



Trinity Happenings

To be a compassionate, inclusive, and joyful faith community



Minister's Message

New Year, New Beginnings

As we step into a new year, many of us do so with a mixture of hope, uncertainty, gratitude, and perhaps even weariness. January has a way of inviting us to pause—to take a breath—and to look both backward and forward at the same time. In the quiet after the holidays, we are given a sacred opportunity to reflect on the year that has passed and to imagine what might be possible in the year ahead.

Reflection is not about judgment or regret. It is about honesty and compassion. As we look back, we may recognize moments when we fell short—times when we spoke too quickly, listened too little, or chose comfort over courage. We may acknowledge decisions we wish we had made differently, relationships that feel strained, or opportunities we let pass by. Yet within each of these moments is also wisdom. Our mistakes can be teachers if we allow them to be, showing us what truly matters and where growth is calling us.

The New Year offers us something deeply hopeful: the chance to begin again. Not because the calendar demands it, but because God's grace is always inviting renewal. Every sunrise is a reminder that change is possible, that healing can unfold slowly and faithfully, and that we are never finished becoming who we are meant to be.

Faith is not about perfection, but about transformation. It is about choosing love again and again—love for ourselves, for our neighbors, and for a world that is longing for justice and compassion. This year, perhaps our "resolutions" are less about self-improvement and more about deeper connection: practicing kindness, extending grace, telling the truth, and showing up with courage and humility.

As we move forward together into this new year, may we do so gently. May we carry forward the lessons we've learned, release what no longer serves us, and remain open to where God's Spirit is still at work among us. New beginnings do not erase the past, but they do remind us that hope is always present—and that together, we can continue becoming a community rooted in love, justice, and grace.

Faithfully yours,

Carol-Ann



The Life of Trinity

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

January 18	Tables are Turned
January 25	A Spiritual Re-birth into light and love
February 1	Living Water
February 8	Healing

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. They will be starting a new book; **God Has a Dream** by Desmond Tutu on January 22. Speak to Nancy Jamieson for more information.

Other Events this Month

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Spaghetti Lunch and Games: Saturday, February 7 at 12:00 p.m. Come, bring a friend and fill your afternoon with a great meal and some games and social time! Sign up in the Narthex so we know how much food we need. Pay what you can (we suggest \$10).

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Stewardship

2025 Year End Financials

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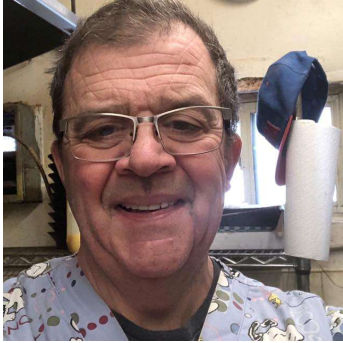
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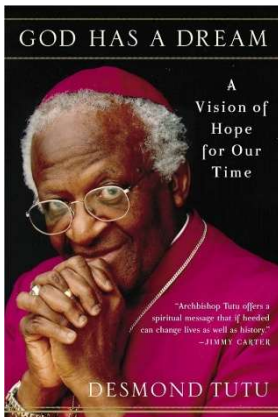
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On Tuesdays, neighbours can visit GAP to pick up additional food and essentials—and enjoy a warm meal. Some stay to eat together at GAP 🍌, while others take their meals home. Either way, the care and connection are felt.

Lynne is a very active volunteer in the Gravenhurst community, and her work at GAP is deeply important to her. She understands how vital this support is for individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet—and how access to good nutrition helps raise healthy children 🍎👶.

As someone who has volunteered since the early days of GAP, Lynne has seen just how far the organization has come and is proud

of how GAP continues to grow and expand support for neighbours in need.

In Lynne's own words:


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where: Trinity United Auditorium

cost: Pay what you can (\$10 suggested)





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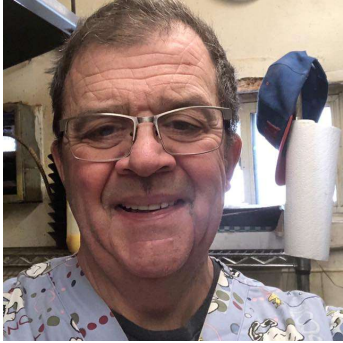
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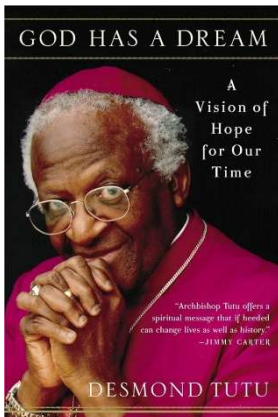
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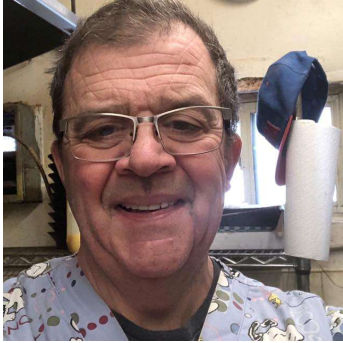
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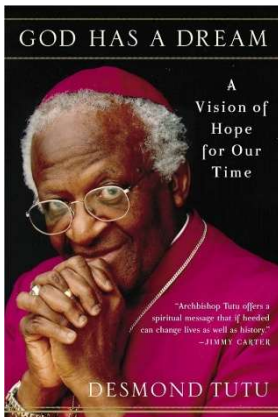
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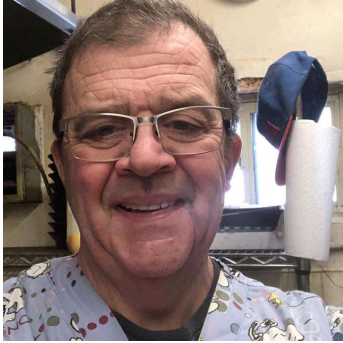
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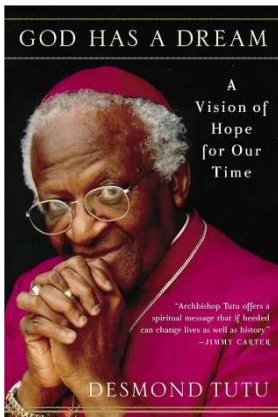
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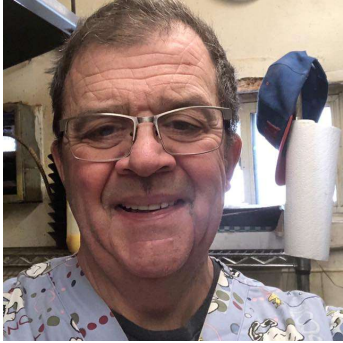
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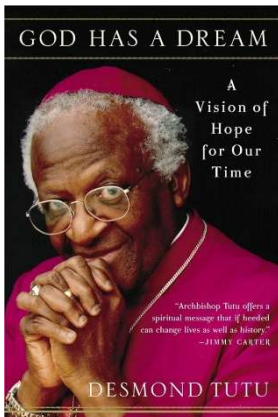
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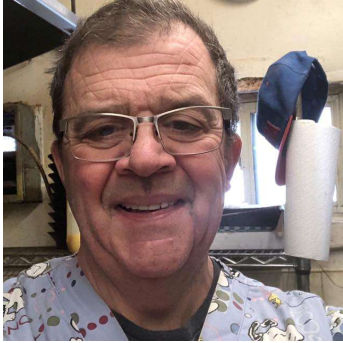
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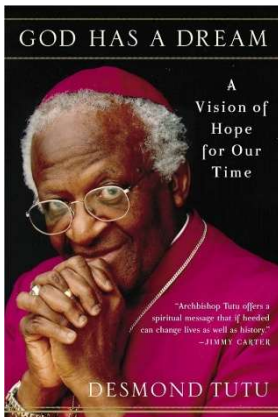
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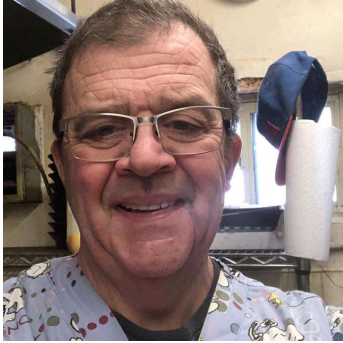
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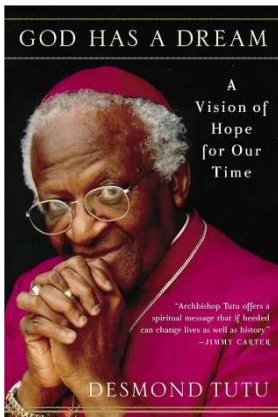
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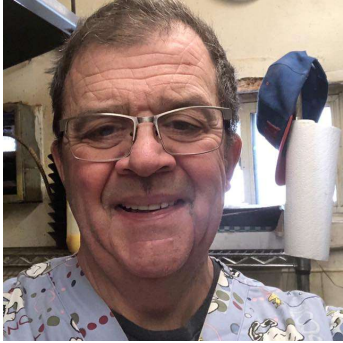
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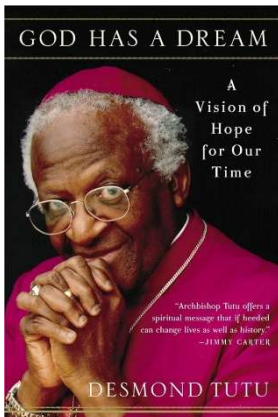
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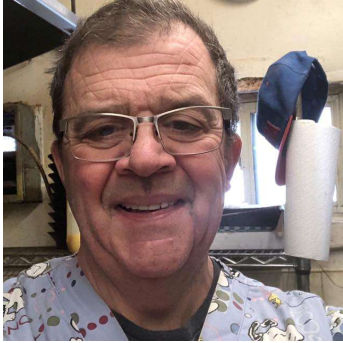
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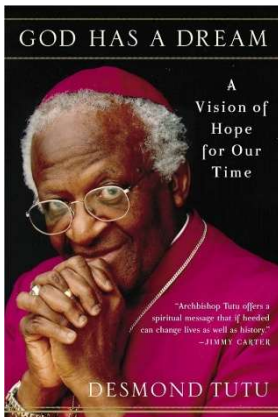
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As we step into a new year, many of us do so with a mixture of hope, uncertainty, gratitude, and perhaps even weariness. January has a way of inviting us to pause—to take a breath—and to look both backward and forward at the same time. In the quiet after the holidays, we are given a sacred opportunity to reflect on the year that has passed and to imagine what might be possible in the year ahead.

Reflection is not about judgment or regret. It is about honesty and compassion. As we look back, we may recognize moments when we fell short—times when we spoke too quickly, listened too little, or chose comfort over courage. We may acknowledge decisions we wish we had made differently, relationships that feel strained, or opportunities we let pass by. Yet within each of these moments is also wisdom. Our mistakes can be teachers if we allow them to be, showing us what truly matters and where growth is calling us.

The New Year offers us something deeply hopeful: the chance to begin again. Not because the calendar demands it, but because God's grace is always inviting renewal. Every sunrise is a reminder that change is possible, that healing can unfold slowly and faithfully, and that we are never finished becoming who we are meant to be.

Faith is not about perfection, but about transformation. It is about choosing love again and again—love for ourselves, for our neighbors, and for a world that is longing for justice and compassion. This year, perhaps our "resolutions" are less about self-improvement and more about deeper connection: practicing kindness, extending grace, telling the truth, and showing up with courage and humility.

As we move forward together into this new year, may we do so gently. May we carry forward the lessons we've learned, release what no longer serves us, and remain open to where God's Spirit is still at work among us. New beginnings do not erase the past, but they do remind us that hope is always present—and that together, we can continue becoming a community rooted in love, justice, and grace.

Faithfully yours,

Carol-Ann



The Life of Trinity

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

January 18	Tables are Turned
January 25	A Spiritual Re-birth into light and love
February 1	Living Water
February 8	Healing

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. They will be starting a new book; **God Has a Dream** by Desmond Tutu on January 22. 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.

Potluck Supper: Thursday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Spaghetti Lunch and Games: Saturday, February 7 at 12:00 p.m. Come, bring a friend and fill your afternoon with a great meal and some games and social time! Sign up in the Narthex so we know how much food we need. Pay what you can (we suggest \$10).

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.



Stewardship

2025 Year End Financials

Income January to December 2025	\$235,888.70
Expenses January to December 2025	\$238,213.89
Total Profit/Loss	\$-2,325.19

We are still in the red, but we ended the year much better than we thought we were going to. Thank you all for your contributions to keeping the church running!
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.

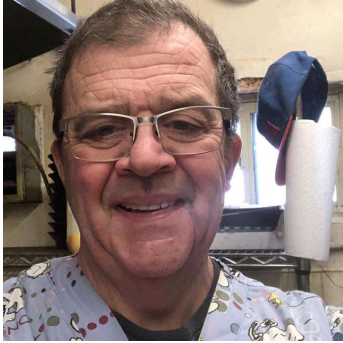
Envelopes: Put donations in your weekly envelopes and drop them off when you come to church. Please contact the office to obtain specially numbered and labelled weekly envelopes for 2024. If you already have envelopes, the 2024 envelopes are available in the Narthex.

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

Kevin Fitchett



Kevin was born in Orillia and raised in a small farming community called Ruby. He worked on farms as a young man and in 1986, he joined the Canadian Coast Guard and worked for them until the early '90's. He was a PSW for 30 years and is also a trained chef.

In 1983, Kevin went to South America for the summer to work on a project. He started coming to Trinity United a couple of years ago, and in November he became our Custodian. Welcome, Kevin!

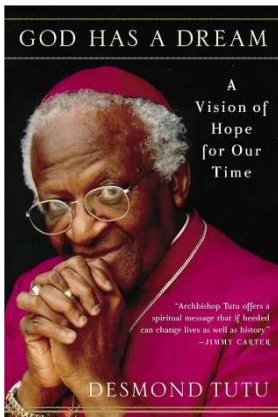
Prayer Requests



Carol-Ann is updating her prayer list for 2026. If you would like someone to remain, be added, or be removed from this list, please send her a message via carolannttrinityuc@gmail.com, or drop a note in the collection plate. Thanks.

Study Group

God Has a Dream by Desmond Tutu



On Thursday, January 22, the Study Group will be starting with this book. Desmond Tutu expands on his own experiences and attempts to show readers of all religions that individual and global suffering can be transformed into joy and redemption. The book is available on Amazon for \$22.00. If you have any questions and/or would like to join the group in discussion on this book, please contact Nancy Jamieson.



G.A.P.



Coldest Night of the Year

February 28, 2026, Coldest Night of the Year event is quickly approaching! This is a main fundraiser that Gravenhurst Against Poverty relies upon to help support our Gravenhurst community. This year Team "Trinity Trotters" is back up and walking. If you are interested in joining the team, you can find the information on the CNOY website under Trinity Trotters, Linda Burton Team Leader. The other way your support can be offered is by sponsoring our team, or an individual team walker, through the CNOY website, <https://en.cnoy.org/location/gravenhurst>. Your help is appreciated.



Food Donation Basket

For those of you who would like to help G.A.P. to supply food to the community, please note there is a basket in the Narthex for food donations. Any donations of canned goods, pasta, nut-free school snacks or other non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated. They are distributed by G.A.P. with the weekly food baskets they give to those in need. Please bring in some items and leave them in the basket if you are able.



Who's Who at G.A.P.

Lynne Briden



Lynne began volunteering at GAP as one of our dedicated drivers, delivering Thursday food hampers to neighbours across the community 🚗📦. Today, she's sharing her wonderful culinary talents by leading our Tuesday kitchen team, preparing a fresh, nourishing meal for nearly 100 neighbours each week 🍲✨.

On Tuesdays, neighbours can visit GAP to pick up additional food and essentials—and enjoy a warm meal. Some stay to eat together at GAP 🍌, while others take their meals home. Either way, the care and connection are felt.

Lynne is a very active volunteer in the Gravenhurst community, and her work at GAP is deeply important to her. She understands how vital this support is for individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet—and how access to good nutrition helps raise healthy children 🍏👶.

As someone who has volunteered since the early days of GAP, Lynne has seen just how far the organization has come and is proud

of how GAP continues to grow and expand support for neighbours in need.

In Lynne's own words:


💬 “I started as a driver delivering in the community, and now I volunteer in the kitchen on Tuesdays. I volunteer to help those who need help and to support the community. GAP helps families who are struggling to make ends meet—and I don't want to see children going without food or having health issues. GAP has come a long, long way and is growing more every day.”



Thank you, Lynne, for your compassion, leadership, and unwavering commitment 🍏



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,
January 22, 2026**   **Trinity United Church
Auditorium**
6:00 p.m.
More Info: trinityunitedgravenhurst@gmail.com



Food and Frivolity at Trinity!

Come and join us for a Spaghetti lunch and board games. Bring a friend and while away a frosty February afternoon! Please sign up in the Narthex if you wish to attend.

when: Saturday, February 7th at 12 pm

where: Trinity United Auditorium

cost: Pay what you can (\$10 suggested)

