



Trinitopics & Church Announcements

1 ~ Thursday, January 5th, 2023



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Phone: 204 729-1946
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Urgent needs: Cell 204 441-8140

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2023!

Trinity Office
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri
9-noon 1-4 pm
Phone: 204 728-4796
E Mail: trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca
Website: www.trinitybrandon.ca



Affirming Vision, Trinity United Church, Brandon, MB

At Trinity United Church our Vision is to Grow in Faith, Fellowship and Service Through Christ Jesus. We believe that all people are children of God and we embrace the fullness of our diversity in ability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, social economic status or any other human division as we unite in worship and full participation in all aspects of our ministry.

As a congregation we are committed to surroundings that reflect safety and support in respect of social justice and human rights.

Love your neighbour We are on Treaty 2 Territory --- "As long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow".

January 8: Worship around the breakfast table.

Potluck breakfast at 9:30 followed by Worship service which will all take place downstairs.

Trinity Gift Card Fundraising Project:

We are having a Gift Card Fundraiser which will take place during the month of January.

The order forms are currently being distributed and if you didn't receive a form, stop by the church office and Eden will have forms or pick one up on Sunday.

Orders, including payment, must be received by Monday, January 30th at 4:00 pm.

Orders will be received by Alan Silvius at any time so there is no need to wait until the deadline date. If you prefer, you can send order via email to

silviusa@mymts.net or via phone at (204) 726-4169 (Home) or (204) 570-2338 (Cell).



Happy New Year 2023!

Senior class will resume January 15th

Juniors will resume January 22nd

. Takedown of Christmas Decorations:

The takedown of Christmas Decorations is planned for **Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 10:00 am.** All are welcome!

Showing Up for Each Other

As we start a new year, we might have pondered resolutions and how we want to live our life in 2023. [A Year In Perspective & Hope For What's Ahead - New Years Eve special](#) video from [Affirming Connections](#) is a conversation about the challenges and opportunities of 2023. Hopeful messages presented included using technology and social media to reach out to the larger community to broaden perspectives and faith, how LGBTQ+ perspective opens blessing of faithful living, and individuals making active choices to attend denominations with shrinking attendance as a demonstration of conscious alignment, authenticity, and faithfulness.

Significantly, a reoccurring theme in the video was the increase in misinformation and bullying being experienced against the LGBTQ+ community. In August of 2022, **Statistics Canada** released [Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2021](#). According to the report, hate crimes have increased by 72% since 2019 (p.14). Statistics highlighted “*police-reported hate crimes targeting religion (+354 incidents, +67%) and sexual orientation (+165 incidents, +64%), and to a lesser extent race or ethnicity (+104 incidents, +6%)*”. “*The 423 hate crimes targeting sexual orientation rose above the previous peak of 265 in 2019.*” It is estimated that only one in five hate crimes are ever reported to police.

One individual in the *Affirming Connections*' video shared his experience of “surface-level acceptance” in his faith community of origin prior to joining the United Church, which might cause us to reflect on a corporate and personal level about how to be “upstanders” – taking action against prejudice and hate.

Affirming Reading:

[The Gay Christian by Shane Goldie](#).

This author is a student minister in the United Church serving in Alberta and has written a book based on his experience

[God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships](#) by

[Matthew Vines](#) is an e-book available from the Western Manitoba Regional Library (WMRL).

For more information on accessing this book or to obtain a membership, please contact the WMRL at 204-727-6648 or info@wmrl.ca.

If an item is not in WMRL's collection, they welcome requests to purchase and/or will order items free-of-charge other public libraries, if available. Items borrowed from university or college libraries may have a financial charge associated with them.

Here is a learning opportunity and some resources that might of interest.

Walking in Two Worlds
Thursday, January 19, 2023
5pm PT / 6pm MT / 7pm CT
8pm ET / 9pm AT / 9:30pm NL

A very special event on what we can learn from Indigenous ways of learning and gathering, featuring Rev. Michele Rowe.

Michele (she/her) is a Metis woman whose family (both Metis/Cree and European) are rooted in the Athabasca Region of Alberta. Michele's spiritual practices incorporate Indigenous and Christian ways of connecting with the Creator and Creation.



Michele is a Registered Social Worker, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, and Certified Community and Workplace Traumatologist. She ministers alongside the faithful folks of Maple Creek United Church in Saskatchewan.

This event is co-presented by Affirming Connections and Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble as part of their National Affirming/PIE Day initiatives.

Their sponsorship allows for this event to be free and welcome to all!

Registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461204461>





**Our next meeting is
Tuesday, January 10th, 2023
Meeting: starting at 1:15 pm.**



Calling All Women

**UCW supplies the coffee, tea, drink crystals,
creamers, sugar & sweetener
for all Trinity functions.**

UCW Purpose

To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a means through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.



UCW Fall Tea; Oct. 5th, 2017

**UCW January Birthdays
No one in January!!**

Pat's Writer's Group

Saturday, January 21st, at 10:30

Trinity library.

We are using story starters for inspiration and this month's is:

**"It sounded like violin music,
and it was coming from the basement. . ."**

Everyone is welcome!

Alison Murray 204 725-3471



Holly's Christmas Recital on December 17th.
Well done by all!!



Another beautiful gift that was given to Trinity just

before Christmas. I did not get the history behind this beautiful wall hanging. Can anyone help? I think it might be Central related.



Trinity delivers 22 Christmas Hampers to Brandon families

22 Brandon families consisting of moms and dads, infants, children, teens and grandparents received beautiful, well-stocked hampers from the Trinity congregation this Christmas season. Many messages of thanks to our church family were expressed by the families and children who received hampers this year.

The hampers included ample groceries for Christmas meals as well as mittens, toques and scarves and Christmas gifts for the children and teens. The hampers also included fresh milk, vegetables and fruit, baby formula and meat for their Christmas dinners.

The Outreach committee would like to thank the Trinity congregation; hamper delivering families; families who bought gifts for the children; the senior Sunday School students who wrapped and organized the kid's gifts, and the hamper packing volunteers. The hampers would not have been possible without the wonderful generosity of our Trinity family. The amount of food donated was amazing and the generous monetary donations made the packing efforts successful. Special thanks must go to those who knitted beautiful mittens, toques and scarves which were gifted to the 22 families. We are grateful for the efforts of Connie H. and Kathy K. for their dedicated work and many hours spent in organizing the hampers. Thanks so much.

Here are some behind the scenes pictures of crews packing the Christmas Cheer Hampers as well as the senior Sunday school gift packing. Thanks to Connie H. for the photos.

*With gratitude and thanks to Trinity -
Trinity United Church Outreach committee -
Connie H., Kathy K., Heather M., Linda F., Lois R.*



**Our new members & adherents:
None to report this newsletter.
Welcome all!!**

**Trinity has \$100 Gift Cards from
Sobeys/Safeway.
Please see Eden in the office if
you would like to purchase cards.**



Prairie to Pine Youth United Church of Canada



ZEBU 2023

A great group of youth attended ALF 2022 youth retreat and said they'd like to come to the next retreat, too!
(Go to '<https://prairietopinerc.ca/fun-at-alf-regional-youth-retreat/>'
See the fun that was had at Carman in October.)

Some communities and families were not represented at that retreat, and we'd love to have those youth join the others at **Zeebu** (that's the name of the February retreat)!

Please ask your youth to mark this date in their calendars!
Parents mark your calendars, too, please

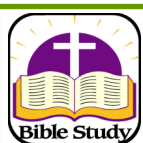
Feb 18 to 20th, 2023

(Saturday to Monday of Louis Riel Weekend)
in Brandon, MB at Knox United Church

Watch for registration to come out in early January, with a super early -bird deal for those who register by Friday, Jan 13th.
(The Retreat planning team will be meeting the next day and will be excited to know you're coming!)



'Twas the Sunday before Christmas' Choir Cantata (Missing Lois & Barb R.)
Remark & picture credit to Al Friesen!



Bible Study will meet on January 12th starting at 1:30.
We will be choosing our next study.
Everyone Welcome!



**PRAIRIE TO PINE
WEEKLY NEWS**
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
EVENTS EDITION



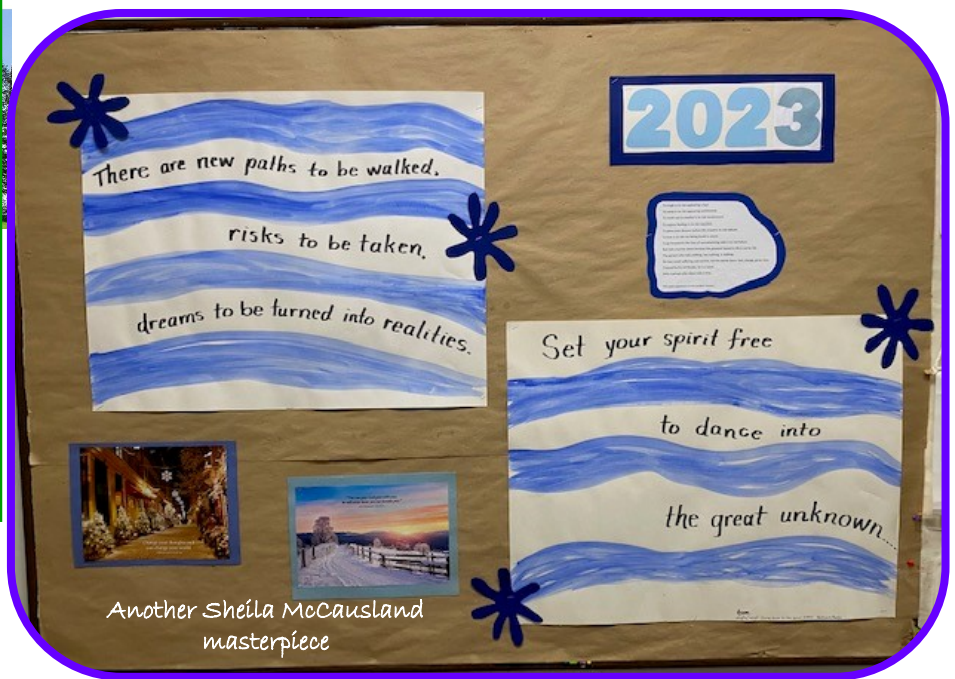
prairietopine@united-church.ca

Alison Murray & Darlynn Smith

To receive weekly information to your email, or to read what is going on in the United Church:
<https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

Why did Adam and Eve do math every day? They were told to be fruitful and multiply.

Which king liked to do things on his own?
Solomon.



Another Sheila McCausland masterpiece



Sending People to School—Together (Patti Talbot's Work) When children can't go to school, society suffers

How do you make the world a better place?
You can start by taking kids to school.

Around the world, 57 million children cannot attend school.* They may never learn to read, to add or subtract, or to write. These are the skills they need to succeed. Even more importantly, they never learn about their basic human rights.

It's a complicated problem, says Patti Talbot, the United Church's Global Partnership Team Leader. "The work we do isn't going to lead to immediate societal change," she says, "but it will make a big difference down the road."

When children can't go to school, society suffers. And that is why Mission & Service is in partnership with 85 organizations that work to increase access to education across the globe. Each partner has their own approach to education and skills training, each supported by your gifts to Mission & Service.

Colombia's Center for Communication uses arts and media to teach children about their rights. Women for Change in Zambia creates educational groups where participants share agricultural knowledge and awareness of their rights. At Japan's Asian Rural Institute, local leaders gather to learn sustainable agriculture techniques they can take home and transform their communities. "How can we make the world a better place?" asks Talbot before responding, "We can't do that by ourselves; our partners know best what the challenges are."

Talbot, a child of missionaries who was raised in Japan and Korea, knows that educational partnerships are critical. "In our partnerships, we learn from and teach each other," she says. "The United Church's focus is more than just sharing resources, but really sharing life together." It's an approach that Talbot knows works, even if results take time. "Our partners are very grateful that the United Church of Canada has demonstrated over and over again that we are there for the long term," Talbot says.

"Partners say to us 'It makes such a difference to us to know that the United Church is with us, walking with us in prayer, supporting us, remembering us in their lives.'"



Choir practise resumes again on
Thursday, January 12th, starting at 7 pm.
Everyone is welcome to join at any time!!

Christmas Gifts

A boy scout in Cambridge, Minnesota raised money to buy Christmas gifts for children in foster care. 11-year-old Jonathan Werner has only been a boy scout for nine months. But he takes his service projects seriously. Through popcorn sale money, Jonathan was able to buy gifts for every foster child in two counties.

"I adopted all the foster care kids in Kanabec County and Isanti County for Christmas," he told KARE11. It's a need that's close to his heart. "My dad spent 14 years in foster care and based upon stories that he had being in foster care, it doesn't really sound like they had much of a Christmas," Jonathan said.

**Why did the baker hit the cake with a hammer?
It was a pound cake.**



A 'double' information sign!!
A Brandon Sun paper sleeve bound to the stop sign post!!
I am sure there is a story to this!!



Happy Anniversary

I have no January Anniversaries in my records!!

Trinity January Birthdays

Belated
2nd Marv Pidhorny
18th Rev. Doug



Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to."

Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cup-

A Christian guy named Bill saw an ad online for a Christian horse, so he went to check it out. The horse's owner said, "It's easy to ride him. Just say 'Praise the Lord!' to make him go and 'Amen!' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said, "Praise the Lord!" Sure enough, the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord!" he said again, and the horse began to trot. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" he yelled, and the horse broke into a gallop. Bill was enjoying his ride so much that he almost didn't notice the cliff he and the horse were about to go over. Bill shouted "AMEN!" at the top of his lungs, and the horse stopped right at the edge of the cliff. Relieved, Bill said, "Phew! Praise the Lord!" —Submitted by Z.S. via rd.com

**What is a New Year's resolution?
Something that goes in one year and out the other.**

**Why is "dark" spelled with a k and not a c?
Because you can't c in the dark!**

FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING WORSHIP EACH WEEK

Thank you to all who help, donate, money or food, and especially those who have come and have fellowship with us!!

Fellowship following service will commence on January 15th, due to our Worship 'round the Breakfast table this Sunday, the 8th.

I will have a sign up list available .



204 728-7713
204 724-2923
darlynnegbsmith@gmail.com

Please be sure to call or e-mail
Marlane Wilson,
with any reports of folks in hospital or
needing some contact.
204 729-8574 or marlane.w@yahoo.com

If you know someone, or yourself,
who would like a care call from
Rev. Neufeld; call 204-441-8140
204 729.1946



Christmas Eve
Maia Placatka & Rev. Doug
Gabriella & Gabriel
There were angels among us!

Continued thoughts and
prayers to **Marina Cram** & all
her family!

Viv Privat had back surgery
the week before Christmas
and is convalescing at home.

She says that
'so far, so good'!!

Hope that continues, Viv!!

Sending our thoughts ,
prayers and HUGS to all who are
experiencing health issues

Thoughts & Prayers to the families
of **Sharon Brooks** and **Evelyn
Thompson**, on their passing.

Sharon passed on December 21st; her
service was at Trinity on January 3rd.

Evelyn, 101 years young, passed on
December 23rd. There will be a service
for her in the warm months.



Our Friends in Personal Care and Senior Homes

Dinsdale: Lois Aube, Malcolm Macdonald

Fairview: Audrey Campbell, Judy Diswinka, Linda Garson,
Dennis & Louise Hume, Eunice Lindenberg, Betty Russell

Souris PCH: Emma Garden

Rideau: Don Chambers, Murray Hicks, Garry VanRenselaar

Valleyview: Cliff Bowslaugh, Laura Cliffe, Bernice Erskine,
Shirley O'Driscoll, Lois Wolfe,

Riverheights Terrace: Patty Hargreaves, Marlene Shantz,
Vera Skyman

Rotary Villas: Myrna Barkley, Don Jessiman, Marg Lovstrom

Victoria Landing: Al & Helen Lauder, Fred Miller,
Pat Rathwell, Marg Speers

Epiphany - also known as **Three
Kings' Day** - is a Christian holiday
which falls on January 6th.

It is a special date for many Chris-
tians as it's when people cele-
brate how a star led the Magi - also
known as the Three kings or the
Wise Men - to visit the baby

Jesus after he had been born.
'Epiphany' comes from the Greek
word meaning 'to reveal', as it is
when the baby Jesus was 'revealed'
to the world.

This is why you might hear people
say they've had an epiphany, when
they've just realised something.



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The newsletter is prepared every 2nd week

Delivery is being made to all non email

The next issue will be January 19th, 2023

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'May God hold you in the palm of His Hand'