



Trinity Happenings

To be a compassionate, inclusive, and joyful faith community



Minister's Message

When the Blue Jays were playing in the World Series, I noticed that one of the players had written on his cap: "Isaiah 41:10." So, I looked up the verse, and this is what it says:

*Do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.*

At first glance, you might see the word *victorious* and think, "Well, the Blue Jays lost, so that didn't help much!" But it reminded me that *victory* and *winning* can look very different depending on how we define them.

The Blue Jays didn't take home the title of World Series champions, but they still achieved something remarkable. For more than a week, people from across this nation were unified in the hope of bringing the World Series title back to Canada. When the team played in Los Angeles, thousands of devoted fans filled the Rogers Centre to cheer them on from afar. In Toronto, millions joined in the stadium, in homes, in the street and wherever the game was broadcast to support our team. In those moments, people from all walks of life shared in the same excitement, hope, and sense of belonging.

That's a kind of victory too — the victory of community, unity, and joy.

Isaiah's words invite us to see God's hand not just in our triumphs, but in our perseverance, our togetherness, and our faith that carries us through both wins and losses. God's "victorious right hand" doesn't just lift the winners of the game — it upholds *all of us*, strengthening us in moments of challenge and reminding us that we are never alone.

May we enter this month with grateful hearts, encouraged by God's promise: *Do not fear, for I am with you.*

Blessings,

Carol-Ann



The Life of Trinity

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

November 9	Remembrance Day Service, Guest Speaker Audrey Smith
November 16	Mostly Music Service, Celebrating the Gift of Music
November 23	GAP Day, A Special Day to acknowledge the work of GAP
November 30	Avent I: Communion, blessing with Frankincense

We are also looking for volunteers for upcoming Christmas services. See details on Page 7

Weekly Church Life

Prayer and Meditation: Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

Study Group: Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Social Time at Sawdust 3 p.m.
New book is **Christianity: The Gospel of Paul Versus the Gospel of Jesus** by
Rev. Gert Janse Van Rensburg.
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.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, November 22 from 9:30 am til 2:00 pm all over the church. Lots of baked goods, crafts, books, games, etc. Come and shop and have lunch too! Traditional Luncheon \$9, kid's luncheon \$5. **NEW THIS YEAR:** we accept DEBIT!

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.

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

Special Upcoming Concerts/Events:

Movie Night: A Screening of the Documentary 1946: the Mistranslation that Shifted Culture

- **Date:** Sunday November 9, 2025
- **Time:** 3:00pm–5:00pm

1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. Join Trinity's Affirm/Social Justice Ministry to view the film and join us for pizza and conversation afterwards. For more information contact Kylie Humphreys at kyliejanehumphreys@gmail.com



Stewardship

Insight into Trinity Expenses

Some of our bills from October:

Phone Bill (service and equipment rental)	\$459.85
United Church of Canada Dues (monthly)	\$670.09
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.

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.

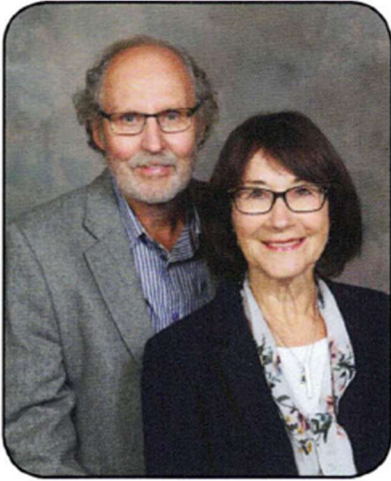
\$100 for the 100th Long time member of Trinity, Irene Turney, would like to challenge all members to donate an extra \$100.00 in honour of the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. If you wish to make such a donation, please note on your donations, “100th Anniversary” so that we can keep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

Tom Irvine



I was born and raised in Niagara Falls, Ontario. My mother, Rhoda worked at Oneida Silver and lived in Queenston before marrying my father Harry, a WWII US Army veteran who worked at the Carborundum In Niagara Falls N.Y. They were wonderful parents and role models. I have a younger brother Phil and sister Carol. I went to school in Niagara Falls and played on NFCVI football, basketball and track teams.

I had paper routes from an early age to earn my spending money. In high school I had an after school and summer job with a sign painter and in late high school and university I worked for the Niagara Parks Commission in different jobs including labourer for the Stone Masons gang, truck driver for the carpenters gang and one summer worked on the back of a garbage truck.

I grew up fishing the lower Niagara River and other local waters with my Dad and was allowed to go anywhere on my bike at an early age as long as I was going fishing –even the Maid of the Mist shoreline ---I could never understand in early public school why some of my friends weren't allowed to go with me!!

We, as a family, always went to Church (Kitchener Street United) on Sundays and a plaque with the 23rd Psalm was on my bedroom wall. Family drives and visits on Sunday afternoon were the norm.

I went to The University of Western Ontario (UWO) in Honours Biology in 1967 and met Joanne, who was in Secretarial Science, in our second year. I continued into Medicine and Joanne and I married in 1972 (4th year of Medicine). We hitchhiked for a month through Europe on our honeymoon before spending 2 months in Glasgow Scotland where I did an Obstetrics and Internal Medicine elective and Joanne worked in an Architect's office to give us enough money for weekend bus trips.

We moved to Gravenhurst in 1975 and have been here since. We have three great children: Laura, who now lives with her husband, Ken and their family in Halifax, Jill, who lives with her husband, Greg and their family in Toronto, and Paul who was tragically killed in an accident when he was 19 years old but lives on in my heart and soul. All of us attended Trinity United. I taught Sunday school and was involved in various committees and the board. At present I am on the Christian Resource Planning Committee and the Council, and my main task has been securing grant money for our projects.

I practiced Family Medicine and Nursing Home Medicine from 1975 until I fully retired in 2017. I had hospital privileges, worked emergency department shifts for 20 of those years and had a large nursing home practice and also worked at both Muskoka Center and Huronia Regional Center until each closed.

Fishing has always been and continues to be a very important part of my life since I was a kid.

I fish mainly recreationally but have fished competitively for 25 years as well, having been on a number of Canadian Fly-Fishing teams in World, Commonwealth and National Fishing Championships.

I am presently on the Zone 15 Fisheries Advisory Council to contribute to the sport. I did work as a part-time fly-fishing guide and instructor for a few years after retirement but now I just give tips and instruction to friends.

I am primarily a fly fisher, and I am most at peace when I am fly fishing. Bob Sherwin – one of our past ministers said I could even fish Sunday mornings if there was a trout on his doorstep when he came home from Church.

Hunting was also a family tradition, and I continue to hunt pheasants at Tiny Marsh with a friend and his pointing dog.

Art has also been a part of my life for many years and when my mind settles into artistic mode I do some acrylic painting.

My family continues to be foremost in my life, and we now have 6 wonderful grandchildren: Kyle, Emma, Chase and Julie who are Laura and Ken's children and Tyler and Cohen who are Jill and Greg's children. I love every one of them with all my heart.

Our Church and my relationships with people connected to it are very important to me. Spirituality and my relationship with God are part of my daily life. I think broadly and hope that someday all religions and other Christian denominations will be able to overcome what appears to divide us.

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, or leave them in the collection plate.



Advent and Christmas Service Volunteers Wanted

Advent Wreath Candle Lighters

2 people needed each week of Advent to read and light the Advent Wreath (Nov 30, Dec 7, 14 & 21)

Share your Nativity

Do you have a Nativity set that holds a special place in your heart?

Each week during Advent, Carol-Ann will invite one or more individuals to share their Nativity scene — either by bringing it in or showing a photo.

We'd love to hear the brief story behind it — where it came from, what makes it meaningful to you, or any special family memories it carries.

If you'd like to participate, please speak with Carol-Ann to arrange your week, or email her at carolanntrinityuc@gmail.com

Christmas Eve: 7p.m.

5 people needed to bring forward the characters to the Nativity (this can be anyone, but if you know that a child or grandchild is visiting, please consider asking them if they'd like to participate.)



TRINITY UNITED

Christmas

BAZAAR

NOVEMBER 22

9:30AM TO 2:00PM

- White Elephant Room
- Jewellery & Accessories
- Books/Puzzles/Games
- Hand Made Cards
- Hand crafted items

- Deli Table
- Art Gallery
- Bake Table
- Trinity Table
- Christmas Art Craft

Luncheon
Traditional Luncheon \$9.00
Children 12 & Under Hot Dog, juice & Dessert \$5.00

Coffee Hour: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Coffee Only \$2.00

290 MUSKOKA ROAD NORTH GRAVENHURST
WWW.TRINITYUNITEDGRAVENHURST.CA

The poster features a festive design with a red ribbon banner for the date and time, surrounded by illustrations of oranges, cinnamon sticks, and holly leaves. The text is arranged in a clear, organized manner, with the event name and date prominently displayed at the top.

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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER
9, 2025
AT 3:00 PM**

**Trinity United Church
290 Muskoka Rd. N.**

**TRINITY UNITED
CHURCH**

presents

**G.A.P.
SUNDAY**



Trinity United is proud to be the home of Gravenhurst Against Poverty and we would like to extend a special invitation to the GAP volunteers to join the Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. and for refreshments afterwards. Executive Director Peter Stolpmann will speak briefly about his role and update us on some of the GAP initiatives.

Please wear your green shirts.

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

10:30AM

**290 Muskoka Road North
Gravenhurst**

