

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
New Hamburg, Ontario

2010

Bulletin of Annual Reports



Annual Congregational Meeting
February 13, 2011

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
New Hamburg, Ontario

✝ Minutes ~ Annual Congregational Meeting ~ February 14, 2010

	Bulletin page (s)
Call to Order (Lori Arnott)	
1. Opening Prayer (Anne Anderson)	
Hymn 641 — All Are Welcome	
2. Approval of Agenda	
M. Robert Bender, S. Scott Malloch to approve the agenda as circulated/revised. Carried.	
3. Minutes of February 8 th , and June 21 st , 2009, meetings	1-4
M. Cy Ridout, S. Nancy Dale to accept the February 8 th Minutes as published. Carried.	
M. Larry Keller, S. Don Jardin to accept the June 21 st Minutes as published. Carried.	
4. Report of the President of Trinity Lutheran Church	5
M. Darrin Gueguen, S. Pat Ruthig to accept the President's Report as presented. Carried.	
5. Pastor's Report	5-11
Parochial Report	
M. Mike Gascon, S. Kathy Bender to accept the Pastor's Reports as presented. Carried.	
6. Reports & Information from Council	
Mutual Ministry	16
Witness & Outreach / Service	18
Worship	19-20
Property & Maintenance	21
Nurturing Faith - Children and Youth / Adults	
<i>Including Faith Adventures, Cradle Roll, Affirmation Ministry, Adult Learning, Faith in Film...</i>	22-23
Congregational Life <i>including Trinity Prayer Circle, Trinity Shepherds, Trinity Quilters, Gentle Friends Readers...</i>	24-15
Stewardship Task Group	off-white 1
M. Lyla Wettlaufer, S. Darrin Gueguen to accept the Reports from Council as presented. Carried.	
7. Reports of Auxiliaries	
Junior & Senior TYGers — included in Pastor Anne's report	
Youth Presentation to the Congregation	
ELW <i>including Treasurer's Report & Seminary Women's Auxiliary...</i>	26-27
Priscilla Group	28
M. Reta Ridout, S. Anne Hammer to accept the Auxiliary Reports as presented. Carried.	
8. Approval of 2009 Financial Statements	off-white 2-7

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Finance Report
Auditors' Statement

off-white 1
addendum

Rick Ritz presented 2009 Financial Statements.

M. Rick Ritz, S. Kathy Bender to accept the Year 2009 Financial Statements as presented. Carried.

M. Rick Ritz, S. Larry Keller, that the Congregational Council be authorized to appoint the the auditor for the 2010 fiscal year. Carried.

9. Elections and Appointments

A. Election of Congregational Council Members

*Nominated: Pat Schmetzer, Rick Ritz, Larry Gravill, Doug Miller
Chris Normandeau, Cy Ridout and Heidi Ziegler. Acclaimed.*

B. Election of Trinity Endowment Fund Committee Member (3-year term)

Nominated: Mike Gascon (to join Dave Buehlow & Neil Klaassen) Acclaimed.

C. Confirmation of Appointment of Treasurer: Bob Ruthig

M. Ernie Ritz, S. Don Jardin, to confirm the appointment of Bob Ruthig as Treasurer. Carried.

D. Confirmation of Appointment of Financial Secretary: Laurie Clarke

M. Mike Gascon, S. Nancy Dale to confirm the appointment of Laurie Clarke as Financial Secretary. Carried.

10. Pastor André's Ministry Proposal

Discussion followed.

The motion before the house (placed by Council) is as follows: that the Congregation approves the national church proposal and authorizes Council to proceed. Vote. Carried.

11. Confirmation of 2010 Endowment Fund Distribution

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Rick Ritz presented list of 2010 Endowment Fund Projects

It is placed before the Congregation by Council.

Vote to confirm the 2010 Endowment Fund Expenditures. Carried.

12. Approval of 2010 Program Budget

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Rick Ritz presented 2010 Program Budget

It is placed before the Congregation by Council.

Vote to accept the Year 2010 Program Budget. Carried.

13. Other Business

Nothing was added.

14. Information

Installation of Council & Officers: February 21st, 9:30 am

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday February 17th, 8 pm (third Wednesday)

Other Information

15. Adjournment

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M. André Lavergne, S. Mike Gascon. Carried.

16. Closing Prayer (André Lavergne)

Hymn 546 — To Be Your Presence

*Krista Durrer,
Secretary, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Secretary, Trinity Council*

✚ Faithful Journey ~ Soup, Sandwich, Sermon & Song.

Trinity will participate in the annual *Soup, Sandwich, Sermon and Song* series held Wednesdays during Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 9. This year's theme is The Story of Jesus. Trinity and St. George's Anglican will jointly host the March 16 devotions and lunch. Father Jesse Dymond and Pastor Anne will be on-deck. Pat Schmetzer and friends will co-ordinate the lunch effort. We gather at Zion United Church on Peel Street at noon. A free-will offering supports the work of the Canadian Bible Society.

✚ Faithful Journey ~ Luther Hostel "East" 2011

This year, Luther Hostel 2011 will take place in Bridgewater Nova Scotia, June 1-5, under the theme "Lutheran: What's Next?" What's it mean to be a 21st century, Canadian Lutheran? Through this year's theme discussions, our presenters will help us grapple with what it means to be Lutheran Christians in contexts which deeply challenge our historic identity. What does it mean to be Lutheran today? Do we have anything to offer to the wider community? How are we to understand our current crisis? What sorts of leadership are being called forth to help us respond to the current challenges? These are just some of the conversations we will have as we learn and reflect together.

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Robert Kelly: **We're from Away: The Lutheran Experience in Canada.** Many Lutherans first arrived in Canada as non-English-speaking immigrants. How has that history both enriched and challenged us? How might we communicate our unique, Lutheran understanding of the Gospel in multi-cultural, multi-religious Canada in the 21st century?

Dr. David Pfrimmer: **The Evangelical Lutheran Crisis in Canada.** Crisis is both a time of challenge and opportunity. As churches face ever new challenges in the Canadian and global context, what are the challenges facing the ELCIC? And in the light of the challenges, what are the missional opportunities to reclaim what it means to be evangelical in a post-modern and post-Christendom time for a Canadian church.

Dr. Kristine Lund: **Leading for Tomorrow: What's Next?** We are living in a time when our understanding of individual and corporate faith is rapidly changing, a time which may be calling forth a fundamental, re-envisioning of what it means to be the church. How do we discern where the Spirit is calling us? What sort of leaders do we need to help us in that work? In this presentation we will explore such questions.

More info? Visit www.seminary.wlu.ca/lutherhostel

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✚ President's Report ~ Larry Gravill

This has been an eventful year that has seen our Trinity congregation strengthen and grow.

We have celebrated our history in the context of our faithful journey, as we attempt to fully appreciate the past and endeavour to set goals that anticipate the challenges that lie ahead.

It has been an honour and pleasure for me to chair our church council. It is invigorating to be part of a group of people that are committed to their tasks, whose actions demonstrate strength in their faith, and who have the desire to reach beyond our church community to assist others.

As the country steps slowly along the pathways of economic recovery, members of council continue to keep Trinity's financial well-being a priority.

Your council members get an opportunity to see firsthand the strong leadership of Pastor André and Pastor Anne. While it is their faith, kindness, and compassion that helps all members of Trinity deal with daily challenges, it is our pastors' shared vision, passion, and ability to embrace change, that prepares our congregation for the future.

We have a tremendous support team in Gywin Murray, Jill Merner, Syd Hills, Jennifer Famme, Brian Racho, Helen Toman, and Bob Thaler. As Pastor André continues to work part-time with the National Church, we are thankful for their assistance.

As council members bid farewell to Lori Arnott and Marcus Buehlow we are very thankful for their outstanding work on council. We know their faithful service will continue to be felt on committees and the work of Trinity.

This annual report contains updates from the many committees and task groups that sustain our active and dynamic congregation. Those reports will present highlights that I won't recount here. I would, however, on behalf of council, as well as the members of our congregation, express our heartfelt thanks that so many people continue to share their talents, time and resources — we are truly blessed.

*Larry Gravill
President, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Chairperson, Trinity Council.*



✚ Faithful Journey ~ CLWR Baby Bundles

Now that we are through our Mitten Tree Season, we turn our thoughts to baby bundles. Each year we prepare these baby bundles for Canadian Lutheran World Relief. They get sent out in the spring. Last year we were able to send out 41 bundles!

This year we are in need of knitted or crocheted baby sweaters, sleepers, shirts, wash-cloths, receiving blankets, and baby wool for our knitters. We can also use funds to help purchase flannel for diapers and receiving blankets, diaper pins, baby wool, and other supplies. We will need volunteers to hem diapers and receiving blankets.

Are you able to help? Please put any articles in the narthex. They can be new or gently used. Donations should be placed in an offering envelope labeled "Baby Bundles".

Imagine the joy of a new mother who receives a bundle from CLWR to welcome her newborn! More information? Contact Pat Schmetzer.

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✚ Pastor's Report ~ André Lavergne

Grace and peace to you.

Faithful Journey ~ Two Important Congregational Meetings

Back in June, 2009, the following motion, upon recommendation of Trinity's Mutual Ministry Team, and as approved by Trinity's Congregational Council, came before a congregational "call" meeting: "That Pastor Anne Anderson be offered an extension to her present call as follows: A five year term position as Co-Pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church."



As the minutes record, the recommendation passed by a margin of 170 to 2 at the best-attended congregational meeting seen in recent history. Moreover, "Loud applause followed!" Given concerns for the shape of the economy —Remember, this was a year-and-a-half ago!— and the substantial reshaping of our ministry then under way, it was a wonderful moment and a remarkable affirmation of the recent direction and changing shape of Trinity's ministry. In the months that followed, Pastor Anne renewed her work in the various ministries for which she is responsible, especially around her shepherding our fledgling Sanctuary Community and providing a vision for our family ministries, TYGers and Nurturing Faith and Faith Adventures programs.

A few months later, at the February, 2010, annual meeting, the Congregational Council once more invited the congregation to step out in faith and, this time, to contemplate "doing a new thing."

A project wherein the congregation would offer about half of my time to the national church that I might serve as the ELCIC's ecumenical officer was carefully detailed in the BULLETIN OF ANNUAL REPORTS. The request had originally come, a couple of days before Christmas, from National Bishop Susan Johnson. As was reported last year, "Council enthusiastically endorse(d) the proposal from the National Church to share Pastor André Lavergne, and commend(ed) it to the Congregation." As with Pastor Anne's recall, the motion was passed in a nearly-unanimous vote at another well-attended congregational meeting.

Faithful Journey ~ Trinity Church Reinventing Itself

Over the last year, our congregation has been reinventing itself to better meet the changing realities we encounter in the day-to-day world of parish life in our time and generation. My deployment to the national church —together with the income generated from that action— has allowed us to respond deftly to the new realities which confront Lutheran Christians and Lutheran communities in our day. It took about eight months to put all of the pieces in place. Pastor Thaler joined the Pastoral Leadership Team to preach once a month. Pastor Helen Toman joined the team to provide for regular visitation. Vicar Jennifer Famme signed on in September to begin a two-year, part-time internship. Pretty much everything that was detailed on pages 12-14 of last year's BULLETIN OF ANNUAL REPORTS came to pass as anticipated. Although we are only a few months into the full expression of our reshaped ministry, we are finding our way nicely and seeing the fruits of our efforts.

Earlier today, Pastor Anne and I went through all of the reports which you have before you, and sorted out which of us would fill in which particular gaps and where we would place the accent. As I write in my home office, Pastor Anne's doing her thing over at the church.

Faithful Journey ~ Rejigged Worship

Trinity's Sanctuary Community has been evolving, growing and changing now over a period of a couple of years. This past September, the Community elected to move from early Sunday evenings to late Sunday mornings. While Pastor Anne will have more to say about the Sanctuary Community, I want to mention that it is becoming clear that Trinity Church is benefitting from having two differently-worshipping communities, the Anchor Community and Sanctuary Community. We see this Sunday to Sunday. We experienced this during Lent, Holy Week and the Great Three Days and again at Christmas. Clearly, we are meeting some needs we had not previously met in our evolving approach to ministry and our worship life.

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Faithful Journey ~ Marvelous Anniversary Projects

One of the significant joys of recent months has been around the work of the Anniversary Task Group. The Group is composed of Anne Anderson, Kathy Bender, Michel Gascon, Larry Gravill (chair), André Lavergne, Ernie Ritz and Pat Schmetzer. In addition to hosting a string of guest pastors/preachers for worship and noon meals (David Pfrimmer, Christine Wuerscher, Judi Harris and Nadine Nicholds), preparing for the visit of National Bishop Susan Johnson later this year, and preparing an anniversary quilt, two other projects have been front-and-centre on our docket: the TASTING TRINITY'S TREASURES Anniversary Cookbook and the preparation of a new history of Trinity Church.

The cookbook project was originally suggested by Dee Radke who, with Betty Ritz, Anne Hammer, Laurie Clarke and Myrta Biesel, together with a legion of Trinity's cooks, gave legs to the endeavour. When all was said and done, we had sold most of the initial order of 700 copies and had raised about \$2,000 for *each* of Canadian Lutheran World Relief and the Wilmot Family Resource Centre. Astonishing! And, besides, the recipes are terrific! Well done, thou good and faithful servants. Well done!

This evening, the Anniversary Task Group will read through PUBLICATION DRAFT 2 of a new history of Trinity. Four drafts were prepared before the material was type-set in a format that would mirror the final publication. All Task Group members have agreed to read through PUBLICATION DRAFT 2 and, tonight, the Task Group will, from page to page, bring any bugs and suggestions to the table to create DRAFT 3. Ernie Ritz has been shepherding the project, a labour of love. It's a big piece of work which is already looking quite wonderful. In our next meeting, we'll also be contemplating what photographs might be included. Already, Michel Gascon has created a new site plan which accounts for all of the buildings, past and present, which have been located in the area bounded by Peel, Church and Wilmot Streets and which have served the people of Trinity.

The Anniversary Task Group has also been the impetus behind the recognition of the recently-celebrated 30-year ministry of Jill Merner, together with the 50-year ministry of Gywin Murray to be celebrated this June. Wonderful milestones! It also spearheaded the naming of Trinity's bells—Faith, Hope and Love!—and encouraged the creation of an anniversary quilt as proposed by the Faith Adventures community. Soon, the Task Group will turn its hand to the creation of a time capsule to be placed in the foundation of the 1910 wing when Bishop Susan is with us.

Faithful Journey ~ The Women of Trinity

As people will discover when they read Trinity's new history, the women of Trinity have come together in a variety of groups which have emerged, merged, divided, dissolved and been reborn over the last 176 years. This past year, *Evangelical Lutheran Women* was dissolved as a national entity. In response, Trinity's women have been rethinking and rediscovering themselves. Neither the Evangelical Lutheran Women nor the Priscillas will exist as they once did. (Trivia question: Did you know that in their early days they were referred to as ELW # 1 and ELW # 2?) What will emerge is not entirely clear. For the time being, our women are simply calling themselves the *Women of Trinity* and, for all of the change that is besetting us here or elsewhere, our women are busier than ever!

Over the months to come, the Women of Trinity will decide for themselves how best to organize themselves and where to place their energies. They do so with my encouragement and my blessing. This congregation would be a shadow of itself if it were not for the enormous contribution of Trinity's women to every aspect of community life. Last Sunday, Pastor Anne and I had the privilege of blessing God and thanking God's people for two exquisite prayer lap-quilts and two lovely prayer shawls which, in the course of recent days, were delivered to parishioners who could benefit from their warmth and from the love of the people who offer them. Interestingly, a number of our ministries are starting to benefit from having men and women both working together. It's wonderful to see!

Faithful Journey ~ Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Yesterday morning, I shipped off the January edition of TRINITY DOVE to Ritz Printing. In it, the end-of-year financial results were reported out in brief. The full accounting will appear in Part 2 of this BULLETIN OF ANNUAL REPORTS—the Financial Statements—about a week after this material. While we could rejoice at the healthy General Fund surplus or at the much smaller than anticipated Capital Fund deficit—and larger than usual Capital Fund program!—the real story was likely in our Transfers. We raised over \$23,000 for Canadian Lutheran World Relief. Government dollar-matching

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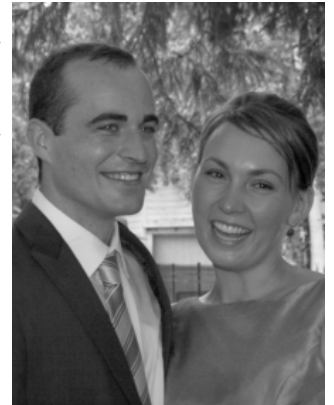
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took the sum to over \$35,000. That is a remarkable result. When we consider all of the financial support offered by the people of Trinity, and all of the community endeavours in which we are involved, we may be justifiably proud of the many accomplishments born of our faithful journey.

Faithful Journey ~ Family Life

For the first time, modelled after an annual letter that my friend and mentor, Eric Reble, used to circulate, I composed a family Christmas Letter. Here are some excerpts...

The big event in our family, in 2010, was Ruth & Ian's July 24 wedding. It served as a sort of fulcrum for the year —a rallying point for family and friends and locus for celebration. James did the honours in a simple ceremony which had served Barbara and me three years ago. Sarah Helmers offered some wonderful music —Ukelele and voice!—in precincts beautifully decorated with flowers from Donna Zwiers' and her neighbour's garden. Lunch, with the attendant festivities, for all the rain, and with thanks to Meredith Hagen and the Murphy Delivery Service, was spectacular. Ruth and Ian now make their home in Vancouver where Ian is teaching and doing post-doctoral work in math while Ruth completes her PhD in epidemiology.



Blake joined George's Masonry in the fall as a labourer. He's in a probationary period which will allow Doug George, the owner, to decide whether to take Blake on as an apprentice brick-layer. Blake loves his work and the prospects are promising.

John moved from Toronto back to the Region of Waterloo a few months ago. He's now living in Waterloo and cooking at Symposium. Symposium is located in the King-and-Erb corner of the old Waterloo Hotel. It's hard work and entails long hours most every day. Still, he, too, has done well and has quickly adjusted to the demands of his new gig. At present, John is looking for new digs as the owners of the home in which he has been staying need the space.



Heather, John's friend, is holding down two jobs. She also works very hard. It was great to have her join us for our family Christmas brunch on the Feast of Stephen / Boxing Day.

Dayna has prospered in her Behavioural Psychology programme at St. Lawrence College in Kingston. She has excelled in her studies and was prompted by her supervisors to apply to teachers' college. She's made application to the U of T and Queens, both. Whether she goes into teaching, or gets a job in her field, remains an open question.



All of the kids —Ruth & Ian, Blake, John & Heather and Dayna— were with us at various times over Christmas. It was wonderful.

For the last several months, Barbara has been taking on-line courses at Simon Fraser University and attending classes at Centennial College in Toronto on the weekend. Her interests lie around technical writing and software quality assurance & testing. She's been applying to any jobs that have surfaced but there wasn't much action on the local IT scene in 2010. There are some indications that that might be changing for 2011 and we remain optimistic that something will come her way before long. Barbara continues to take voice lessons with Eva Mezzo and to sing with Debbie Lou Ludolph's Inshallah.

For my part, it has been an exciting year. In February, I began to serve the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada as Assistant to the National Bishop, Ecumenical and Interfaith. Essentially, the ELCIC buys my time from the parish. This has allowed the parish to round-out the pastoral staff ...

In 2010, I celebrated my 30th anniversary of ordination. Together with the fact that, earlier in the year, I joined

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FACEBOOK, this truth resides somewhere in the realm of “Who’d’a thunk?”

And finally... In 2010, I had resolved to ... get my smoker fired up. However, the fullness of days was such that I didn't get done much of what I'd planned. So I'm renewing my resolve. Thanks to Santa Claus, I have a new cooking torch and crème brûlée set. ... I also received a copy of the SMOKED-FOODS COOKBOOK together with a volume entitled simply CRÈME BRÛLÉE. I plan take the hint.”

Faithful Journey ~ Trinity's Leaders

Trinity's Staff Leadership Team is composed of members of the Pastoral Leadership Team — Anne Anderson (Co-Pastor), Helen Toman (Visitation Pastor), Bob Thaler (Preacher), Intern Jennifer Famme and me— together with Director of Music Gywin Murray, Secretary Jill Merner and Sexton Brian Racho. All of my colleagues provide “above and beyond the call” service to our community, and they do so with enormous grace and goodwill. For each of these, for their dedication and collegiality, especially, I am very grateful. Where 2010 saw us celebrate the ministry of Jill Merner, in 2011, we shall mark the 50 years of leadership that Gywin Murray has provided as our Director of Music. We can look forward to a special event to mark this milestone in June.

Trinity's Congregational Council is composed of Lori Arnott, Marcus Buehlow, Krista Durer, Larry Gravill, Doreen Lindner Baan, Doug Miller, Chris Normandeau, Cy Ridout, Rick Ritz, Pat Schmetzer, Ken Seltzer, Heidi Ziegler together with Anne Anderson and me. These Council folk serve with a great deal of integrity and behind-the-scenes attention to their portfolios. Again, to each of these, I am very grateful. In the weeks to come, Lori Arnott and Marcus Buehlow will be retiring from Council. Lori's leadership in a variety of capacities, including those of President and Chair of Council, has seen a great deal of personal investment and has been exemplary. Marcus' hand on Trinity's grounds has been as remarkable as it is unmistakable. I am grateful to each of these for their willingness to offer their time and talent to shape and support the ministry of Trinity Church.

This year, while Lori Arnott & Marcus Buehlow are retiring from Council, Ken Seltzer & Heidi Ziegler are eligible for reelection and have let their names stand for a second term. Moreover, Council has asked John McCurdy (Property) & Susan Roger (Nurturing Faith - Children and Youth) to let their names stand to replace Marcus & Lori, and both have indicated their willingness to serve. Great! Their names will be before the congregation at the annual meeting.

Several people provide executive leadership for our community. They are Larry Gravill (President and Chair of Council), Lori Arnott (Vice President and Vice-Chair of Council), Krista Durer (Secretary) together with Bob Ruthig (Treasurer), and Laurie Clarke (Financial Secretary). Each of these persons provides a great deal of attention and time to their leadership in the parish. To each of these, we are justifiably grateful. Bob and Laurie are allowing their names to stand for reappointment at the annual meeting. Finally, I want to thank Pastor Syd Hills for his steadfast collegiality and embrace of the wider community and Judy Riley for her devoted and excellent care of our facilities.

Faithful Journey ~ Last Comment

Yesterday morning, following upon Wednesday's Council meeting, Pastor Anne and I talked about the fact that there may have been a time when one year looked much as the last, with regard to our over-all ministry, or much as the next. We believe that if this were ever true, it is certainly no longer true. We can expect changes in both programming and staffing from year to year simply in response to the quickly changing realities which shape our ministry and the available gifts of people who might lead or serve our community. The fact that we are very “fleet-of-foot” has served us well in recent years. I am indebted to my partner-in-life, Barbara, for her loving support, and to my partner-in-ministry, Pastor Anne, for her enthusiastic and thoughtful willingness to adapt and respond to the changing exigencies of parish life and ministry.

We are well-served, and for all of these, and for all of you, I am grateful.

All blessings.

André Lavergne,
Pastor, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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✚ Pastor's Report ~ Anne Anderson

Grace and peace to you.

What a year it has been! I constantly give thanks for the people of Trinity and how they live, with the love of Christ central in their lives as they continue to live out their faithful journey. So many things have happened this year but there are a few things I would like to highlight in this report; our Sanctuary community, Internship, service possibilities, the Women of Trinity, youth ministry and some thanks you's .



Faithful Journey ~ Sanctuary

Our Sanctuary community has grown and changed throughout the year. Midway through the year we met to discuss new possibilities and through consensus it was decided that moving the service from 5pm to 11:30 am on a Sunday would be helpful for families and help to connect better with our Faith Adventures community. We have had various musicians and participants as we continue to hear God's Word, share the meal and live out God's love in our context. I am constantly thankful for the gift of connection that the Sanctuary community is to one another. They really do strive to be faithful followers and love those around them with God's love. I have learned much from them! We have continued to share in one another's lives in meals shared together and supporting local initiatives such as ROOF. In the next year we look forward to firming up our Sanctuary ROTA with Vicar Jennifer's help and drawing in more of our young people with musical and worship leading abilities as being even more deliberate with our welcome to those curious about Sanctuary worship.

Faithful Journey ~ Internship

This fall we have been very happy to welcome Jennifer Famme to our staff team as a two year half time intern. As a third year seminary student from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, Jennifer comes to us with many gifts and talents. She has been a good addition offering support with our pastoral visitation and programming. As Jennifer works through her many learning goals for her ministry we meet once a week to reflect and respond to her experience here at Trinity. In her own words Jennifer reflects on her experience so far...

Since I arrived here in September, I have been involved in various ministries of this congregation from home and hospital visits, to adult learning, to Faith Adventures, to worship planning and preaching. I have also been volunteering with the Wilmot Family Resource Centre, and in October I attended both a preaching workshop day with Rev. Dr. Tom Long in Milverton and the Rural Ministry Symposium at Crieff Hills.

The support of congregations like Trinity in providing an internship site and supervisor is invaluable for seminarians, who would otherwise miss out on valuable practical experience and training. I am grateful to have this opportunity to work and worship in such a vibrant and active faith community. Thank you so very much for warmly welcoming me into the congregation and supporting my learning.

Faithful Journey ~ Action through Service

I have been thankful and amazed at the generosity of our community as we have continued with many of our familiar service opportunities such as the Christmas hampers, Advent Mitten tree, and We Care bags for the Wilmot Resource Centre but we have also begun new ways to serve like helping Emily Ritz as she works with the Children of Bukati in Kenya and closer to home as we give needed items to ROOF a Kitchener downtown teen drop in and shelter. The donation basket for ROOF seems to always be full no matter how many times I empty it — that's great because the need is constant as well. I am thankful that the people of Trinity really understand what it means to be God's hands and feet in our world.

Faithful Journey ~ First Annual Women of Trinity Retreat

This November I was very blessed to be a part of an amazing group of women from 16 — 80 years old who met at Hidden

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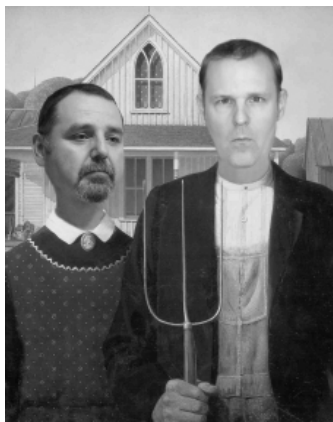
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Acres for a Women's retreat. Our theme centred around balance and taking time to reflect and rest . We had a great time laughing and learning and worshipping together — not to mention lots of great food! We will be making this a yearly event as many are already looking forward to our next gathering.

Faithful Journey ~ Youth Ministerial

There are many churches such as St. James, New Dundee, St. John's, Waterloo and Zion, Phillipsburg, in the area who are doing youth ministry in smaller groups and this year many of our churches began to meet and start working on events and supporting one another in our programs. We have had several events including a video game and scrapbooking event hosted here at Trinity and a few leaders meetings as we move to be supporting one another in the work that we do to help and support our young people.

Faithful Journey ~ Men of Trinity Calendar and Community Building



We had a fun community building project this year that was also a fundraiser for our TYGers. We created a Men of Trinity calendar featuring some funny shots of some of our regulars. The signing of our calendars brought most of the featured guys out to sign their favourite parishioners' calendars. Check out the great photos on line on www.telc.ca! A huge thank-you needs to go to Dave Merner and the Gascon and Gueguen families as countless hours went into creating and producing the calendar — thanks, thanks, thanks! Well Done.

Faithful Journey ~ Conferences

This past year I was happy to be able to participate in a youth workers' leadership conference in London, On. Where I was able to bring back new ideas and energy to my work here at Trinity. This coming year I am looking forward to being one of the elected delegates for our conference to our National Convention in Saskatoon, SK this July. I am also excited about the possibility of attending Fresh Expressions an Anglican conference on new possibilities for churches taking place in Toronto at the end of May this year.

Faithful Journey ~ Personal Thank You's

It has been a good year. I am thankful to have a great group of people to work with. It has been good to have the support and experience of André, the warm helpful presence of Jill, the talents and encouragement of Gywin, the gentle witness of Brian Racho and Judy Riley, the support of Helen Toman and Bob Thaler and energy of Jennifer Famme. A special thanks goes out to all the folks who have been working on the parsonage — your hands and energy have been making our home more and more cozy everyday as the basement is being insulated and framed. Trevor, Nate and I are really happy and thankful to be a part of this faithful community.

*Anne Anderson,
Pastor, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*



✝ Faithful Journey ~ World Day of Prayer Service

The annual World Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday, March 4, 2 pm, at Living Water Church. Details will be published in February.

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✝ *Sacraments & Seasons ~ Jill Merner & André Lavergne*

The following events reflect a snap-shot of realities in Trinity's ministry during 2010.



Births

Bennett Bradley (Feb 8); Mira Bradley (Feb 8); Cajia Dupree (Apr 29); Eve Otterbein (Aug 25); Brody Parkin (Oct 16); Joshua Plein (Jan 31); Carter Racho (Apr 19); Lucas Ropp (Jul 3); Carter Shantz (Apr 15).

Baptisms

Violet Bender (Jan 10); Bennett Bradley (Jun 13); Mira Bradley (Jun 13); Tyler Ferguson (Jan 10); Gabriel Nickolas (Jun 27); Carter Racho (Oct 3); Owen Racho (Oct 3); Makayla Rivest (Apr 3); Lucas Ropp (Oct 3); Carter Shantz (Oct 3); Colton Smith (Jan 10).

Marriages

Adam & Christina Arsenault (May 29); Lynette & Andrew Moss (Aug 14); Tara Keller & Abel Ng (Aug 28); Ruth Lavergne & Ian Zwiers (July 24); Joe & Holly Trafford (Sep 4).

Deaths

Earl Cressman (Feb 6); Richard Gerber (Jun 5); Florence Herman (Nov 3); Ardis Hinz (Dec 9); Jessie Junker (Jul 9); Arlene Meyer (Mar 7); Sandra Schmidt (Jan 16); Lorraine Schroeder (Jul 13); Norma Thomson (Aug 13); John Wallace (Nov 20); Howard Weicker (Feb 16).

People Coming

Amy Arbuckle-Bradley, William Bradley, Christina, David, Jacob & Montana Flood, Holly Gerber, Barry, Julie & Cameron Kalbfleisch, David, Logan, Tara & Tyler Kleine, Brenda, Colby, David & Reed Ricketts, Ralph & Joanne Roth, Aspen, Breanna, Chantelle, Deryck, Garrett & Kim Schwartz, Bobbie, Brian, Caroline & Matthew Wiechers.

People Going

Ashley, Chris & Ella Aarts (Zion, Stratford), Carina & Joseph DeSapio (living in UK), Cassandra Lindner (removed at own request), Natasha Lindner (removed at own request), Gladys & Mervin Roth (moved to BC).

Confirmations (November 7)

Jessica Gascon, Krystalyn Johnston, Brody Lagace-Roote, Devon Merner, Mackenzie Normandeau, Willow Racho, Michelle Rogers, Travis Thompson and Caroline Wiechers.

*Jill Merner,
Parish Secretary, Trinity Church*

*André Lavergne,
Pastor, Trinity Church*

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church New Hamburg, Ontario

✚ Mutual Ministry ~ Don Jardin

The Mutual Ministry team is a selected group of people from the congregation who strive to strengthen and promote the ministry and the well being of the pastors, support staff and congregation at Trinity. Members of this year's team include Lori Arnott, Deb Gravill, Heidi Ziegler and Don Jardin.



The tasks involved this year included the following:

Review and update the roles of the pastors and support staff (organist, secretary, sexton).

Review and update Trinity's Policy and Procedures Manual.

Prepare and forward to Council recommendations re compensation for the pastors and support staff.

Develop a Mutual Ministry Committee Responsibility document.

Develop the year's timetable of activities for which Mutual Ministry has responsibility.

Recognition and celebration of Pastor André's 30th year of ordination.

Mutual Ministry is appreciative of the support and service of all of Trinity's staff, specifically Pastor Anne and Pastor André, Jill, Gywin and Brian. We look forward in the upcoming year to the continued support of the congregation.

Don Jardin
Member, Mutual Ministry Team

✚ Faithful Journey ~ www.telc.ca & This_Sunday@Trinity

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church —telc— maintains a terrific website at < www.telc.ca >. The current issue of TRINITY DOVE is always posted there so that winter snow-birds and others may keep up-to-date on news from home. The current edition of the Trinity *Worship Rota* is also posted online as are other important documents. A couple of years ago, we added a comprehensive photo section. There are now several thousand photos online! Drop by and take a look!

This past year, we endeavoured to collect e-mail addresses so that we could put out a weekly "This_Sunday@Trinity" bulletin with news around our Sunday ministry and the week ahead. This project has garnered a great deal of favourable response. We also use this list to let people know of such time-sensitive items as a death in the parish or news related to such unfolding events as the Haiti earthquake.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church New Hamburg, Ontario

✚ Witness and Outreach / Service ~ Ken Seltzer

The Witness and Outreach portfolio includes programs initiated by Trinity, including Inquirers' Classes and the Trinity Garden Club.

The Service portfolio entails relating to groups and agencies in which Trinity participates but which are autonomous. These include the Wilmot Family Resource Centre (including the Food Bank, Christmas Hamper Program & Advent Mitten Tree), Lutheran Campus Ministry at Waterloo, Trinity Christmas Blood Donor Clinic, Community Care Concepts, Trinity/Optimist Christmas Breakfast, Amnesty International, Habitat for Humanity, Missions, Canadian Lutheran World Relief (including We Care Bags and Gifts from the Heart).



In addition, Trinity relates to a number of programs which make their home at Trinity Church. These include the Creative Beginnings Day Care Centre, Interfaith Community Counselling Centre, A/A, TOPS and CLEAN (disbanded in 2010). In general, Pastor Lavergne relates to these agencies / programs.

The annual Community Care Concepts' breakfast was held on Saturday, December 18, in Trinity Hall, and was sponsored by the New Hamburg Optimist Club. Many thanks to the Optimist Club members for their hard work and dedication and for raising \$2,000 for Community Care Concepts.

Wilmot Family Resource Centre was again well supported by the members of Trinity donating dozens of gloves, scarves, mittens, hats and slippers. Trinity members also donated hundreds of pounds of food, wearing apparel, and monetary donations to help fill the WFRC Christmas hampers.

December 27 saw 135 residents take the time to donate blood at a clinic sponsored by Trinity and held at Waterloo-Oxford DSS. 122 donors actually gave the gift of life which will help save 366 lives. Thanks to the following members who volunteered to serve refreshments to the donors or who served a meal to the Canadian Blood Services staff: Paul Diebel, Madison Erb, Mykaela Erb, Ken Hammer, Mary Ann Keller, Dave Mello, Doug Miller, Mim Miller, Betty Murray, Pat Schmetzer, Judie Seltzer and Henry Simon.

*Ken Seltzer,
Witness & Outreach / Service Portfolios, Trinity Council.*

✚ Faithful Journey ~ February 7: Secret Sisters' Pot-Luck Supper

Our Women of Trinity host one of Trinity's most wonderful ministries. It's the Secret Sister program in which women are paired with one another as "secret sisters."

During the year, each sister sends birthday and anniversary greetings, seasonal cards and small gifts to a "secret sister." The latter does not know the identity of the former. Participants gather for a February pot-luck supper at which identities are revealed. Are you a current participant? Terrific! Not aboard? Consider joining on February 7, 6:30 pm, at this year's pot-luck supper! Call Pat Schmetzer, 634-8232, or Shirley Unrau, 662-1515, for additional details. There's a sign-up sheet doing the rounds. Already, three new people have signed-up!

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church New Hamburg, Ontario

✝ Worship ~ Cy Ridout, Anne Anderson & André Lavergne

The Worship portfolio embraces the ministry of choirs & musicians, ushers, tape ministers, acolytes, altar guild, assisting ministers and greeters/hosts.



Altar Guild

Nancy Arbuckle, Kathryn Eichler, Marilyn Hoffman, Dorothy Jardin, Mary Ann Keller, Reta Klaassen, Holly McCurdy, Grace McGregor, Betty Murray, Melissa Racho, Reta Ridout, Gwen Ruthig, Pat Schmetzer and Lyla Wettlaufer.

Acolytes

Alayna Bailey, Sophia Bailey, Leeta Currah, Alison Dale, Meghan Dale, James Gascon, Hailey Gingerich, Tyler Kleine, Shane Lagace-Roote, Laura Lindner, Samantha Lindner, Brandon Morrison, Emily Morrison, Mackenna Schaaf, Alex Scheid, Marcus Scheid, Aspen Schwartz and Chantelle Schwartz..

Assisting Ministers

Dean Clarke, Sherry Coman, Jessica Gascon, Neil Klaassen, Reta Klaasen, Stan Leis, Doreen Lindner Baan, Scott Malloch, Devon Merner, Ray Merner, Mackenzie Normandeau, Tara Otto, Cy Ridout, Emily Ritz, Nancy Ropp, Randy Thomson, Shirley Unrau and Emma Wiechers.

Greeters / Hosts

Trevor Anderson, Jim & Nancy Arbuckle, Jackie Bailey, Kathy & Flex Bender, David & Millie Buehlow, Wendy Chapman, Laurie & Dean Clarke, Jean Cook, John Ritz & Betty Dixon-Ritz, Debbie & Larry Gravill, Lisa Hagen & Randy & Chris Thomson, Nancy & Carl Hallberg, Mabel Heldman, Brenda Malloch, Holly & John McCurdy, Doug & Mim Miller, Paul, Sheri, Brandon & Emily Morrison, Carol & Rob Murray, Earl & Susan Nickolas, Brad & Claire Otterbein, Cy & Reta Ridout, Janice & Rick Ritz and Muriel & Bill Weichel.

Affirmation Singers

Alison Dale, Meghan Dale, Emily Kalbfleisch, Caley Klaassen, Emily Morrison, Aspen Schwartz and Chantelle Schwartz.

Trinity Choir

Trevor Anderson, Val Brenneman, Edna Buehlow, Dean Clarke, Audrey Cook, Jean Cook, Paul Diebel, Kathy Eichler, Lloyd Hagen, Ken Hammer, Anne Hammer, Cornelia Jahn, Dorothy Jardin, Larry Keller, Mary Ann Keller, Neil Klaassen, Arlene Kropf, Bill Lahn, Joyce Lass, Barbara Lavergne, Betty Murray, Gywin Murray, Stan Otterbein, Cy Ridout, Janice Ritz, Pat Ruthig, Judie Seltzer, Lynn Thompson, Keith Thompson and Lyla Wettlaufer.

Musicians

In addition to our Director of Music, Gywin Murray, the following assist in playing for worship at Trinity: Trevor Anderson, Dean Clarke, Kaleb Doyle, Lisa Hagen, Caleb Herbison, Jeffrey Kropf, Emily Ritz, Chris Thomson.

Ushers

Wilson Abraham, Ross Eichler, Ryan Gueguen, Ken Hammer, Tom Hinz, Alex Hiuser, Don Jardin, Jeffrey Kropf, Dave Mello, Ray Merner, Brian Racho, Ken Seltzer, Hollice Stock and Del Jutzi.

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Tape Ministry

Rose Mueller reports...

The tape ministry team again produced and delivered over 400 tapes this year. Helping with duplication were Nancy Brodrecht, Travis and Justin Gerber and Mike Mueller.

Tape deliveries were done by Ernie Ritz, Gywin Murray, Val Gerber, Betty Murray, Nancy Brodrecht, Doris Schwartzentruber, Hollice Stock, Shirley Unrau and others.

We have recently had to replace our tape recording machine and are currently researching into what new technology Trinity should adopt in order to continue this service.

As always we welcome any volunteers to help duplicate or deliver.

Mike & Rose Mueller have been very generous with their time and patience concerning our ancient tape duplication technology. While we have been seeking alternatives, it is not clear what sort of technology would be appropriate to the use of our nursing home community and others. While digital recordings committed to USB keys are easily created, they are not particularly useful if people are not easy with or do not have access to computers, USB key readers, and the like. In any event, we are grateful to Rose and Mike for soldiering on and to keeping what we have in place, working.

Finally, if you have talents to offer, and are not yet a member of any of the above groups, please consider joining. It is personally rewarding and you will feel more fully part of Trinity's family and worship life.

*Cy Ridout,
Worship Portfolio, Trinity Council*

*André Lavergne & Anne Anderson,
Pastors, Trinity Church*

✝ Faithful Journey ~ Good Friday Cantata

We are working on a reprise of a familiar Good Friday Cantata, STATIONS OF THE CROSS. It was extremely-warmly received a couple of years ago. Care to sing with us? Speak to Gywin Murray if you would like to join us. Beginning after March Break, we'll rehearse on Thursdays, 7:45 pm, at the front end of the regular Trinity Choir rehearsal. Of course, you'd also be welcome to sing in the regular Trinity Choir. You'd be welcome either way!

✝ Faithful Journey ~ Scholarship & Edgewood Applications

Eastern Synod scholarship applications will be out any day. Many Trinity youth have benefitted from this opportunity over the years. Interested? Forms will be available from Pastor Anne.

Applications to work at Camp Edgewood are already available. See the poster in the narthex. These applications are due February 28!

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✚ *Property and Maintenance ~ Ken Seltzer*



Thirty-four energetic people turned out for the spring cleanup of the following items: waxing, dusting, cleaning the church proper, nave, narthex and balcony dusting and cleaning all books and shelves in the Martin Luther Room, nursery toys washed and disinfected, all windows cleaned in and out, basement and furnace room cupboards rearranged and junk recycled or destroyed, courtyard weeds and leaves removed and furniture cleaned, flower beds and roof drains cleaned, steeple louvers removed, repaired, painted and replaced. A terrific lunch was enjoyed when jobs were completed.

We are grateful to Betty, Rob and Steve Murray for the donation and erecting of the beautiful Christmas Tree and to Mim and Doug Miller for the donation of the Mitten Tree.

The following items were also completed in 2010...

Church

Victorian Art Glass installed new stops, replaced sills and re-lead the church windows where required. Ron's Painting scraped and repainted all church and basement windows. Downstairs washroom hot water tank replaced. New sink installed in Martin Luther Room. Church offices, nursery, washrooms, Martin and Katie Luther Rooms painted by the expert painters of Mark Buehlow, Dave Mello, Carl Schroeder and Henry Simon. Carpets cleaned in offices and in all other carpeted areas. All exit light bulbs replaced with energy-saving LED bulbs.

Peel Street Parsonage

Porch painted and woodwork replaced. Exterior woodwork painted. Removed carpet in living room and dining room and refinished hardwood floors. Back toilet replaced. Squirrels caught and released and roof repaired. Kitchen walls refurbished after small cooking fire.

Wilmot Street Parsonage

New furnace and A/C installed. Living room and kitchen windows replaced. Toilet replaced. Fridge and stove replaced. Removed cistern in basement. Basement studded and insulated.

The following items are contemplated for 2011...

Church

Energy Power Saving Blitz for offices and Katie Luther Room to replace lighting at no cost to Church. Replacement of other lighting being considered. Phone system and main computer to be replaced. Masonry and concrete work being contemplated. New sign for front of church being looked at.

Peel Street Parsonage

Upstairs and family room carpet to be removed and replaced and new tile flooring in office and kitchen and laundry room to be installed.

Wilmot Street Parsonage

Electrical outlets to be installed in basement and basement to be dry-walled.

*Ken Seltzer with Marc Buehlow & Doug Miller.
Property and Maintenance Portfolio, Trinity Council.*

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✚ Discipleship ~ Lori Arnott

The Discipleship portfolio (Children & Youth) relates to a number of programs including Faith Adventures Sunday School, Affirmation Ministry, Cradle Roll (sponsored by Trinity's ELW) and the production of Faith Chests.

The Discipleship portfolio (Adults) relates to Sunday Adult Learning, evening classes, Open Table and our Faith in Film series.



Cradle Roll

Cradle Roll Coordinator, Nancy Brodrecht, reports:

Trinity's cradle roll program includes all children from birth to age 3. Currently 33 children are involved, with 6 receiving the last of the old SPLASH material and 27 receiving the GROWING IN CHRIST package. Age appropriate material is sent out periodically over a child's first 3 years. We are very grateful to The Women of Trinity who continue to sponsor this wonderful program of learning for our youngest members.

Faith Adventures and Veracity Sunday School

The Faith Adventures Committee includes Lori Arnott, Krista Durrer and Jackie Currah. The new Veracity program is led by Maggie Racho. Both programs are directed by Pastor Anne.

Throughout our 2009/10 program year, the Faith Adventures Committee, teachers and shepherds continued to provide exciting learning opportunities for our children with the use of VBS material and our new Spark bibles. The committee constantly worked toward finding new, innovative ways to get more young families introduced to our church family and at the same time strengthen our programming and involvement for our young people. From this ongoing effort, some new programming was born.

In September 2010, the committee introduced Spark "Online" to our families with children ages 3 to grade 6. With busy family realities, this technology opened communication with our families and leaders through the use of program e-mail and amazing online resources and administration support. Teachers may access their lesson plans from their home computer, and parents may be more involved with the schedule and planned events throughout the year.

The Faith Adventures Committee is thrilled about the continued excitement for our workshop rotation model. We are proud to say that we have seen an increase in regular Sunday School attendance, including many new families that we are very happy to welcome to our family here at Trinity.

Recognizing the fact that the Spark curriculum was designed for younger kids, the committee and Pastor Anne decided it was an opportune time to launch a new program for grade 7 to 10 kids. This year we have created a space and program specific to our Junior TYGers (grades 7-10). They have been using the Veracity DVD program as well as Talk-sheets to help them discuss their faith and have fun hanging out in the classroom also used by Interfaith during the week as counselling space. We are thankful to have the leadership of Maggie Racho and Vicar Jennifer's involvement in teaching and leadership. We are looking forward to developing this program more in the coming year.

Our families have been involved in many different projects and events beyond our Sunday morning programming, including our Annual Congregational Carnival, Backpack Sunday, Anniversary Quilt Project, Christmas Carolling and Christmas Pageant, Lenten Project (raising money to "build a city" through CLWR), Bible Sunday and the Congregational Litter Walk. The committee looks forward to many new events to come!

Our teachers, shepherds and leaders for 2009/10 include Trevor Anderson, Jacqui Bailey, Jane Eichler, Janice and Rick Ritz, Holly McCurdy, Mim and Doug Miller, Jackie Currah, Sherry Coman, Mike and Chris Gascon, Rob Lindner, Nancy Dale, Krista Durrer, Lori Arnott, Maggie Racho, Ray Merner, Dave Merner, Kathy Bender, Anne Patton, Earl and Susan Nicholas, Scott Malloch, Megan Clarke, David Trafford, Tara and Josh Otto, Deb MacDonald, Kim Schwartz, Vicar

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Jennifer Hoover-Famme and Pastor Anne Anderson.

The Faith Adventures Committee would like to thank all of our dedicated and supportive parents and volunteers for their time and commitment to the continued success of our program.

Affirmation Ministry

Pastor Anne reports

We have continued to run our half days for grade 3 through 6 during P.D. days at the school. Together there is a good amount of time for learning and fun as we cover basics of the faith including the Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments and Old and New Testament themes. A big thank you goes out to our families who have helped to provide treats and food as well as adult helpers for these days.

Teaching days for grade 7/8

Our regular Confirmation teaching continues with the four teaching Saturdays for our Affirmation students in Grade 7 and 8. Interactive teaching with DVD, drama and art included in the teaching help to bring the basics of our faith alive to our students. We continue to use the 'Here we Stand' Curriculum from Augsburg Fortress. This past year we worked alongside Zion Phillipsburg as seven of their students participated with us here at Trinity.

Confirmation Camp

As always we have had a great week at Confirmation Camp at the end of August where our group of twenty youth was the largest to participate at the camp. The theme this year was Micah 6:8. Many of these youth were returning as VETs (leaders in training) who we hope will someday become counsellors themselves someday for the program. We were also thankful to have Heidi Ziegler as our camp nurse this year. We have begun planning in earnest for the next year's camp and look forward to another great week.

Adult Learning

Pastors Anne & André report

Several times per year, we post Trinity's Adult Learning Program Plan in the narthex and on-line.

In 2010, Sunday morning programs included several series and a number of one-time sessions...

- Interesting Lives: My Life as a Christian;
- Trinity On the Streets;
- Faith & Technology;
- Trinity In Mission for Others;
- Several one-time sessions.

In 2010, our regular Faith in Film series, led by Sherry Coman, included...

- Faith in Film 6 - On the Streets;
- Faith in Film 7 - Old Fashioned Romance;
- Faith in Film 8 - Faithful Journeys.

In 2011, our Sunday morning programs will include;

- Christian Ethics featuring a series of guest speakers;
- Growth in Discipleship led by our pastors and intern;
- Several one-time sessions;
- More.

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A Faith in Film 9 series will unfold over the summer, 2011. Details TBA.

We are very grateful to Sherry Coman, busy person that she is, for her ongoing enthusiasm, passion and leadership of our now, much-acclaimed, Faith in Film series.

The Adult Learning team is composed of Anne Anderson, Kathy Bender, Dorothea Butz, André Lavergne and Ray Merner. Congregational input for our Program Plan is always welcome! Look for the latest edition posted in the narthex or available, off the main page, online.

*Lori Arnott,
Discipleship Portfolio
Nurturing Faith (Children and Youth), Trinity Council.*

✚ Faithful Journey ~ TYGers

Our TYGers have begun to ramp-back-up following my maternity leave of 2008-9. We have enjoyed some of our usual events such as video game nights, and hang out time and lock-ins.

We had a good group attend Pitch and Praise Camp on the Victoria Day weekend as we paired with St. Mark's Anglican Church, Brantford again. Pitch 'N Praise is a regular Victoria Day weekend event on our youth ministry calendar.

We also had a group from the congregation attend our first joint Anglican Lutheran Youth Convention, in London, Ontario, called Hand's On, in August. This event is planned nationally by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Anglican Church of Canada.

Many hours of fund-raising went into the youth being able to participate in these events and we are thankful for the congregation's support of our young people. We couldn't do this without you!

We continue to do monthly events as TYGers but are now working in with St. James, New Dundee, and other local churches. A highlight of this year was our annual Winter Retreat at Edgewood where some five churches and 60 youth participated in the weekend-long event.

We hope to continue strong connections with other local groups as we plan future events and look forward to joining with St. James, New Dundee, and St. Mark's, Kitchener on a servant in event in Toronto, this summer.

As the speed of communication grows ever faster, it is my hope for this year that I can continue to try new ways to keep connected with our young people including Facebook and texting—yes they have finally taught me how!

(Word on the street is that even Pastor André is getting a new, text-capable cell-phone as his older treadle-operated model is getting more and more wearisome to operate. Have you seen his Kindle? Something about "reading"...)

*Anne Anderson,
Pastor, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*



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✚ Congregational Life ~ Pat Schmetzer

The Congregational Life portfolio relates to the Trinity Gentle Friends Reading Group, Trinity Shepherds, Trinity Quilters and Trinity Prayer Circle. Congregational Life receives a great deal of support from Trinity's ELW.



It's been a very busy year in Congregational Life. On the Hospitality front, we've had quite a few "cake" Sundays to celebrate the Ministry of some of our Trinity friends. We sponsored one of the lunches for the annual Soup, Sandwich, Sermon and Song Lenten services at Zion. We did a soup supper for our affirmation students on Maundy Thursday.

We did lunches for 4 Anniversary Sundays to honour David Pfrimmer, Christine Wuerscher, Judi Harris, and Nadine Nicholds. We also provided supper for the staff of the Christmas Blood Donor Clinic.

It's been great fun working with the many volunteers who provide food and labour as well as help with planning, shopping, cooking, etc. Thank you so much — your assistance is really appreciated!

Trinity Prayer Circle

The ELW's Shirley Unrau, Convenor for the Trinity Prayer Circle, reports:

Prayer Circle members are Shirley Unrau, Betty Ritz, Betty Lou Ramseyer, Nancy Hallberg, Merva Zehr, Pat Schmetzer Betty Stock, Theresa Bakker and Arlene Kropf.

Members pray regularly for requests or concerns given by the Pastors, circle or congregation members. Sometimes requests come from neighbouring churches' prayer groups.

Prayer requests are updated on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am with the pastors and Shirley.

The group welcomes new members interested in prayer ministry. Contact any member of the group or the pastors to join the circle or to place a prayer request.

Trinity Shepherds

Pastor Lavergne reports:

The following people are serving in Trinity's Shepherding Ministry: Jim & Nancy Arbuckle, Lori Arnott, Gerry Baan & Doreen Lindner-Baan, Millie Buehlow, Fred Buehlow, Audrey Cook, Ed & Claudia Danner, Dale & Rhonda Egerdee, Kathryn Eichler, Don & Dorothy Jardin, Arlene & John Kropf, Joyce & Hans Lass, Carl Leu, Grace McGregor, Dave Mello, Ray Merner, Doug & Mim Miller, John & Wally Mueller, Stefanie Mueller, Betty Murray, Brad & Claire Otterbein, Betty Lou & Paul Ramseyer, Cy Ridout, Keith & Nancy Ropp, Jean Schaaf, Doris Schwartzenruber, Darryl Smith & Susan Yutzi-Smith, Joanne Snyder, Hollice & Betty Stock, Joseph & Holly Trafford and Shirley Unrau.

Shepherds help to deliver *Trinity Dove* and other items in their respective neighbourhoods. As well, they keep the pastors apprized of people moving into and out of their areas. Please join me in thanking all of our shepherds for their enormously helpful and dedicated service.

Gentle Friends Reading Group

Kathryn Ritz, contact person for the Gentle Friends, writes:

Our reading group continues to meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 in Trinity Hall, enjoying a wide assortment of books. We present our wish list for the year and are able to pick up our books at the local library.

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This is a much-appreciated service!

This summer, our dear librarian, Yvonne sent word of an opportunity to spend an evening with Terry Fallis, author of *The Best Laid Plans* and *The High Road*. It was part of the One Book One Community celebrations. Simply tell about your reading group and you could win dinner and a discussion with Terry Fallis and his reading group from Toronto. Why not? I wrote as well as I could about our group's beginning, our wonderful members, the friendship and laughter, the learning and support we experience and the memories I have enjoyed. Word arrived: we had won!

We car-pooled to the address, an eye-popping home on a large treed lot in Waterloo. People (one hundred, mostly ladies) were flocking to the same address! The event unfolded: it was planned to be the largest reading group ever to meet in Waterloo County, dinner was hors d'oeuvre passed by the wait-staff and the winners were chosen by random draw. Sometimes things are not what you expect. However, I'm glad I wrote all those nice things about our group members for them to read. Mr. Fallis is very charming and personable and it will always remain a memorable evening!

New members all always welcome to join our wonderful group of great people!

Trinity Quilters

The ELW's Florence Sebert, Convenor of the Trinity Quilters, reports:

Our Trinity Quilters meet every Wednesday to enjoy fellowship and tea with a brown bag lunch. The quilting group has been struggling a bit with smaller numbers at our weekly quilting sessions. In spite of that, we quilted a number of quilts for different people, including a wedding quilt for Ruth Lavergne and Ian Zwiers. Quite a few quilts were tied for the House of Friendship, St. Monica House, Wilmot Family Resource Centre, and ROOF. We made several Prayer Quilts and also cuddle quilts for children in Grand River and Cambridge hospitals.

Well done Quilters!

Thank you, friends, for your information and reports.

We are looking forward to serving in the new year in any way we can.

*Pat Schmetzer
Congregational Life Portfolio, Trinity Council.*

✚ Faithful Journey ~ Faith Chests & Baptismal Books

The community of Trinity Church makes the gift of a faith chest to each person who is baptized at Trinity. The faith chest is designed to hold various items related to the faith journey of our people: baptismal certificate and candle; baptismal dress or suit; books presented to families at the time of baptism; service tape; greeting cards; Sunday School and Affirmation! Ministry items; Bible; confirmation certificate and cross; any other items related to a person's journey in faith.

Trinity's faith chests have been the labour of love of Cy Ridout, Paul Diebel and Don Jardin. Future chests will be crafted by Cy Ridout and Carl Schroeder. Material costs related to the faith chests are underwritten through Trinity's Endowment Fund. We hope that Trinity's faith chests and collection of baptismal books will serve our baptismal families well. We hope that the journey of the baptized will be faith-filled and fulfilling, part of a life-long home in the Church of Jesus Christ.

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✚ Women of Trinity ~ Arlene Kropf



Without a doubt, 2010 has been the ultimate challenge for Lutheran Women's Ministry, with the announcement that the National ELW would be entering into a process of dissolution as of June/July, 2010. The K-W Conference held the fall event at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cambridge on October 23rd, and gave local groups some sense of direction in rebuilding the ministry from "grassroots". For further details refer to the minutes of August, October and November, 2010.

As for our own church parish, President Pat Schmetzer has, in spite of it all, kept our group alive and active at our level with projects and events taking place throughout the year.

Firstly, the Secret Sister's annual banquet took place on February 1st, 2010. A vote in favour to continue took place and new names were drawn for 2010.

During 2010, our Trinity group continued to volunteer in serving at the Trinity Village Teas in the designated months of Jan, May and Nov, Four of our ladies also attended the Thank you gathering on April 22nd.

Once again, our parish took a turn in serving one of the Lenten lunches at Zion United Church here in New Hamburg.

The ELW Spring Conference was held in St. Jacobs on April 24. Our Trinity parish was well represented and contributed home baked muffins for this event. In light of available funds, our ELW was able to forward a cheque for \$300 to Camp Edgewood, to help repair the camp showers. This cheque was sent along to the event as well.

The "Baby Bundle" project, headed by Betty Ritz, was once again a success. 41 bundles were wrapped and sent off to CLWR in May.

Our Prayer Shawl and Lap Quilt ministry remained active in sending our shawls and prayer blessed quilts to people experiencing illness and/or other hardships. Thanks to all the busy hands that keep our inventory stocked.

Our Spring get-together took place on June 28 in the form of a "Grand River Dinner Cruise".

Four of our Trinity ladies attended the annual Women's Auxiliary meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church in Waterloo on Sept 22nd.

The Eastern Synod celebration of Women's Ministries took place on Oct 23rd at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cambridge. Our parish was represented by Pastor Syd and five of our members (see details in Nov., minutes). Our Trinity ladies have volunteered to host the "2011" Fall Conference Meeting.

Pastor Anne organized a well attended Retreat at Hidden Acres on Nov 10th to help us as Women of Trinity venture into new territory in our ministry.

On Dec 13th, 45 Christmas Cheer boxes were prepared and delivered to our disabled seniors in surrounding locations. Thank you to all who baked and made this possible.

To round out the year, we sent out benevolence donations to five organizations, and on Dec 6th we gathered in Trinity Hall for a catered-in dinner, followed by our final meeting for "2010". As of this present time, we as women of Trinity, have not decided on an official name for our group, but we are inspired to resurrect from our grass roots, as encouraged by the past National ELW.

Christian Action Committee

Our Christian Action Committee convener, Florence Sebert, reports that lunch was prepared and served for 9 funerals this past year.

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Visiting and Cheer Committee

Visiting and Cheer Committee convener, Merva Zehr, reports that during 2010, 118 assorted cards were sent and 181 visits were made to members of the congregation. Forty eight tins of cookies were prepared and delivered as our annual Christmas Cheer project. Thank you so much to everyone who baked cookies, provided cookie tins, and helped with deliveries and visits. It was a great success and those receiving cookies were very touched and appreciative. Several organizations received benevolence donations from our Women of Trinity this Christmas.

*Arlene Kropf,
Secretary, ELW, Women of Trinity.*

✚ ELW & Women of Trinity Treasurer's Report ~ Nancy Hallberg

Balance December 31, 2009		\$ 712.82
Receipts (in)	3,121.05	
General Expenses (out)	2,303.73	
Balance December 31, 2010		\$ 1,530.14

Audited by Joan Cook



*Nancy Hallberg,
Treasurer, ELW, Women of Trinity.*

✚ Seminary Women's Auxiliary

The 97th Annual Meeting was held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Waterloo on Sept. 22nd, 2010 with the theme "Women's Health and Spirituality — Nourishing Body and Soul." Rev. Thomas Doherty and Karen Marks, Ontario Regional Parish Nurse Coordinator, were our guest speakers. Tom Doherty also performed some special music for us — it was beautiful! We had an opportunity to hear Seminary students Amber Kendel and Adam Snook speak about their Christian Journey. Also, Rev. Karen Kuhnert spoke to us about the upcoming 100th anniversary of the seminary and showed us a video "Remembering for the Future".

This past year Trinity members donated \$605 to the Women's Auxiliary. That's terrific. Faculty and Students are very grateful! These funds are used to help cover costs for students' Clinical Pastoral Education (where they work in a clinical setting such as a hospital, learning pastoral care); maintaining the seminary gardens; providing a Christmas tree and other decorations. This year they were also able to purchase new blinds for two classrooms in order to improve audio visual presentations.



I'd like to thank all the Trinity people who supported the Women's Auxiliary. Thanks for helping our future pastors and social workers.

*Pat Schmetzer
Seminary Women's Auxiliary Contact Person.*

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
New Hamburg, Ontario

✚ Faithful Journey ~ Interfaith Community Counselling Centre



Staff Updates & Changes

As many are aware, Interfaith Community Counselling Centre just completed its first year with a new Leadership structure. In January, 2010, the Interfaith Community Counselling Centre (ICCC) board of Directors hired a new Executive Director Christine Bruder, and added the position of a Clinical Director. Ruth Martin, previous Executive Director took on the role of Clinical Director until November 2010 when she retired from this position. With this vacancy ICCC is excited to welcome Lisa Akey to the Clinical Director role effective January 24, 2011. Lisa brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position and ICCC is eager to have her on board in this role. Lisa is not new to ICCC as she worked as a Clinical Counsellor here for over a year.

Sandra Duden is a new face at ICCC. Sandra has practiced as a social worker for many years and recently went back to school to complete her Masters of Social Work Degree from Laurier; Sandra was hired in the spring of 2010 as a clinical counsellor and works 2-3 days per week at ICCC.

Board of Directors

ICCC is presently recruiting new board members with hopes to be at a full complement of ten board members by spring of 2011.

Programs & Services

ICCC is currently offering a community based group in Baden, Girl Power: Through education, discussion and group support, preteen girls will develop self-confidence and a positive self-image. Girls will learn to resist the glamorous images in the media that link self-worth to beauty & thinness. Girls will learn to cope with stress, anxiety, bullying & teasing and make healthy life-style choices.

Growing Through Marriage is another workshop that ICCC has offered for several years. This year again our husband and wife team Matthew & Hendrike Isert-Bender will co-facilitate Growing Through Marriage: a marriage Preparation Course for those preparing for marriage or recently married. Topics such as Communication, Conflict Resolution, Finances, Intimacy, Faith & Extended Family are discussed.

ICCC is preparing for the second Survivors of Suicide support group to start on February 2, 2011. This group is for individuals who have lost a loved one through suicide, dealing with the grief and loss associated with this individuals work together to find a path of healing and growth.

Interfaith Community Counselling Centre continues to serve many people of this community with over 2000 hours of direct service in 2010 ICCC is working to strengthen the fabric of our community by equipping individuals, couples and families to realize emotional wellness and triumph over life's challenges. Thanks to the generous donations from our community we can continue to provide this much needed service.

*Christine Bruder,
Executive Director, ICCC*

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church New Hamburg, Ontario

✚ Faithful Journey ~ Creative Beginnings Childcare

Creative Beginnings Childcare is a licensed non-profit charitable organization committed to providing exceptional childcare to the community and the diverse families we serve. We provide a vibrant play-based program for children which fosters individualism, creativity, socialization, and school readiness. Our knowledgeable, professional team of teachers offers resources to help support children in a fun, nurturing and safe environment.

2010 has seen its share of struggles and successes. First, we are excited to announce the opening of our 3rd location, Creative Beginnings — Sir Adam Beck. This new location is attached to the school that was just built on Snyder's Road W in Baden. It is home to an infant program for 6, a toddler program for 10, a preschool program for 16, a kindergarten program for 10, and before and after school for kindergarten, as well as school agers up to 12 years.



This year, when the Waterloo Region District School Board decided not to transport students to and from our New Hamburg location and Forest Glen School, it left a lot of our families in the community wondering where to turn. We attended school board meetings and voiced our concerns month after month, with no success. In the end, we were able to charter a bus on contract at the expense of the families needing the service, but a lot of our families just couldn't afford the added cost of transportation. Staff dedicated their time on Saturdays this past Summer to help raise funds for this service. We hosted BBQ fundraisers at No Frills and Sobeys which brought in \$1000 which is approx. 10% of the estimated annual cost. If not for the generosity of Bill and Jill Flemming of Sobeys and the MacKays of No Frills for donating food and supplies for these BBQ's, the funds raised would have been significantly less. Thank you to those in the community that came out to support our fundraising efforts.

With knowledge of the "full day learning" programs (kindergarteners going to school all day, every day) being implemented into the schools fully by 2012, we are still looking at what this means for us as childcare operators.

On another successful note, our centres participated in Raising the Bar. RTB is a voluntary accreditation program that promotes best practices and quality childcare environments for the children in the community. We achieved the highest standard of Gold in all areas for our programs at each of our centres.

It has been a great year with a lot of accomplishments and none of them would have been possible without our great staff who are the face of our centres. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our management team and staff for their hard work, determination and dedication over the past year.

As well, there is a lot of hard work done behind the scenes to ensure our centres are serving the community in the best possible way. The following are very dedicated board members and deserve to be recognized: Leaha Beattie-Palmer (President), Eddie Lewis (Vice President), Anna Plater, Patricia Smart, Kimberley Kippenhuck, Isabel Kuxdorf, Yolanda Golambos, Kelly Bell, Faith Martin and Brianna Allan. Thank you as well, to everyone at Trinity for the continued support and assistance for us to be able to provide such a valuable service to the community.

For more information on our centres and programs that we offer please check out our website at www.creativebeginningschildcare.ca.

We look forward to serving our growing community in 2011.

*Michelle Koch,
Site Supervisor, Creative Beginning Childcare,
Trinity Church Campus, New Hamburg.*