the Women's Fellowship will be collecting the Little Red Stockings on Sunday, December 14 and Sunday, December 21 during coffee hour. It would be wonderful if we could gather them all on these two dates, but we'll take them after that, too. We hope they'll all be bursting with change. We have used some of the money collected last year to support some youngsters going to the Vacation Bible School this past summer. We will also be buying some much needed new glasses for the kitchen. After we have taken all the money out of them, the Little Red Stockings will be handed out again in January to those of you who find this an easy way to give without feeling the bite.

