



# Trinity Happenings

To be a compassionate, inclusive, and joyful faith community



## Minister's Message

I just wrapped up a summer sermon series on "We Are the Church." I hope you were able to take some time to reflect on what that means to you. We all have our different reasons for participating in the church, but at the core we are here to develop and live out our faith in God through the teachings of Jesus.

The great thing about Trinity is that we are free to explore our faith as we choose and come to our own understanding. That is not the case in all Christian Churches. At Trinity you are encouraged to live in the wonder and mystery that is God. When we open ourselves up to the Spirit, God will meet us where we are and point us on the right path.

Though our faith is meant to be fluid and personal, that doesn't mean that belonging to a church comes without some expectations. As members of a church community there is an expectation that you will participate to the best of your ability. Whether that is through volunteering, donations, participation on Sundays or at events, Trinity relies on your support. The moral intentions of mercy, kindness, justice, love of all and forgiveness should underly all we do. There is an understanding that we will support one another as best we can. Being part of a church community is not about you...but about US. Faith is personal. Living out faith is communal.

May Trinity continue to be a safe place to grow and live out our faith with one another.

Blessings,

Carol-Ann



# The Life of Trinity

## UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

September 7	Creation
September 14	Trusting God to do the right thing
September 21	The Promises of God
September 28	Guest Speaker Lynda Nicholson (Partridge) – Day of Truth and Reconciliation

## Weekly Church Life

Prayer and Meditation: Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel. **CANCELLED** for Monday, Sept. 1. Meeting will be at Kylie and David's house (355 Fairview Drive) followed by coffee and fellowship.

Study Group: Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Social Time at Sawdust 3 p.m. **First meeting will be on Thursday, September 11.** New book is Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human Understanding and Christian Maturity by Ronald Rolhauser. Speak to Nancy Jamieson for more information.

## Other Events this Month

Prayer Shawl Ministry: the first and third Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Sanctuary Ministry: Wednesday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Bazaar Committee: Wednesday, September 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Worship Ministry: Thursday, September 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Potluck Supper: Thursday, September 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

## Carol-Ann's Upcoming Schedule

**Please Note that Friday and Saturday are Carol-Ann's regular days off and she is available for urgent matters or scheduled events only.**



## Community Connections

### Weekly What's Happening

G.A.P. Food Distribution: Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Elderberries Choir: Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

G.A.P. Coffee Hour: Wednesdays from 12 p.m. til 2 p.m. Join the community for a cup of tea or coffee, light lunch, and a chance to meet some new people.

YWCA Circles South Muskoka: Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. and Fridays at 12:00 p.m.

Al Truistic's Beer Bread Bakery: Wednesday mornings (as needed to package their product)

Alzheimer's Society Drop-In: Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

### Special Upcoming Concerts:

Robert Maciag in Concert:

Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. Robert came last fall and thrilled the audience with a huge repertoire covering material from 60's and 70's singer/songwriters to more current classic rock, country, jazz and originals all presented with a unique flare, humour and punctuated with solid finger style acoustic guitar. Admission by donation.



## Stewardship

### Insight into Trinity Expenses

Some of the bills from August:

Elevator Maintenance Charge (yearly):	\$878.29
Garbage Removal (monthly):	\$335.45
Hydro Bill (monthly):	\$363.00

Nobody loves paying the bills, but they are a necessary part of running a church.  
Thank you for your ongoing support!

### How to Support Trinity Financially

Regular donations are the best way for Trinity to meet its monthly financial commitments. Some of the ways you can do this are:

**PAR:** Pre-Authorized Remittance. Monthly contributions are withdrawn through automatic debit. Please contact the office to set this up.

**E-Transfer:** Please send all e-transfers to [trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com](mailto:trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com).

**Canada Helps:** Go on-line and make monthly donations using a credit card. (Can also be used for one-time donations) <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119271245RR0001-trinity-united-church/>

**Cheques:** Consider post-dated cheques for the year, to ensure your regular donation.

**Envelopes:** Put donations in your weekly envelopes and drop them off when you come to church. Please contact the office to obtain specially numbered and labelled weekly envelopes for 2024. If you already have envelopes, the 2024 envelopes are available in the Narthex.

**\$100 for the 100<sup>th</sup>** Long time member of Trinity, Irene Turney, would like to challenge all members to donate an extra \$100.00 in honour of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. If you wish to make such a donation, please note on your donations, “100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” so that we can keep track. Thank you for your support!

**Thank you to everyone who has supported the church through their time and talent. We are grateful for all that you offer to the life of this community.**





## Who's Who at Trinity

### Diane Harrop



I grew up in Ancaster back when it was village and we spent the days outside, out of our parent's hair. Luckily, I had one set of grandparents with a farm and another with a cottage so this small town girl learned to appreciate life on a tractor as well as on a dock.

I loved the independence of being at McMaster University and when my father was transferred to France with International Harvester, I also benefited from a year at Université de Grenoble, where I switched my degree from Honours English to French. France has been my second home ever since and I return to enjoy its beauty frequently.

After graduation I began teaching at a little eight-room school in Millbrook, where all the teachers wore many hats and willingly did whatever was needed to help out. I have always felt my best initiative was to create a Life Skills class so I could then send students out to co-

op positions. It helped many students stay in school and directed others to their career choices.

After my marriage ended, I threw my resumé to the wind and ended up in a school for the gifted in Oakville. I had never taught elementary students and was nervous, but they were so eager that I quickly learned to love them. Here I developed a grade 8 French course for those who had left immersion to go into the gifted program that would allow them to skip grade 9 if they passed the exam and go straight to grade 10 immersion. They worked hard and all of them went straight to grade 10. From there I moved on to a 7- OAC French Immersion school in Bronte. Somewhere along the line I took up Tae Kwon-do, learned to quilt and joined a marching band before moving to Gravenhurst High as Department Head of Languages. Each of these very different schools was interesting, challenging and extremely rewarding to someone like me who can't sit still.

Gravenhurst is a wonderful town, full of possibility and people who love to get involved. One day when I was visiting Stratford, Ontario, I came across a display of quilts that were being auctioned to raise money to fight breast cancer. I took the idea home, bought fabric, cut up and bagged the pieces with instructions and then looked for sewers. They were easy to find and I ended up working with Carol Black from Trinity to coordinate our community breast cancer quilt. We continued to work together for the next couple of years until the project came to an end at the executive level. Ours were the only true community quilts ever submitted with dozens of Gravenhurst sewers, male and female, participating.



Another coup for Gravenhurst came when I was forwarded what seemed to be a random email from France. It had been written by a woman who was in possession of a WW1 quilt on which was clearly embroidered, "Town of Gravenhurst 1914"! Somehow, it had survived the war and had been kept safe by her great grandmother, grandmother and then her father. It was his deathbed wish that she repatriate it. This was the beginning of an exciting adventure that had me travel to France to meet Nicole and then work with some fabulous people at home to have the quilt preserved and displayed in our Town Offices. I was even interviewed by the CBC and the local Barrie TV station. The story still gives me goosebumps when I think how slim the chances were that we would learn of this quilt's existence. It's truly the proverbial needle in a haystack, (and it's our needle)!

Sometime around 2006 I became the Chair of the Muskoka Concert Association and spent the next several years negotiating with musicians and learning all the ins and outs of organizing concerts, never losing sight of the bottom line and what contributes to or hinders success. It was exciting, exhausting and quite a learning curve. Now, I enjoy putting on concerts at Trinity, a much more relaxed endeavour that also brings new people into our church.

Life is good when it's filled with friends and music. I have found a beautiful circle of great friends here, a true family that greet me with warm smiles every time I see them. And, whether it's in the audience of a concert or seated in the Horn section of a band or singing with the Elderberries or the Church choir, even stumbling over the ukulele strings, music plays in my heart and soul. Lucky me to have found everything good here in Trinity and Gravenhurst!

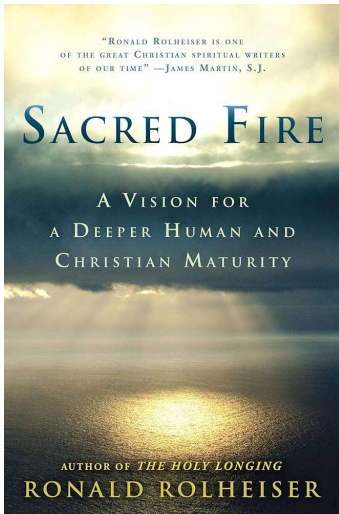
## Prayer Requests



Each Monday to conclude our Prayer and Meditation, we lift up prayers for the community. If you have something you would like us to pray for, please send your prayer requests to Courtney at [trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com](mailto:trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com), or leave them in the collection plate.



## Study Group



### Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity, by Ronald Rolheiser.

This is our new book for Study Group, which starts back on Thursday, September 11 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, followed by a social time at Sawdust City. Please join us as we discuss this book, which talks about how embracing discipleship will lead to new heights of Spiritual awareness and maturity. The book is available on Amazon for \$13.99 Cdn. For more information about Study Group, please speak with Nancy Jamieson.

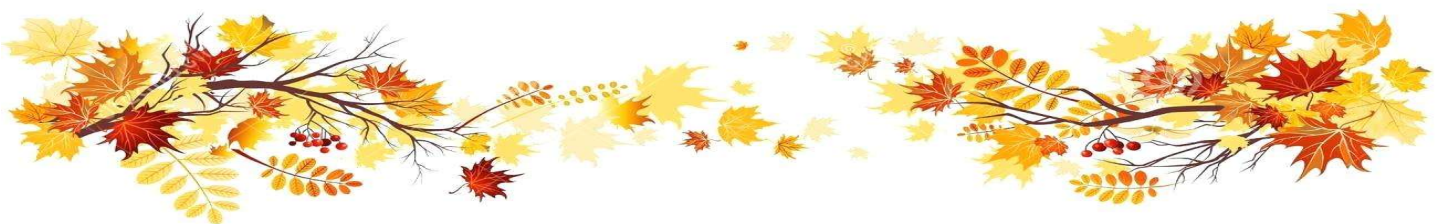
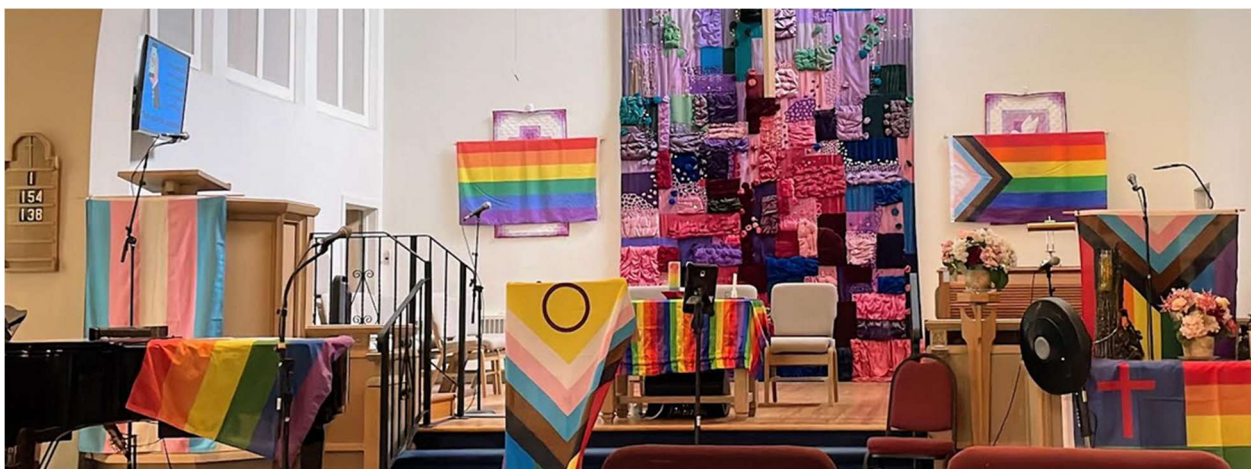
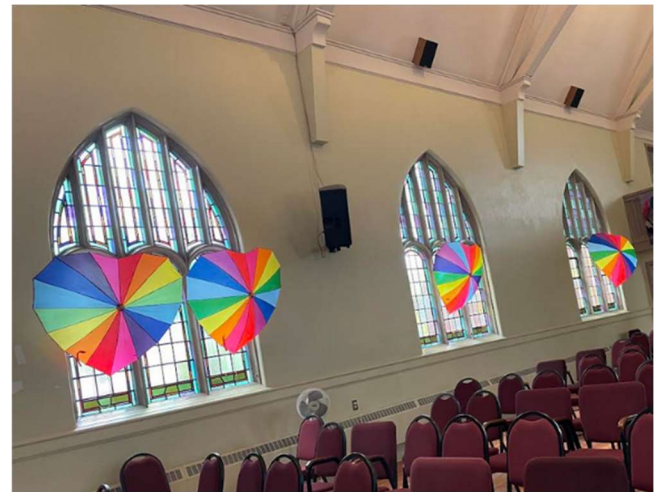




## Affirm/Social Justice



July was a busy month for the Affirm/Social Justice Ministry. Trinity hosted the Muskoka Pride church service on July 20th. It was a wonderful service with a number of speakers, amazing music, and a loving welcoming message to all. On July 27th members of the congregation participated in the Muskoka Pride Parade held in Bracebridge. It was a loud and proud fun filled day!!





## Upcoming Affirm/Social Justice Events



In upcoming events the church will be celebrating National Truth and Reconciliation Day on **Sunday, September 28**. Lynda (Partridge) Nicholson will be attending the service as a guest speaker.

Lynda is a member of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. She grew up in the child welfare system and spent her childhood in numerous non-Indigenous foster homes. At a later age she obtained an honours Bachelor of Social Work (Native Human Services), followed by a Masters of Social Work Degree. It was while obtaining her undergraduate degree that she found her birth family and reconnected to her Indigenous culture.

She will be speaking about The Sixties Scoop which saw thousands of Indigenous children taken from their families and placed in non-Indigenous homes, causing lasting impacts on identity and culture. Lynda will share her story and reflections on this important history.



**Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> is Orange Shirt Day. Please remember to wear an orange shirt to church on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> if you can!**





Trinity United Church Presents

## **ROBERT**MACIAG

in Concert

**Thursday, September 25, 7 p.m.**

Robert boasts a huge repertoire covering material from 60's and 70's singer/songwriters to more current classic rock, country, jazz and originals all presented with a unique flare, humour and punctuated with solid finger style acoustic guitar. Come out and enjoy an evening of your favourite cover tunes, original compositions, musical stories and lots of good fun!

**Entry by Donation**

Trinity United Church  
290 Muskoka Road North  
Gravenhurst  
[www.trinityunitedgravenhurst.ca](http://www.trinityunitedgravenhurst.ca)

# Potluck *Supper*

Bring what you can.

If for any reason you don't have something to bring, please don't let that stop you.

Bringing your own plates and cutlery is welcomed.

Donations are welcomed.

Our primary goal is to have a social time, and an opportunity to get to know one another better. We hope to see you there!



Thursday,  
September 18, 2025   Trinity United Church  
Auditorium  
6:00 p.m.

More Info : [trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com](mailto:trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com)

