



# Trinity Dove

December 12, 2010 + Advent 3 + Advent Conspiracy  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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## + Sabbaths & Celebrations

### Sunday, December 19 ~ Advent 4

- + Joint Anchor & Sanctuary Church Music Celebration at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures Christmas Program at 11 am.
- + Joint Anchor & Sanctuary Pot-luck at 11:50 am.

### Friday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

- + Carols, Communion & Christmas Story hosted by the Sanctuary Community at 5 pm.
- + Celebration hosted by the Anchor Community with the Affirmation Singers and Trinity Choir at 7 pm.

### Sunday, December 26 ~ Christmas 1 / St. Stephen

- + Joint Anchor & Sanctuary Worship at 9:30 am (9:20 am update) with Christmas favourites hymn-sing.
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.

### Sunday, January 2 ~ Epiphany (Observed)

- + Anchor Worship at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + We honour Florence Sebert (Cake!) at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
- + Sanctuary Worship at 11:30 am.

### Sunday, January 9 ~ Baptism of Our Lord

- + Anchor Worship at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures at 10:45 am. Adults: In Mission for others 4/4: Lutherans, Anglicans...
- + Sanctuary Worship at 11:30 am.

### Sunday, January 16 ~ Epiphany 2

- + Anchor Worship at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures at 10:45 am. Adults: Christian Ethics 1/6: Genetics
- + Sanctuary Worship at 11:30 am.

### Sunday, January 23 ~ Epiphany 3

- + Anchor Worship at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures at 10:45 am. Adults: Christian Ethics 2/6: Privacy
- + Sanctuary Worship at 11:30 am.

### Sunday, January 30 ~ Epiphany 4

- + Anchor Worship at 9:30 am (parish update, 9:20 am).
- + Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- + Faith Adventures at 10:45 am. Adults: Christian Ethics 2/6: Work Place
- + Sanctuary Worship at 11:30 am.

+ *andré lavergne*

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## + Pr. Anne ~ Advent Conspiracy

Grace to you and peace.

My mom has been doing some clearing at her house and that means that she finds things that I have left over the years and gives them back.

So it was that on this one Monday I was handed a huge black binder along with some blankets and old toys. When we got home I took a closer look at the binder realizing that it was all my journals, letters and emails from my trip to East Africa over ten years ago. It was amazing to look back and reflect on what we had experienced.

There was one experience that I wanted to share with you as we get ready for Christmas in the season of Advent.

Early on in our journey, the local pastor that we were working with told us we would help with Sunday service that day. We piled into the land cruiser and bounced off down the road. A couple hours later we stopped in the middle of nowhere. (It looked that way to us) There stood a great big tree in the middle of the Tanzanian plains. Our pastor said, "Here is where we will have church!"

We looked a little surprised but went with it. This certainly wasn't what we were used to but we were there to learn. No one was there when we arrived, but we waited. We waited and waited and waited. By the time we had ended the church service, over a hundred folks had gathered. There was a choir of young Masai women. We had heard the word and sung praises in thanks to God. We had shared the meal of bread and wine.

I can still remember the hot wind on my face as we stood by the tree listening to the pastor preach in Swahili.

Our Advent journey may be a little like that trip to the African plains.

As we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus in the manger this Christmas, and we find ourselves waiting and waiting and waiting, I invite us to be open: open to experiencing Jesus in new ways and in new people.

Perhaps you won't experience a new culture, such as I did long ago, but you might meet someone new, hear of a need of a neighbour you haven't yet met, experience a tradition in a new way. Let's try to be open to the possibilities of this season as we celebrate.



Sanctuary folks are being invited to learn about a new project going on during Advent in North America. It's called "Advent Conspiracy." People are invited to do four things; to worship fully, to spend less, to give more and to love all.

To find out more go to [www.adventconspiracy.org](http://www.adventconspiracy.org). We've also posted a video on our website.

May this season be filled with surprise and wonder as we await the Christ Child in our midst.

+ *anne anderson*

## + Anniversary News

### Cookbooks Going Fast!

At last count, some 575 of 700 Taste of Trinity cookbooks had been sold!

At \$12 each, they make terrific Christmas gifts. All proceeds benefit CLWR and the Wilmot Family Resource Centre. Books may be picked up from the church office weekday mornings between 8 and 11:30 am.

### Ernie's HISTORY Coming Together

The chapters are unfolding. Michel has done some lovely graphics work. The editorial process will begin soon.

+ *larry gravill & friends*

## + Sanctuary News

Every week, we look forward to seeing new faces at Sanctuary where Vicar Jennifer and I are working together to shape our worship and community life.

We have a **Christmas potluck** scheduled for Sunday, December 19, at 11:50 am, following our Faith Adventures Christmas Program.

Join us as we welcome our Faith Adventures families and make some new connections!

A **Winter Potluck** is scheduled for Sunday, January 23, at 12:30 noon. As always, all are invited and all are welcome.

It's a great way to put names and lives to faces.

As you are able, please bring some food to share!

+ *anne anderson*

## + Sacraments & Seasons

### Birth

We rejoice at the October 16 birth of Brody Thomas, a son for Jessica (Bean) & Tim Parkin.

### Death

Our community grieves the death, November 20, of John Wallace, at the age of 87. Blessed are they who mourn.

### January Birthdays

**2** - Stephanie Price, David Ricketts, Pam Balfour; **3** - Cindy Harrison, Gerry Legare; **4** - Mike Speers, Debbie Nickolas, Nicholas Pearson, Kieran Johnston, Joseph Heise, Brooke Medley; **5** - Edward Faruzel, Logan Arnott; **6** - Steven Wettlaufer, Raelyn Cook, Meghan Jantzi; **7** - Doris Langford, Bob Ruthig, Curtis Steinmann; **8** - Anne Hammer, Nathan Otterbein; **9** - Daryl Junker; **10** - Emma Giilck, Bob Cook, Fred Straus, Bradley Barnes, Samantha Junker, Ada Bender, Joseph Durrer; **11** - Krista Durrer; **12** - Sarah Clarke, Danika Parkin; **13** - Peyton Ayre, Owen Burchatzki; **14** - Amy Steinman; **16** - Michael Hayes, Erika Mueller, Michaëla St-Pierre; **17** - Cliff Wootton, Dagmar Otto, Ashley Sheard; **18** - Raimond Danner, Peter Kellendonk, Jacob Durrer; **20** - Trisha McCormack; **21** - Liz Livingston, Brady Schmidt, Logan Becker; **22** - Daniel Mueller; **23** - Bob Anger, Cindy Hammer, Hilmar Hofmeyer, Dave Mueller; **24** - Hollice Stock, Mike Gascon, Matthew Parsons, Chantelle Schwartz, Aspen Schwartz; **25** - Peter Scheid, Tracy Klaassen, Alayna Bailey; **26** - Todd Diebel, Laura Shantz, Steven Jokic; **27** - James Anger, James Oldenburger, Garrett Schwartz; **28** - Clarence Schamber, Ken Hoffman, Larry Keller, Mike Otterbein; **29** - Norma Steinman, Jane Eichler, Leanne Snider; **30** - Ralph Becker, Noni Stewart, Shawn Burchatzki, Sophia Haffner; **31** - Jean Shantz, David Kleine, Serge Blaquiere, Jason Brodrecht, Mackenna Schaaf. Happy birthday, friends!

### January Anniversaries

**3** - Bruce & Debbie Jantzi; **7** - Charlotte & Mike Speers; **9** - Kevin & Val Dupree; **13** - Dianne & Hugh Stere; **14** - Karen & Mark Jutzi, Sheila & Stan Leis; **16** - Serge Blaquiere & Traci Jutzi; **18** - Daryl & Ron Junker; **22** - Crista & Steve Coughlin; **23** - Ed & Marjorie Stix. Happy anniversary!



## + Advent Preparation

**Christmas Hamper** gifts should be in by Sunday, December 12. Any cash donations for groceries would be much appreciated.

The **Advent Mitten Tree** comes down on Monday, December 13. The hampers will be readied on Tuesday morning, December 14.

Need a Christmas gift idea? How about a garden? ...or a granary? What about a goat? Take a look at the **Gifts from the Heart** pamphlet available in the narthex.

Some 100 **We Care Bags** have been filled and returned to the church. It's never too late to get yours in!

+ *andré lavergne*

## + Nurturing Faith ~ Adults

### Sunday Morning Adult Learning

In January, we begin a new series. We explore the ethical dimension of our Christian faith.

January 16 ~ Epiphany 2 ~ Christian Ethics 1/6: Genetics *with Matt Ramer.*

January 23 ~ Epiphany 3 ~ Christian Ethics 2/6: Privacy *with Randy Thomson.*

Jan 30 ~ Epiphany 4 ~ Christian Ethics 3/6: Work Place *with Deb Snider.*

### Open Table

On Friday, January 21, Vicar Jennifer, along with Roger and Nancy Dale, will host an evening of fellowship and faith exploration. We will gather at 6 pm for dinner (provided) in Trinity Hall, then spend some time together exploring and discussing our faith questions. Child care will be provided at the church, so please bring your whole family! We'll wrap things up by 8 pm so you can get the kids home to bed.

This is a safe and welcoming space to bring your questions and concerns about God and church, and it's a great way to connect with your faith family. Look for a sign-up sheet at the church.

Questions? Give Roger or Nancy a shout at 519.662-3132 or call/e-mail Jennifer at 519.662-1810 or famme@telc.ca.

+ *jill merner*

+ *jennifer famme*

## + Epiphany's Chalking the Door

Some years ago, Pastor Paul Bosch circulated the following devotional rite in the ELCIC. It has found wide-spread use in the global ecumenical community. We plan to use it at the Peel & Wilmot Street parsonages. We'd love to have you join us. — André & Anne

On the Epiphany of Our Lord, Thursday, January 6, family and friends gather at the main entrances to homes or apartments—including nursing home quarters, extended care facilities, hospital rooms—and ask God's blessing on their dwellings and on all who live or visit there.

Leadership may be shared with a change of voice at each Leader's part (L).

- L Peace to this house and to all who enter here.
- L A reading from Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."
- L Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Using chalk (hence, "Chalking the Door"), people are invited to inscribe the lintel of the home—the horizontal frame above the door—with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B come from the traditional (9th century) names for the "three kings"—Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar. Some also suggest "Christus Mansionem Benedicat", Latin for "May Christ bless this dwelling!"

Each person is afforded a turn to make one or more of the marks...

**20 + C + M + B + 11**

- L A reading from Isaiah: "The effect of righteousness is peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places."

People may join hands or extend their hands outward and upward ("orans") for the prayers.

- L Let us pray: Sovereign God, we pray that you will bless this home, and all who live or visit here, with

your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

- L Lord, remember your children and teach us to pray:  
**Our Father...**

People may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism.



- L May the Lord watch + over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore. **Amen.**

+ andré lavergne

## + Property Update

We've had a busy year around property concerns. Recent work includes...

### Church

Painting of the Katie Luther Room and nursery has been completed. This will conclude our regularly scheduled work for 2010.

A valve in the upper 1910 wing heating line was replaced when it failed in mid November. A new in-line washroom hot-water heater was installed in the 1910 wing.

### Peel Street Parsonage

Scheduled work has been completed for 2010. Work is ongoing around the October kitchen grease fire.

### Wilmot Street Parsonage

Scheduled energy conservation work has been completed. Some wiring and dry-walling is anticipated in the basement where the new insulation has been applied. This work will likely happen in 2011.

### Lighting Energy Conservation

Recently, lighting replacement in and around the Martin Luther Room was authorized and will be completed in the weeks to come. The energy saving should be significant and may be an indication of further work to come.

In addition, new LED arrays are being installed in exit lights throughout the building. We are awaiting a second shipment of the LED bulbs to complete this work.

+ ken seltzer et al

## + 2011 Stewardship Kit

The **2011 Stewardship Materials** were enclosed in last month's issue of TRINITY DOVE.

In 2011, we will celebrate a century of good stewardship in our current church building. Please consider the stewardship efforts of our forebears, who often had far fewer conveniences and generally less disposable income than we enjoy. Yet, they made the commitment to build the magnificent worship space and facilities we now inhabit. They considered the gifts they had been given and responded generously in time, talent and finances to build and maintain Trinity's facilities and to support Trinity's ministry.

First: Please review the **Invitation to Ministry**, and complete the form, indicating your intention to lend your time and talents to our many ministries in 2011. During Advent, we have been emphasizing the importance of our giving the gift of time.

Second: Please review the **Invitation to Financial Commitment** and complete the form indicating your intentions around financial stewardship for 2011.

Third: Review the **Invitation to PAR** and revise your information if you are already subscribed or consider joining-up if you are not.

As always, your financial commitment and PAR information may be revised at any time.

Your continued good stewardship is appreciated by the entire congregation and by the countless others who benefit from Trinity's extensive ministry. See page 7 of this issue of TRINITY DOVE for a good sense of our current financial position and a small indication of our support for ministries within the congregation, within our community, and well beyond the shadow of Trinity's spire.

+ rick ritz

## + Trinity on the Web

New links, several new documents and hundreds of recent photos have been posted on Trinity's website. Take a look... Joint us in Cyberspace. If you do not have access to the Web, we'd be honoured to give you're a tour from an office computer.

+ andré lavergne

## + TYGers

### Real Men of Trinity Calendar

The enthusiasm has been terrific. The pictures are wonderful. The orders have been coming in.

Calendar orders will be ready for pick-up and autographing on Sunday, December 12, between the services. The price is \$20. **All cheques should be made out directly to Trinity TYGers.**



### December 17 ~ TYGers Caroling

We will have our third annual caroling event on Friday, December 17, at 6:30 pm. We'll meet at the church and head out into the Trinity neighbourhood for some singing and then return to the church for hot chocolate, cookies and a movie. Watch for the sign-up sheet.

### December 30-31 ~ Lock in

We will be having a lock-in during the Christmas school break. There will be games, food, movies and more for an overnight event here at the church. We gather Friday evening at 7 pm and will be finished Saturday morning at 8 am. Cost is \$5 to cover food. TYGers and friends welcome. Please sign-up!

### January 14-16 ~ Winter Retreat

Friday, January 14, 2011 at 7:00pm - Sunday, January 16, 2011 at 1:00pm. Location: Camp Edgewood. Cost : \$100 . Forms available from Pastor Anne beginning in January. Mark your calendars now! All TYGers in Grades 7-12 and friends welcome!

Want to **connect with Pastor Anne**? Call the church 519.662-1810 or catch her via email at [anderson@telc.ca](mailto:anderson@telc.ca) or on Facebook at TYGers New Hamburg.

+ anne anderson & friends

## + Endowment Fund Ideas?

In 2010, our Trinity Endowment Fund supported Lori Endress in Thailand, helped the Wilmot Family Resource Centre and Interfaith Counselling, provided for *Affirmation Camping* and much more. We are now making plans for 2011. As always, we welcome feedback and suggestions. Please speak to Pastor André or Pastor Anne.

+ andré lavergne

## + Tintinnabulations

### December, 2010

**December 13 ~ Christmas Cheer Plates** are prepared by Women of Trinity at 9 am. Cookies should be brought to the church kitchen on Sunday, December 12.

**December 13 ~ Mitten Tree** comes down. Christmas Tree goes up at 7 pm.

**December 14 ~ Christmas Hampers** are prepared at 9 am.

**December 14 ~ Gentle Friends Readers** ~ Gather, 7 pm, in Trinity Hall. This month: GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY by Shaffer & Barrows. Copies available at New Hamburg Library.

**December 18 ~ Trinity-Optimist Christmas Breakfast** begins at 8 am.

**December 27 ~ Trinity's Christmas Blood Donor Clinic** ~ Gather from 1:30 to 7:30 pm at the W-O Cafeteria.

### January, 2011

**January 3 ~ Women of Trinity** ~ Gather, 12:30 noon.

**January 4 ~ Adult Learning Team** ~ We gather at 8:30 am for our regular meeting.

**January 4 ~ Prayer Circle Update** ~ Shirley Unrau & pastors meet, 9:30 am.

**January 12 ~ Nurturing Faith (Children) Team** ~ We gather at 7 pm.

**January 17 ~ Blood Donor Clinic** ~ Gather from 5 to 8:30 pm at the New Hamburg Legion.

**January 18 ~ Gentle Friends Readers** ~ Gather, 7 pm, in Trinity Hall. This month: I AM MY FATHER'S SON by Dan Hill. Copies available at New Hamburg Library.

**January 20 ~ DOVE Prep Team** ~ The Team gathers at 9 am.

### Recurring Events

**Mondays, 8 pm ~ Motivated Mommies** ~ Meet in Trinity Hall. Look for our Facebook page!

**Tuesdays, 6:45 pm ~ TOPS** ~ Taking Off Pounds Sensibly in the Martin Luther Room.

**First Wednesdays, 11:30 am ~ Congregate Dining** ~ Gather at Zion United Church unless otherwise announced.

**Saturdays, 8 pm ~ A/A** ~ A/A open meeting in Trinity Hall.

+ *andré lavergne & jill merner*

## + November Council News

- Every month, Council sends a number of thank-you notes. This month, we thanked Roly Bullock & Gerry Wilkins (adult learning), Sherry Coman (Faith in Film) and Devon Merner & Ryan Gueguen (assisting with TYGers).

- We reviewed a first draft of the 2011 program budget. The Mutual Ministry Team has been working on salaries and benefits. We're also contemplating possible 2011 Endowment Fund expenditures for recommendation to the congregation at the February 13, 2011,

annual meeting.

- Trinity's energy-conservation Capital projects were completed as was a final inspection. Rebates are expected in the weeks to come, likely in 2011.

- Trinity is undertaking a replacement of lighting in the office area in a new government-sponsored program. The project, worth about \$1,000, will not cost Trinity anything.

In a related endeavour, all of Trinity's exit lamps are being replaced with LED technology. The investment will be recouped in well under a year.

- The 2010 Stewardship Kit and Fall, 2010, Worship Rota were recently prepared (hard-copy and electronic) as were 2011 offering envelope sets.

- Lori Arnott and Marcus Buehlow will be retiring from Council in February, 2011. Ken Seltzer and Heidi Ziegler are completing terms and are eligible for re-election.

Council will be nominating Ken and Heidi for new terms at the February Annual Meeting.

Council is examining our current distribution of portfolios and is contemplating possibilities for areas which could benefit from renewed or deepened Council support.

+ *krista durrer and friends*



## + Financial Update to November 30

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 251,260	\$ 24,781	\$ 40,285
Outgo	251,640	28,218	32,961
Balance	(\$ 380)	(\$ 3,437)	\$ 7,324

The **General Fund** deficit reflects a large November insurance payment but still benefits from our reallocation of resources for our reconfigured Pastoral Leadership Team. Despite the shaky economy (many sister congregations are experiencing serious deficits), General Fund offerings have remained within a percent of last year's.

The decreased deficit in the **Capital Fund** reflects energy rebates which have started coming in.

2011 **offering envelope sets** are out. Please collect yours from the church.

Please recycle your unused envelopes by returning these to the church. They will be re-imprinted for special giving (Christmas, Lent/Easter, CLWR, etc.)

### Taste of Trinity Cookbooks

To the end of November, we have received \$6,742 from sales of our anniversary "Taste of Trinity" cookbooks. Our printing costs for the initial 700 books came to \$3,260.35.

We have therefore cleared \$3,481.75 to be shared equally between the global Canadian Lutheran World Relief and the local Wilmot Family Resource Centre. Both agencies deal with food & hunger-related concerns.

Each agency will receive in excess of \$1,700 solely from cookbook sales. These agencies receive additional funds from our special offerings (CLWR) and Endowment Fund distribution (WFRC). What a terrific witness!

### Endowment Fund Distribution

Annual expenditures that were approved in February are being completed. We have made contributions to the Wilmot Family Resource Centre, Interfaith Counselling Centre, Waterloo Seminary Women's Auxiliary, Waterloo Campus Ministry and offered Missionary support to Lori Endress. As usual, any other Endowment Fund expenditures will be completed before year's end.

+ bob ruthig & rick ritz

## + Nurturing Faith ~ Children & Youth

### Faith Adventures

**Christmas Program** ~ With Vicar Jennifer's help, we have been creating a home-grown Christmas program. On December 19 we will share our efforts around the Christmas story at 11 am in the sanctuary.

Following the program, we'll gather for a potluck in Trinity hall and get to know some of our families. As ever: All invited. All welcome!

**New Worship Pamphlets** ~ Please take a look at our new worship pamphlets for kids. Pick one up and try it out at the service. Kids who complete four weeks of pamphlets will receive a Christmas treat!

### Affirmation Ministry

**Grades 3-4** ~ We gather between 9 am and 12 noon on Friday, January 14, for an Affirmation Ministry half-day. Please

make sure your forms are in to Pastor Anne as soon as possible.

**Grades 7-8** ~ We gather between 9 am and 3 pm on Saturday, January 29, for a whole day of Affirmation Ministry. This is session one of three for the year.

+ anne anderson

## + The Women of Trinity

### Secret Sisters' Potluck

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 Shirley Unrau, 662-1515, for details.

+ pat schmetzer

