

Trinity Happenings

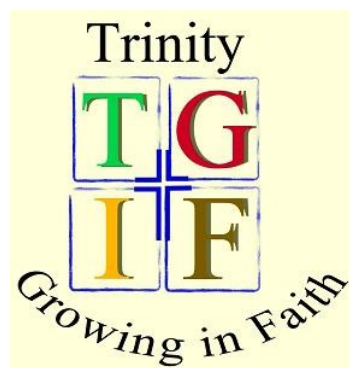
Volume 8 Issue 49

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December 7, 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.

Parish Info and Updates

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY: Dec. 14th (Next Sunday)

Please bring an unwrapped toy, gift, or non-perishable food item, and place in the baskets at the Chancel Steps. These items will be given to the needy of Barrie or at the David Busby Street Centre at Christmas.

MAILING

You will have received a recent mailing from our Stewardship Committee. The charts included with that mailing show the income and expenses of this ministry. Please take some time as a family to consider the Intention Card. We ask you to return it to the church in the confidential return envelope. The ongoing ministry of Trinity depends on the faithful generosity of its members. The back of the Intention Card gives you the opportunity to sign up for monthly donations by EFT. This is a convenient way to make your donations to Trinity.

ALPHA & HOME GROUPS

We had a wonderful end of season Banquet last Monday. Our thanks to the wonderful chefs who have been serving great meals every Monday evening: Mae Harasymiw, Lena-Marie Haw and Cathy Frechette. We want to thank all the ALPHA and Home Group leaders for making possible a wonderful season of spiritual growth and deepening friendships. There were about 88 people participating this fall.

- ** Alpha: Gary Lyon, Judy Thompson, Sue Lyon, Paul Thompson, Val Marrow, Norm Marrow, Stacey Marshall, Kathy Proctor, Marnie Smith
- ** Beth Moore- The Patriarchs: Gay

Welsman, Susan Snelling, Pauline Miller.

- ** Charles Price - Miracles of Jesus: Grace Jones, Ray Carder, Cheryl Braden, George Sandilands
- ** Youth Alpha: Drew Cox, John Lake, Michael Tweedle.
- ** Truth Project: Group led.
- ** New Parents: Miriam Hensen, Jennica Hwang & the group.
- ** Grief Support: Nancy Arnold, LJ Brown, Nancy Monkman.

YOUTH ALPHA -- CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

As an end of season celebration for the Youth Alpha there will be a special pot-luck luncheon in the auditorium next Sunday Dec. 14th at 12:00 to 2:00 pm. attended by the teens, their parents and other guests. Other teens and guests are welcome to celebrate with our youth and to see what they have been experiencing. To register for the luncheon please speak to Drew Cox or Canon Brian.

SHUT - IN SERVICE - Wed. Dec. 17th at 10:30 a.m.

Twice a year (Christmas and Easter) we have a special service in the church for all our shut-ins. The aisle is lined with wheelchairs. After the service we serve sandwiches and squares. Our thanks to Joan Winter (and her team for arranging and serving the luncheon. We need some additional assistance with this. If you can help on the day, or drop off food, please call Joan Winter 721-6863, or the church office. Many thanks for making Christmas extra special for those who are confined to their homes.

CALENDAR EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY - Dec.7th "Second of Advent"

8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion
 10:00 a.m. - Holy Communion, Nursery in Undercroft,
 Children in Aud., Jr. Youth in Upper Rm.
 Class: 10 a.m. Youth Alpha at St. Margarets.

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

10:30 a.m.- Holy Communion
 7:30 a.m. - Men's Breakfast at Simcoe Hotel
 6:45 p.m. - Beth Moore Course in Upper Rm.
 7:15 p.m. - The Truth Project in Nazareth Rm.

THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - Scouts in Aud.
 7:00 p.m. - Sr. Choir Practice in Sanctuary

FRIDAY

10:30 a.m. - Trinity Women Meeting in Upper Rm.
 with Carols, Christmas Stories & Pot Luck Lunch.
 Please bring your own dishes, cutlery, & a gift item for
 Busby Clients. All women are welcome.
 Info: Mary at 726-4589 or 737-0145.

SUNDAY - Dec.14th "Third of Advent" "White Gift Sunday"

8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion
 10:00 a.m. - Holy Communion, Nursery in Undercroft,
 Children in Aud., Jr. Youth in Upper Rm.

Class: 10 a.m. Youth Alpha at Trinity & Lunch
 4:00 p.m. - Sunday School Christmas Pageant,
 followed by family Pot Luck Supper.

BITS AND PIECES

*Congregation attending Trinity last Week (Nov.30) was:
 8:00 a.m.= 45, 10:00 a.m. = 130, for a total of 175,
 including 18 Children & Teachers.

FROM THE MAIL

To My Trinity Family:

I want to thank all who prayed for me during my recent
 operation and recovery for my knee replacement. I
 want to thank Canon Brian and Reverend Andrew for
 visiting me in the hospital and also for bringing
 communion to my home. Thank you to Reverend
 Carder for his special visit.

Many thanks to Mary Caldwell for the many things she
 has done for me.

Thankyou again to all.

Yours truly,

Al Botuik

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

*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*

SHUT-IN CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Wednesday, Dec. 17th, we're inviting Shut Ins or
 anyone who has difficulty with large crowds, to join us
 in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. for a Communion
 Service and Refreshments.

If you're able to help either by serving or bringing
 lunch, please contact Joan Winter, 721-6863.

Also if you're able to drive people, please call the
 Office at 728-2691.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

You will be pleased to know that 107 Christmas
 Shoeboxes were donated by the people of Trinity and
 have been shipped off to children around the world.
 Many thanks for your generosity. It will certainly be a
 source of joy for the child receiving it. Our thanks to
 Rev. Ray Carder for co-ordinating this yearly effort.

KIWANIS CHRISTMAS CAKES FOR SALE

Combo \$12.00, Ring \$13.00. Excellent as Christmas
 Gifts. Please contact Keith Caldwell at 721-0737.

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".

The David Busby Street Centre:

Gives a bag of gifts to each Client at Christmas. If you
 wish to donate gifts for this cause, the suggested list of
 items and the basket to deposit them, is in the Tower
 Walk, deadline for these is Dec. 14th. "**Special request
 for gift items of: Men's Underwear, Socks, and
 Tooth Brushes** (They're making up 175 gift bags this
 Wednesday, Dec.10th)". Your ongoing support is
 appreciated.

More info and events on page 4

“BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD”

Week #4 -- Simeon

Today we come to the forth week in our worship/sermon series called “BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD”. Our theme is taken from the songs of praise offered by Hannah, Mary, Zechariah and Simeon. In response to the unlikely birth of a child, a song of thanksgiving pours forth from their hearts as they exalt God for his goodness. This is a reminder to us of God’s generosity and the response of thankfulness by people of faith. Our sequence will be:

- 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 Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, and his song of praise called “The Benedictus”. Today our focus is on Simeon the elderly man of prayer. As Mary & Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the temple, Simeon takes the child in his arms and blesses him. This song is known by its Latin name as the “Nunc Dimittis”.

“Perhaps the most precious photograph I own depicts my Grandfather holding my daughter when she was a newborn. He was in the last five months of his life; she was in the first two weeks of hers. I don’t recall what he said as he held her and I snapped the shutter of my camera to capture the image, but I do remember sensing the uniqueness of the moment. The twilight of life was blessing and nurturing the dawn. Someone who knew all of life’s stages acknowledged the holy freshness and fragility of a newborn.”

As Simeon cradled the baby Jesus, gazing down on divine yet infant flesh, he sang that he was looking at the salvation of the world, God’s gift to the human race. “My eyes have seen your salvation,” he sang (verse 30). He acknowledged the holiness of the child.

Simeon’s brief song can be broken into two sections. In Luke 2:29-30, he sings about what the Messiah meant to him. In verses 31-32, he sings of what the Messiah means to the world. A close consideration of the song shows Simeon’s intimate connection to God’s design and links him to other great singers of the Bible like Hannah, Mary, and Zechariah. Reflection Ques-

tions: Who were/are some of the people from an older generation who blessed you and provided encouragement?

Write a blessing for one or more of the following: A child relative or child in your congregation or neighborhood.

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. Forth week December 8-12th:

- Monday: Luke 2: 21-32
- Tuesday: Luke 2:33-40
- Wednesday: Luke 2:41-52
- Thursday: Isaiah 52: 7-10
- Friday: Revelation 5: 1-14

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. The mailing from last week outlines the ministry of Trinity and the objectives that the Lord has laid on our heart. Please read through the material. There is an Intention card we are asking you to complete and return. There is a confidential return envelope which goes directly to our Envelope Secretary. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

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



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Reverend Canon Brian McVitty
Associate Priest:
Father Andrew Sandilands



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FINANCES YEAR-TO-DATE

-- to the end of October

Total Donations	\$360,617
Outreach etc	- 45,577
Expenses	-324,544
TOTAL	(9,504)

Year to date to the end of October our expenses have exceeded our donations by \$9,504. This is much better than our financial position a year ago. Expenses are in line with budget but donations have been somewhat less than budget. A strong finish to the year will allow us to eliminate this deficit. Many thanks for your consideration and generosity.

TRINITY WOMEN

Will meet Friday, Dec. 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. This will be a get-together to sing carols, and perhaps have Christmas Stories. Please remember to bring your plates, cutlery and food for a Pot Luck Lunch. We are asked for socks or other items or Tim Horton Gift Certificates for the Busby Santa Bag. See you there! All women are welcome. Info- call Mary at 726-4589 or 737-0145.

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.

Newcomers' Lunch

A Big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make last week's lunch a "welcoming" success. We were so pleased to have the opportunity to officially welcome many of the newest members of our congregation.

The homemade soup so lovingly made by Mae Harasymiw and Lena- Marie Haw was enjoyed by all. Thank you, too, to all our sandwich makers! What a wonderful cooperative effort!

Our next Newcomers' Lunch will be March 29, 2009.

The Newcomers' Vision Team

CRAFT SALE – DEC 7th

Takes place in the Auditorium after the service.

All proceeds go to the Roof Fund.

For more information contact -
Mae Harasymiw (734-1888)

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