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VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Lutheran Church is a community inspired by God
to share Christ's good news by what we say and do.

JANUARY 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

This will be my 12th New Year's Newsletter. I wondered ABOUT what we have done in those past 12 years. Here is a quick journey through some of the Pastor's new year's notes. I have left a space for you to add a tick mark or write a comment – do you remember these events?

☐ 2013 - BUT WHAT IF?

Maybe the first card game you ever learned to play was 'snap'. The rules are simple then the thinking comes, "But what if we both shout SNAP at the same time?" That's how we deal with a lot of things in life.

The rule says this, and somebody will go digging to find a, "But what if?" question.

I recently was asked question about baptism that prodded my thinking on this. Can I have my son baptised **not as part** of the regular Sunday morning worship? My first reaction was to ask why and I got a good answer. But how does that become an event for our faith community? This baptism was not part of our normal public worship calendar, "But what if the community came to join in that event on that day?" Since that 2012 baptism, I also did a full immersion for Suhasini in 2018 – that was a Saturday morning – again I invited the community to come.

*Full immersion baptism of
Suhasini 2018 January 20th*



2014 - FONT, BANNERS & SONGS, (OH MY!)

Consider these three things from the past few months:

In the summer edition of our Trinity Times, I wrote about raising banners and quoted from the praise song My Redeemer Lives: "I'll raise a banner, cause my lord has conquered the grave". On August 4th our fledgling praise band introduced that song the congregation ... It has become one of our favourites.

A 'crafty' work party made some new banners for our sanctuary. Each banner makes a statement about our faith and as we raise these new banners, we raise up what we hold as important to our faith lives. The banner at the front beside the altar, now (2023) has a pulley system so it can be changed with out climbing up on a chair with a big stick.

We have moved the font from its somewhat hidden location near front of the sanctuary to make it mobile. On January 12th, 2014, we asked God to bless our work as we dedicated the banners and the new font arrangement.

I was so, so proud of all the work of our Trinity members that made these happen.

Bob & Steve moving the font



2015 - EBOLA AID FOR LIBERIA

On December 6th Trinity hosted a Praise Band Concert to raise funds for Ebola Aid for Liberia. Our first goal was to raise money and we did ... \$1255 plus some donations of soap and medical gloves.

Our second goal was to praise in an ecumenical mood. This too we did. We had praise bands from London Christian Fellowship International (LCFI), Community Bible Church and Trinity Lutheran, along with song and music from Sonja Dennis of Colborne United Church and our own Trudi Johnston and Ross McDonald. The assembly was filled with members, friends and family from the gathered congregations. The final musical set was the joyous sounds of London's Liberian Community leading us with their traditional dance and song. As Leo Johnson said "Worship is an attitude" and that night we danced and sang many praises to God.



Trinity Praise Band; Left to Right - Laura Manners, George Cooper, Pastor Steve, Hannah Johnston, Susan Johnston, Emily Kmith & Brady Hough

2016 - SYRIAN REFUGEES - TRINITY'S REFORMATION CHALLENGE

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.'

Our joint application (with Redeemer and St. Andrew) for a refugee family will be processed through the Anglican Church's Huron Diocese here in London - they will be the sponsoring agency. Once the application is accepted it will take between 1 and 4 months before a family would arrive. The

three congregations will be responsible for 12 months of support for the family from finances for rent, food and clothing etc. to assistance in integrating into our London community and whatever care and support the family might need.

TRINITY GOALS:

1. Raise \$7,000 by February 2016.
2. Form a group of 10 or more individuals to support the family.

Our other two partners in the team have the same goals.

*Christmas lights on the big tree
on Colborne, December 2015*



If you like these little remembering's ... let me know and I can include some more in future newsletters.

I pray that 2024 will create more good memories of our ministry work at Trinity.
God is good ... all the time.

~ Pastor Steve

MUSIC AT TRINITY

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

It was wonderful to see everyone out Sunday, December 3, for the Congregational Christmas Dinner following the service. The catered turkey dinner was awesome. Everyone enjoyed the entertainment with joyous Christmas music and a Christmas carol Sing-A-Long after the dinner.

Merry Christmas Everyone! *Soli Deo Gloria – To God Be The Glory!*

~ Ross McDonald – Director of Music

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COUNCIL NEWS

It is hard to believe this is our last report for 2023!! Time has flown by and Trinity has, for the most part, been a beehive of activity. There are a few groups renting our facility. One group, YAPCA, rents the entire building for musical endeavours.

Since reopening from our Covid closure, we have seen our numbers slowly creep up and more activities happening. Seniors' luncheons are such a welcome treat. If you haven't partaken, you are missing a lovely time of fellowship, church and good food.

December is a particularly busy month at Trinity. We began with the annual Christmas turkey dinner complete with serenading by our own Ross McDonald. Door prizes were won and everyone had a good time. Reminiscent of pre-pandemic!! Our "Koehler Kafe" is decorated for the festive season even and people seem to linger over coffee and treats a little longer.

Of course, December would not be complete without the Sunday School Pageant. The teachers and children seem to outdo themselves every year! This year was no exception. Many extended family members were on hand for support and I'm sure some were astounded with our talent pool. Yet to come is our Annual Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve and a truly lovely service on Christmas Day.

I would like to take this moment to wish everyone a truly blessed Christmas. May you find peace.

Yours in Christ

Cheryl Millar, Chair of Council



CELEBRATING IN JANUARY

Happy Birthday

Jean Hohnstein (2)
Dennis Liska (14)
Hans Stuhlemmer (22)

Mary Mundt (8)
Lawrence Petch (20)
Linda Cook (24)

Helmut Heitzmann (11)
Lou Mantle (22)

Happy Anniversary

Doug & Jean Hohnstein (21)
Jonathan & Alicia Wild (26)

SERVING IN JANUARY

January 7

Communion
Assistant Vivian Parker
Altar Care Robert Sellars & Jodi Kaufman
Reader Eswar Kolusu
Greeters George Cooper & Family
Coffee Host TBA

January 14

Reader Cheryl Millar
Greeters TBA
Coffee Joan Leffler

January 21

Reader Blessy Kolusu
Greeters Dave & Pauline Hutchison
Coffee Lynne & Alan Day

January 28

Reader Nancy Magguilli
Greeter Barb Drogemuller
Coffee Cheryl Millar

*Volunteers
Needed*



*Our list of volunteers is growing smaller and smaller.
If you are able to help in any role on Sunday mornings,
please let Annette in the church office know.*

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7 Baptism of Our Lord Lighthouse Church 1 pm	8 Northern Hospitality 1pm Council 7 pm	9 Inshallah 5:30 pm	10 YAPCA 5:30 pm	11	12 Participation House 9 am	13
14 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany Lighthouse Church 1pm	15 Participation House 9 am	16 Participation House 9 am Inshallah 5:30 pm	17 YAPCA 5:30 pm	18	19	20 Confirmation Class 9 am RCCO 10 am
21 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany Lighthouse Church 1 pm	22	23 Inshallah 5:30 pm	24 YAPCA 5:30 pm	25 Participation House 9 am	26 Participation House 9 am	27
28 4 th Sunday after Epiphany Lighthouse Church 1 pm	29 Participation House 9 am	30 Participation House 9 am Inshallah 5:30 pm	31 YAPCA 5:30 pm			