

Trinity Happenings

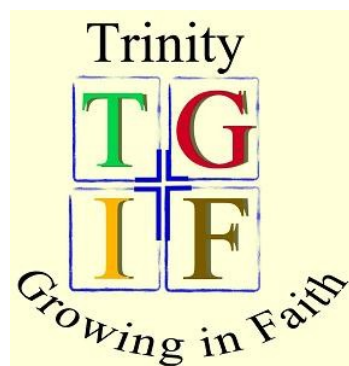
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November 30, 2008

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.

Advent

Today we officially begin the season of Advent which consists of the four Sundays before Christmas. Advent is a Latin word which means “coming”. During Advent we focus on the three comings of Jesus. His coming 2000 years ago when he was born in a manger in Bethlehem; his second coming in glory at the end of time; and thirdly, his coming into each of our hearts right now. We use the season of Advent to prepare for our celebration of Christmas, to prepare for His final coming at the end of history, and to receive him as the Lord of our lives now.

During the four Sundays of Advent familiar symbols will be used to decorate the church. The candles in the Advent wreath reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world. The music of Advent has a hint of expectation and judgment. The evergreen decorations represent the eternal life offered in Jesus. The colour blue on the front of the altar is the colour for Mary, and reminds us of her obedience. As noted elsewhere in Happenings, our teaching theme through Advent this year is called “**BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD**”. We will focus on the songs of praise offered to God prior to and following the birth of Jesus.

AT HOME: You can use an Advent Wreath at home. Many stores sell them or they are easy to make. Each Sunday we will print the weekly pray in the bulletin and you can use it with your family during the week at dinner. There are also Advent calendars which highlight a key Biblical event each day leading up to Christmas Day. Home activities like this assist the children in keeping in focus the real significance of Christmas.

CAROLS & LESSONS: Today at our 10:00 a.m. service the sequence of Advent carols and Bible lessons take us through salvation history from the entry of sin into the world as recounted in Genesis chapter 3, through the Old Testament prophecies foretelling the coming of the Messiah, and finally to the birth of Jesus from the gospel of Luke.

NEWCOMERS' LUNCH -- TODAY from 12:00 to 1:30

Anyone new to worshipping with us here at Trinity is heartily invited to join us at noon for a special lunch so that we can officially welcome you to our congregation.

- The Newcomers' Vision Team

ALPHA & HOME GROUPS BANQUET -- Tomorrow Monday Dec. 1st 6:00 pm

There will be an end of season Banquet for all the ALPHA and Home Group participants on Monday Dec. 1st at 6:00 pm in the church auditorium. There will be great food, music, slide show, video clips and testimonies. It is a time to celebrate all that God has done in our hearts. Please invite guests you think would be interested in Home Groups next season. Cost is \$10 per person. Pre-registration with Norm Marrow is required, or RSVP (728-2691).

CALENDAR EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY - November 30th "First of Advent"

8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion

10:00 a.m. - Advent Christmas Carols & Lessons, Nursery in Undercroft, Children in Aud., Jr. Youth in Upper Rm.

10:00 a.m. - Youth Alpha at St. Margarets

12:00 p.m. - Newcomers Luncheon in Aud.

MONDAY

6:00 p.m. - Alpha & Home Groups' Dinner in Aud.

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. - Newcomers' Meeting in Office. 7:15 p.m. -

Vision Committee Mtg. In Nazareth Rm. 7:00 p.m. -

Contemporary Worship Music 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.

THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - D. Busby Centre Outreach Training, Lower Hall

7:00 p.m. - Sr. Choir Practice in Sanctuary

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.

BITS AND PIECES

*Congregation attending Trinity last Week (Nov.23) was:

8:00 a.m. = 41, 10:00 a.m. = 134, for a total of 175,

including 36 Children & Teachers.

FROM THE MAIL

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*

Parish Info and Updates

INDOOR PARKING

Now that winter has arrived please remember that there is indoor parking in the city garage on the south side of Collier St. opposite our Auditorium. Parking there is FREE weekends and evenings.

AMAZING GRACE

Along with Anglican Churches across the country last Sunday, we sang Amazing Grace and made a recording of it. Our thanks to John Lewis for doing this for us. We expect that it will soon be posted on YouTube. Special cash contributions will go to the Council of the North to assist with the churches ministry in remote northern communities.

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.

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 coordinating this yearly effort.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Our thanks to the Choir & CWT for the wonderful music they have prepared for our Advent Carol service this morning at 10:00 a.m.

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".

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

Sun., Dec. 14th, 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 the City or of the David Busby Street Centre at Christmas time.

More info and events on page 4

“BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD”

Week #3 -- Zechariah & Elizabeth

Today we come to our third 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. 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 (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)

Last week our focus was on Mary, the mother of Jesus, and her song of praise called “The Magnificat”. Today our focus is on the elderly couple Zechariah and Elizabeth who were the parents of John the Baptist. In response to the miraculous birth of their son, Zechariah praises God and his song is known to us as the “Benedictus”.

Zechariah, a longstanding religious leader within the Jewish community, and his wife, Elizabeth, had borne no children even though they longed for a family. Now, when they were elderly, an angel appeared to Zechariah while he was serving in the temple, announcing that Zechariah and Elizabeth, even in their old age, would conceive and give birth to a son, a prophet who would prepare the way for the Lord. Zechariah’s disbelief left him mute until after his son’s birth.

At John’s naming ceremony, a public event a few days after birth, Zechariah regains his voice and breaks into the song we call the “Benedictus”. This song expresses Zechariah’s soul, his deepest passions and highest aspirations, and some scholars believe his song was so compelling that those who heard it—perhaps Mary, the mother of Jesus herself—memorized it and preserved it for posterity.

The first half of the “Benedictus” praises God for the fulfillment of promises long ago that God would act on behalf of his people. The second half gives an indication of the significance of their child John and the special role he will play in preparing the way for the Messiah. Zechariah is a good role model for

fathers today. What are the ways we bless our children? Do we see the potential and the call of God on the lives of our children?

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. Third week November 24-28th:

- Monday: Luke 1: 5-25
- Tuesday: Luke 1: 57-66
- Wednesday: Luke 1: 67-80 (The Benedictus)
- Thursday: Luke 3: 1-9
- Friday: Luke 3: 10-20

STEWARDSHIP: As we reflect on God’s generosity and the response of thankfulness by people of faith (like Hannah & Mary), 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



Trinity Anglican Church

24 Collier Street
P.O. Box 641
Barrie, Ontario

Phone: 705-728-2691
Fax # 705-727-0546
E-mail: churchoffice@rogers.com

Incumbent:
Reverend Canon Brian McVitty
Associate Priest:
Father Andrew Sandilands



Happenings Editor: Rob Smith
trinityhappenings@gmail.com

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 Winters (and her team) for arranging and serving the luncheon. We need some additional assistance with this. If you can help on the day, either by serving or bringing lunch, or if you're able to drive people please call Joan Winters, or the church office. Many thanks for making Christmas extra special for those who are confined to their homes.

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.

Women's Fellowship Christmas Pot Luck Dinner

We are again planning a Christmas Pot Luck Dinner at the Waterford Retirement Community. It will be on December 3, at 6 p.m. All women of the parish are invited. We will have Devotions and corporate Communion as usual. Women with surnames beginning with A – L are requested to bring a salad or dessert. Those with surnames beginning with M – Z are asked to bring a vegetable dish or a main dish. Donations for the Elizabeth Fry Society (Laundry detergent, non-perishable foods, sheets, towels, basic toiletries) would be welcome. At this event we always collect cash donations for the Discretionary Fund. (Note: Donations to The Discretionary Fund are collected and given to the clergy for distribution to people in need as requests come to them during the year.) Please tuck your donation into an envelope and find the basket which will be available.

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.

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)

Busby Centre Christmas List

As you may have heard, the Centre puts on an annual Christmas Dinner for our participants. This year we are calling on the churches in our area in hopes that they would be willing to assist us with gifts for our clients for this year's dinner. The Christmas Dinner has been firmed up now with Georgian College Culinary Students making and serving it on Wednesday, December 17th in Trinity's Auditorium.

The suggested gifts for Clients would be:

Toiletries, Socks/Underwear, Tim

Horton's/McDonald's Certificates, Hats, Mitts, etc.

These gifts could be left in the Tower Walk (Gray box marked "David Busby Street Centre"). We are hoping that you would be willing to help us with this again this year. The clients appreciate the gifts and it brings a smile to their face. Your on-going support is greatly appreciated by everyone at the Centre.