



# Trinitopics & Church Announcements

## # 11 ~ Thursday, May 25th, 2023



Rev. Doug Neufeld  
Phone: 204 729-1946  
E Mail: [rev.doug@wcgwave.ca](mailto:rev.doug@wcgwave.ca)  
Urgent needs: Cell 204 441-8140



Trinity Office  
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri  
9-noon 1-4 pm  
Phone: 204 728-4796  
E Mail: [trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca](mailto:trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca)  
Website: [www.trinitybrandon.ca](http://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".

### Worship Services

If you are interested in helping with this part of our worship service, please contact Alan Silvius or check the purple binder on the pew at the back of the sanctuary and sign up for the Sunday(s) that would work for you, Responsibilities are outlined in the binder.

### Pulpit Supply Needs 2023:

Worship Leaders are needed during Rev. Doug's absences this summer. Please reflect on your worship talents and consider taking a service during one or more of these dates.

Please contact Alan Silvius at (204) 726-4169 or [silviusa@mymts.net](mailto:silviusa@mymts.net).

Dates for consideration are:

- May 21: UCW
- June 4: Live-stream Prairie to Pine Region Annual Meeting Worship Service (Potluck Breakfast/Fellowship starting at 9:30)
- July 23: Faye McLoughlin
- July 30:
- August 6:
- August 13: Judy Diswinka & Darlyne Smith
- August 20: Barb Janzen



Please see May Gift Card fundraising information on page 3

### Acknowledging Trinity Affiliated Graduates

If you have a child or grandchild who is graduating this year whether, it be from high school, community college or university, Christian Education would be happy to send a card of congratulations to them. Please submit their full name, address and state what graduation they are celebrating (ex. high school, Brandon University with Arts Degree ) to Lois Riley ([lriley@mts.net](mailto:lriley@mts.net)) or submit to the Church Office and we will send a card of acknowledgement.

**Deadline for submissions is June 15, 2023**

From Sunday School  
Sunday, May 28th is our last day of classes until fall.

# Trinity United Church

# May 2023

21	Trinity Worship (UCW) 10am RCCG Worship 12:30pm COP Worship 5pm	22	Victoria Day Office Closed  <b>No WIH</b>	23	WW 9am  WW 4:30pm Prairie Group 8 pm	24	Trinity Supper 5pm RCCG Bible Study 7pm	25	<b>No Bible Study</b>  Choir Practice 7pm	26	<b>No Messy Church</b> Prairie Group 8 pm RCCG Meeting 9pm	27	Drag Makeup Tutorial Basement 1pm RCCG Choir Practice 6pm
28	Trinity Worship +SS 10am RCCG Worship 12:30pm COP Worship 5pm	29	WIH Sanctuary 7pm	30	WW 9am  WW 4:30pm Prairie Group 8 pm	31	RCCG Bible Study 7pm				Trinity Junior Sunday School occurring every second Sunday, marked as "SS" on the calendar. Senior Sunday School every week.		

### Trinity Gift Card Fundraising Project:

We are having a Gift Card Fundraiser which will take place during the month of May. The order forms will be distributed by email during the first week of May and will be available from the church office.

**Orders, including payment, must be received by Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:silviusa@mymts.net) or via phone at (204) 726-4169 (Home) or (204) 570-2338 (Cell).

As of May 25th eighteen households have participated in the May gift card fundraiser with a total of \$7,665.00 worth

### Sunday, June 4th

9:30 am Pot luck breakfast & Fellowship followed by P2P Worship Service at 10:30  
Everything downstairs



Thank you Holly & Davis!!  
You are sooooo appreciated!!



Missing: Val Poersch, Shirley Kernaghan & Murray Hagyard

Trinity choir had a pot luck supper at our last practise; May 25th. After a hearty meal, we practised our anthem for Sunday and a couple that we will do with Knox choir at our outdoor service on **July 2nd**. (Yes, we have another celebration coming up again ... outside!!) Happy birthday was sung to two gals: one who just turned & the other-almost, 80!! (Barb R. & Darlyne). Thank you choir!!

# “There is no such thing as being privately affirming”

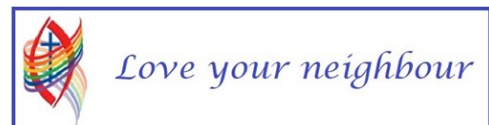
In February 2019 the U.S. based United Methodist Church convened a conference to specifically address divisions over LGBTQ issues. Delegates approved the “traditionalist plan” which stated that “the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching”. Furthermore, the conference established new standards for punishing ministers who performed same-sex weddings.



This left many ministers in the denomination facing difficult decisions. One minister, who had served in the church for over a dozen years, decided to withdraw from his call to ministry and forfeited his ordination papers. He had presided over the marriage of his gay son several years previously and could not accept the church’s new pronouncement. A supportive friend of his, also a minister, later reflected on this heart-breaking event and shared the following words as a reminder to all of us to be mindful of our responsibilities as an Affirming congregation:

- ◆ ***“If you are holding on to a faith that causes your child to not want to live, let go. It will not be God you are letting go of.”***
- ◆ ***“There is no such thing as being privately affirming.”***

- ◆ ***“LGBTQ+ people do not need the Church to do something wonderful and generous; they just deserve for it to stop doing something awful and selfish.”***
- ◆ ***“If you claim to be someone’s ally but aren’t getting hit by the stones thrown at them, you’re not standing close enough.”***
- ◆ ***“There simply could not be a better reason to change your mind than the life of your child.”***
- ◆ ***“It’s not your child’s job to make their coming out okay for you. It’s your job to make it easier for them. Be the parent in the relationship.”***
- ◆ ***“Parents of LGBTQ+ kids are the most qualified to be the prophetic conscience of the Church on this issue. Their child’s suffering is their ordination. Their child’s beauty is their anointing. Their child’s future is their Great Commission. Simply put, their child is their reason. And there simply could not be a better reason.”***
- ◆ ***“And while others, even religious leaders, play abstract, doctrinal games with plastic chips and Monopoly money, these parents are not only playing with every dime they have in the world, they are playing with their children’s lives, their children’s hearts laid bare and vulnerable on the table.”***
- ◆ ***“That a heart can be both broken and full at the same time — this is grace.”***



**Editor Note:** This article is a summary, including some excerpts, from a post on the website of Comox United Church, an Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada in Comox, British Columbia. The quotations are by Reverend Stan Mitchell, founder of GracePointe, a Progressive Christianity Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

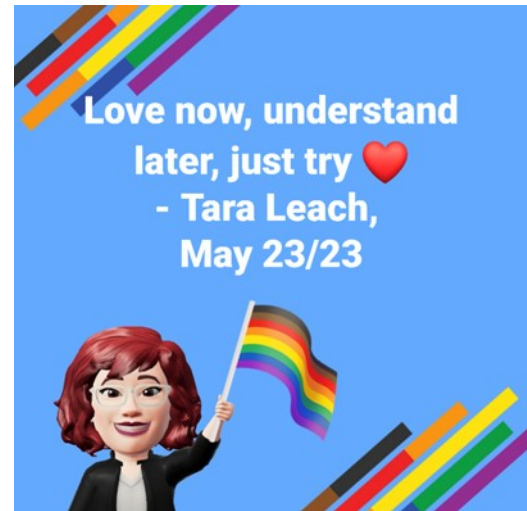
For the full story, visit <https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/news/lgbtq2>

# Brandon School Division Board of Trustees Response to Delegations

May 8, 2023, school board meeting a Brandon constituent made a presentation on ‘transgender books in our school libraries’ and proposed setting up a committee of parents and trustees to examine the LGBTQ books in school libraries and remove those with vulgar language, description of sexual acts, and those that are pornographic”. (BSD Board Minutes <https://bsdstorage.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/frf/5/795%20May%208%202023.pdf>)

This proposal brought an immediate and vehement response from members of the public in the form of almost 300 letters and emails expressing concerns about censorship and regressive policies regarding recognition and support for LGBTQ+ students. Furthermore, this proposal would not align with the school division diversity and inclusion policy adopted in 2017. Hundreds of allies and supporters packed the gym at Vincent Massey High School for the May 23 meeting to discuss and deal with the proposal. Thirty-one individuals, groups and organizations

*environments can play in building the personal resilience of transgender and other gender diverse students and their families”.*



Quotation by Tara Leach, Brandon teacher and member of Knox United Church congregation (Image captured from Facebook)



Attendees of May 23 Board Meeting (Photo: Al Friesen)

Brandon School Division thanks the community for their support and assistance in creating an inclusive, welcoming, and safe environment in our schools.

Our #BSDSchools are a safe and inclusive space for all.

For the full motion, visit

<https://www.bsd.ca/ci/p/17694>

registered to speak, two of whom supported the proposal, while the remaining were opposed. When the presentations ended around midnight, individual Trustees responded, and then passed the following motion (6 votes to 1) which reads in part:

*“The Brandon School Division Board of Trustees rejects the call for the formation of a committee of parents and trustees to examine books in our school libraries. The Brandon School Division Board of Trustees strongly reaffirms our Administrative Procedure 4535 Human Diversity. Brandon School Division Board of Trustees supports learning environments that respect and embrace diversity, that create welcoming and safe spaces, raise awareness and learning, support and protect everyone, including transgender and gender diverse people, and others who have not yet identified . . . . The Brandon School Division Board of Trustees recognizes the importance and life-changing role that inclusive educational*



Placards seen at May 23 Board Meeting (Photo: Andrew Friesen)

**Trinity has \$50 & \$100 Gift Cards from Sobeys/Safeway and Superstore. Please see Eden in the office if you would like to purchase cards.**



Baron of Beef Supper  
First one since September 2019

### **ODE TO VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are like FORD: They have better ideas!

Volunteers are like COKE: They're the real thing!

Volunteers are like PAN-AM airlines:

They make the going great!

Volunteers are like PEPSI: They have a lot to give!

Volunteers are like DIAL SOAP: They care more; don't you wish everyone did??

Volunteers are like VOS HAIRSPRAY: Their goodness holds in all kinds of weather!!

:Volunteers are like STANDARD OIL: You expect more, and get it!

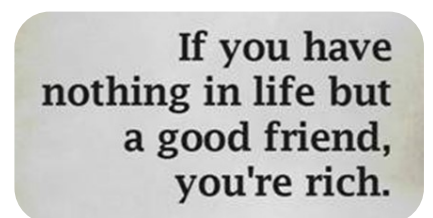
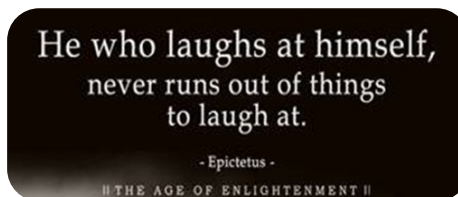
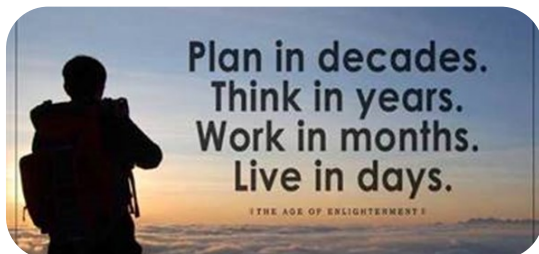
BUT, MOST OF ALL

VOLUNTEERS ARE LIKE FROSTED FLAKES

VOLUNTEERS ARE GREEEAAATTT!!!!

*Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the beef supper!!*

*Results of supper coming soon.*





**Our next meeting is  
Tuesday, June 6th, 2023  
Pot luck starting at 12:15  
Meeting: starting at 1:15 pm.**



**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  
late May & early June Birthdays**

29th	Nancy Syntak	
31st	Darlynnne Smith	80
June		
1st	Jean Cory	
10th	Laura Cliffe	104 yrs!
12th	Norie Rathwell	
20th	Pat Kempthorne	

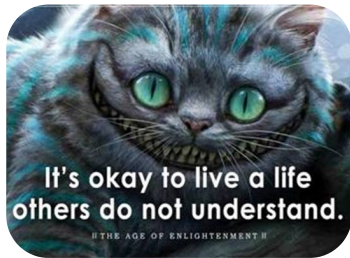


Shirley Wells

Farewell to Shirley Wells as she moves to Winnipeg at the end of May. Wishing you the best in your new surroundings!! We do have her forwarding address, so do ask if you would like to converse with her



**You Know Who  
Still 'Pushing' 80!**



**"My father said there were two kinds of people in the world: givers and takers. The takers may eat better, but the givers sleep better."**  
*Marlo Thomas*



**A nice surprise on Mother's Day  
The Cram family,  
Jack, Marina & Kelly!**

**Please think about our folks in hospital and care homes and drop them a greeting through the Prairie Mountain Health website.  
<https://www.prairiemountainhealth.ca/pmh-well-wishes>**

**Trinity has \$50 & \$100 Gift Cards from Sobeyes/Safeway and Superstore.  
Please see Eden in the office if you would like to purchase cards.**

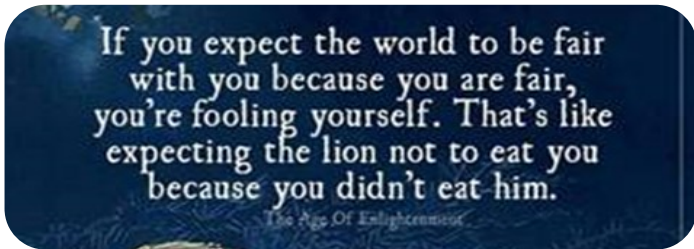
**If I am ever on life support, unplug me and plug me back in -- to see if that works.**



Our Trinity Garden is looking for someone to look after it this season. Are there some folk who would like to take on this task? This could be shared with others. Please see Ken Winstone for further information.

204 726-4822

ken & carol winstone@gmail.com



One Sunday morning, the minister notice little Davis standing in the narthex of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small Canadian flags mounted on either side of it . The six year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the minister walked up; stood beside the little boy; and said quietly, 'Good morning, Davis.' 'Good morning, Reverend,' he replied. 'What is this?' 'Well, Davis, it 's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.' Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally little Davis's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked 'Which service, the 8 o'clock or the 10:30 one?'

Change your opinions, keep to your principles; change your leaves, keep intact your roots. Victor Hugo



**Bible Study has wrapped up for the season.**

It will resume in the fall. Thanks for all who participated and to Rev. Doug for facilitating.



Choir practise Thursday, starting at 7 pm. One last Sunday, May 28th. Prior to holidays



**Christian Education** Sunday School will have their last class on Sunday, May 28th, 2023 and resume after the September long weekend.

**Prayer Shawls** are available in the library/meeting room for you to take to comfort anyone; it does not have to be a Trinity person! There are so many beautiful designs and colors to be chosen. Thank you to the talented ladies who made these lovely creations!!!



**PRAIRIE TO PINE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
The United Church of Canada



[prairietopine@united-church.ca](mailto:prairietopine@united-church.ca)

Alison Murray & Darlynn Smith

To receive weekly information to your email, or to read what is happening in the

United Church:

<https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>



Thanks to Tim Smith for his great presentation at 55 Plus. He is a very special journalist/photographer! *Windup plans will be shared in next newsletter.*

God Wants Full Custody, Not Just Weekend Visits

What Do You Call a Sleepwalking Nun?

A Roam'n Catholic

At The Heart Of Every Sin Is The Letter 'I'

God recycles, he made you from dust.

## Your Generosity Accompanies Grandmothers

Grandmothers connect love for their grandchildren to God's love for all.



In the Rift Valley of Kenya, 7 percent of the people who live there are HIV positive—nearly 900,000—and many will not survive. Grandmothers whose children have died of AIDS are often left alone to care for their grandchildren, and to add insult to injury, their church community condemns them, leaving them without support as they raise their grandchildren.

Some pastors in the Rift Valley, as in many other places, believe and teach that faithful Christians cannot contract the disease and that it is a judgment from God—a disease for sexual sinners.

"The pastors had little information about HIV and AIDS; to them, and others in the community, it was a strange disease.... [They believed] HIV was a result of sexual sin and was a judgement from God for the sexually immoral," writes Esther Mombo of the World Council of Churches.

In partnership with the United Church, Mombo and Pauline Wanjuru of St. Paul's University in Limuru, Kenya, led a series of workshops in one Rift Valley community that has been hit especially hard by HIV/AIDS. They invited grandmothers and pastors to connect and learn from each other.

One grandmother who attended the workshops was 70 years old. She had lost both her daughter and her son and was left to raise three grandchildren on her own. Instead of stepping up to help, her neighbours refused to visit her because they said her daughter and son had been sexually immoral. Her pastor wouldn't even attend her children's funerals because he didn't want to be seen associating with her family. When she went to church, the pastor preached about the punishment for sexual immorality.

At the workshops, this woman bravely told her story to the pastors who attended. She also shared with them how it felt to be shamed for loving her children and grandchildren. Another grandmother explained that her grandchildren were born with the virus and couldn't have been involved in any sexual immorality. Yet another spoke of God's love for everyone. Pastors listened and learned, and ended by making a commitment to extend compassion and offer pastoral care to the grandmothers.

All of us know from our own life experience that when we know better, we do better.

Your Mission & Service gifts gave these grandmothers the opportunity to help their pastors learn to do better by connecting their love for their grandchildren to God's love for all. Thank you.

**When I drink coffee I can't sleep. Really? I have the exact opposite. Wow, seriously?**

**Yes, when I sleep I can't drink coffee**

**Sin is like a credit card. Enjoy it now – but pay for it later.**

**To whoever stole my air conditioners – you are going to need them. – God.**







Nothing makes one feel so strong as a call for help.  
Pope Paul VI

## Pat's Writers Group



The next meeting for the group will be Saturday, May 13th at 10:30 in the Trinity library. Our story starter for this month is

*As we are not meeting until September, I wonder what the story starter will be? We will all have to wait and see!!!*

*Have a great summer !!!*

*Might you be interested in joining this group?*

Contact :Alison Murray 204 725-3471 or [almark@mymts.net](mailto:almark@mymts.net)

On June 4th, we are planning a pot luck breakfast; starting at 9:30. The Prairie to Pine service will be starting at 10:30 and it is going to be viewed downstairs. So, why not make it a special fellowship and have a pot luck /fellowship prior to the service, right??

As we did at our January pot luck, those who wish, bring a dish & it always makes the best meal you can have!! If you aren't able, or don't wish to bring a dish,

**PLEASE COME ANYWAY!!**

There will be coffee/tea/juice & goodness knows what else!  
Lots to graze on



### Trinity May / early June Birthdays

28th	Veronica Miller
29th	Lorrie Snelgrove
	June
1st	Tina Ure
1st	Donalda Warren
12th	Helen Mitchell

### FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING WORSHIP EACH WEEK

Thank you for the helpers, donators & all who come for fellowship.

May 28th  
Sonia Morrice  
Margaret Chastko

JUNE 4TH  
Pot luck  
The Faye's & Darlyne

June 11th  
Keith Privat has agreed to come with his famous pancake/sausage brunch again!  
Thank You!!

June 18th  
Sam & Myrna Lennon  
Wilma Seafoot



204 728-7713  
204 724-2923  
[darlynnegbsmith@gmail.com](mailto: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



**Alice Laminman** still in Assiniboine  
**Don Jessiman** .. Still in Assiniboine  
**Vera Skayman** is in the Assiniboine  
 on 2nd floor. Wishing her well.

Thinking of **Myrna Lane** as she waits  
 for hip surgery;

Our thoughts, prayers and hugs to  
**Norm & Val Poersch** & family on the  
 loss of Val's brother, Ed Porter.

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

*In Our Thoughts  
 & Prayers*

**If you know someone, or yourself,  
 who would like a care call from  
 Rev. Neufeld; call 204-441-8140  
 204 729.1Sunshine & Music946**

**Our Friends in Personal Care and Senior Homes**

**Dinsdale:** Lois Aube, Malcolm Macdonald  
**Fairview:** Audrey Campbell, Judy Diswinka, Linda Garson,  
 Louise Hume, Eunice Lindenberg, Betty Russell  
**Souris PCH:** Emma Garden  
**Rideau:** Don Chambers, Murray Hicks, Garry VanRenselaar  
**Valleyview:** Cliff Bowslaugh, Laura Cliffe, ,  
 Shirley O'Driscoll, Del Pringle, Lois Wolfe,  
**Riverheights Terrace:** Pheme Andrew, Elsie Franklin, Patty  
 Hargreaves, Dave McClelland, Marlene Shantz, Vera Skayman  
**Rotary Villas:** Myrna Barkley, Don Jessiman, Marg Lovstrom  
**Victoria Landing:** Al & Helen Lauder, Fred Miller,  
 Pat Rathwell, Marg Speers

**Sunshine & Music**

A laugh is just like sunshine,  
 It freshens all the day,  
 It tips the peak of life with  
 light  
 And drives the clouds away.  
 The soul grows glad that hear  
 it  
 And feels it courage strong,  
 A laugh is just like sunshine  
 For cheering folks along.

A laugh is just like music,  
 It lingers in the heart,  
 And where its melody is heard  
 The ills of life depart;  
 And happy thoughts come  
 crowding,  
 Its joyful notes to greet:  
 A laugh is just like music  
 For making living sweet.  
 Unknown



**Trinitopics & Church Announcements**  
 The newsletter is prepared every 2nd week  
 Delivery is being made to all non email  
**The next issue will be June 8th, 2023**  
 darlynnegbsmith@gmail.com  
 204-728-7713 @ home ~ 204-724-2923 @ cell  
 'May God hold you in the palm of His Hand'