

Trinity Dove

October 21, 2001 + Pentecost 20 + Tolerance

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
André Lavergne & Nadine Nicholds, Pastors

23 Church Street + Box 419 + New Hamburg + Ontario + NOB 2G0
Phone (519) 662-1810 + Fax 662-4313 + Web www.telc.ca + E-mail mail@telc.ca

+ Sabbaths & Celebrations

Sunday, October 28 ~ Reformation

- + Worship at 9 am. (Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
Affirmation! Presentation of Bibles to Grade 3 youth.
- + Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- + SCS at 10:15 am. Adults: **Melanie Carothers**.
- + Worship at 11:15 am. (Ministry update at 11:05 am.)

Sunday, November 4 ~ Pentecost 22

Celebration of All Saints' Day

- + Worship at 9 am. (Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
Baptism of **Emily Persaud, Darren Morrison**
and **Calvin Wilson**.
- + Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- + Sunday Church School at 10:15 am.
- + Worship at 11:15 am. (Ministry update at 11:05 am.)
Baptism of **Derek Harrison** and **Taylor Randerson**.

Sunday, November 11 ~ Pentecost 23

Celebration of Remembrance Day

- + Worship at 9 am. (Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- + Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- + SCS at 10:15 am. Adults: **Allan Webber**
- + Worship at 11:15 am. (Ministry update at 11:05 am.)

Sunday, November 18 ~ Pentecost 24

- + Worship at 9 am. (Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- + Community Fellowship at 10 am.
TYGers' Book Table and Christmas Craft Sale (fund-raiser for Vancouver)
- + SCS at 10:15 am. Adults: **Jean Schaaf**
- + Worship at 11:15 am. (Ministry update at 11:05 am.)

Sunday, November 25 ~ Reign of Christ

Installation of Shepherds

- + Worship with installation of Shepherds at 9 am.
(Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- + Community Fellowship at 10 am.
TYGers' Book Table (fund-raiser for Vancouver)
- + Sunday Church School at 10:15 am.
- + Worship with installation of shepherds at 11:15 am.
(Ministry update at 11:05 am.)

+ *andré lavergne*

Inside Trinity Dove

Pastor André : TOLERANCE	2
Sacraments & Seasons	3
Molly Wolf : WALLS	4-5
Millennium Project Update	5
Tintinnabulations	6
TYGer Tales	7

+ Pastor André: Tolerance

Peace, friends.

In last year's lovely movie *CHOCOLAT*, the story unfolds of a mother and daughter who move to a small village where they are received with less-than-open arms. They are Easter sorts of people, and it's Lent in the village. It seems, in fact, that it's been Lent in the village for a very long time!

The weeks unfold and it's now Easter. Père Henri is in the pulpit. He is heart-sick and chagrined at the events of recent weeks. Reflecting on the meanness of local Lenten realities, the young priest preaches: "I want to talk about Christ's humanity. I mean how he lived his life on earth; his kindness; his tolerance. We must measure our goodness not by what we don't do; what we deny ourselves; what we resist; or who we exclude. Instead, we should measure ourselves by what we embrace, what we create, and who we include."

As a model for the Christian life, I can think of none better. Not that it's easy, of course. Out in the "real" world, the second shoe has dropped. Military action has begun in Afghanistan. We'd all expected it, sooner or later. Well, it's here. This morning, we learn that some United Nations demining people have been killed. They are deemed the "first civilian casualties of the war." They join the innocent of New York and Washington, the long-suffering of Kabul, the refugees pouring into Pakistan, and countless others to give face and shape to the reality of human terror and misery.

How might our world be different were we more tolerant of people of other cultures and faiths? How might things be different if we were to measure our lives by those whom we include, rather than exclude? Sad fact it is, that our 4000 years of written history are littered from end to end with the tales of people killing, persecuting or reviling one another in God's name. Let it not be so among us!

Let our community stand for tolerance and acceptance in Christ's name, and let us invite others to stand with us. Let us teach our children the path of forbearance and let us welcome the stranger as a friend. History notwithstanding, I cannot imagine that Jesus would have had it any other way.

Can you?

+ *andré lavergne*

+ Sexton Search: Big Shoes

On September 30, between the services, we honoured **Melissa Racho** for her years of service in the role of sexton at Trinity Church. We also gave thanks for **Brian**'s support and able assistance. As was mentioned on September 30, **Melissa Racho** leaves big shoes.

As for filling them... The position is being taken over jointly by **Bruce Hammer** and **Brian Racho**. Both have roots which run deep in the life of the church. They will make an excellent team! We are pleased and honoured at their willingness to serve our community. Please take the opportunity to extend a work of thanks to them!

+ *andré lavergne*

+ Sunday Adult Learning

Current Series

In November, we continue our **WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD** series. **Allan Webber** formerly with the Fifth Armored Division, joins us on Sunday November 11, Remembrance Day, to tell us of his experience in Italy and Holland in WW II. **Jean Schaaf** comes on November 18 to tell us of the Volunteer Special Olympics.

On November 25, we move in a slightly different direction. The congregation will be introduced to Waterloo Lutheran Seminary's Vision 2000+ initiative. That's an endowment fund-raising appeal and recruitment emphasis to take place through 2001-2003. Join us, Sundays. 10:15 am, for these marvellous adult learning opportunities.

Tuesday Evening Lenten Series: Tolerance

This past Lent, a number of people met every week to share a simple brown-bag supper and to screen a movie. The theme for the series was "grace." Each movie showed some aspect or instance of grace. This coming Lent, we want to focus on the theme of "tolerance and acceptance."

To date, suggestions have included **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME**, **SIMON BIRCH**, **ELEPHANT MAN** and **BILLY ELLIOT**. Do you have a suggestion? Speak to **Don Jardin**, **Randy Thomson** or **Barb Honderich** with your ideas.

+ *andré lavergne*

+ Sacraments & Seasons

Births

We celebrate with Mike Junker and Lisa Hughes the birth, October 3, of Maxwell Bruce Junker. Congratulations!

Baptisms

We rejoice at the baptisms, October 7, of Magdeline Grace Corkery, daughter of Caitlin (McGregor) and Len Corkery and of Colin David Farr, son of Janet (West) and David Farr. We welcome you into the Lord's family.

Weddings

We rejoice at the marriages, October 6, of Michael Eichler & Melanie Taves and Shawn Morrison & Melissa Bingeman. Congratulations, friends!

November Birthdays

1 - Dan Fisher, Paul Ziegler, Becky Kaminska; **2** - Alice Brodrecht, Lynn Pauli; **3** - Amy Chiduck, Dennis Jahn, Katie Schwartz; **4** - Carol West, Sherry Pearson, Gerry LeBlanc; **5** - Judith Ziegler, Carl Steinman, Murray Deckert; **6** - Rick Ritz, Mary Cook-Glencross, Mike Junker, Scott Bingeman; **7** - Tammy Junker, Laura Lindner; **8** - Bill Ferguson, Hunter Becker; **9** - Larry Godfrey, Kathryn Ritz, Marty Normandeau, Ian McCurdy; **10** - Chris Medley, Michelle Knaackstedt, Brent Robbins; **11** - Donna Medley, Steven Kirkey; **12** - Laura Nicklas, Millie Buehlow, John Murray; **13** - Jim Murray, Carol Schwartzentruber, Danielle Long; **14** - Elaine Mohr, Jody Steinman, Jacquelyn Campbell, Marty Aitken, Tyler Johnston; **15** - James Arbuckle, Greg Ropp, Christy Beavis, Melanie Jahn; **16** - Carol Merner, Neil Sheard; **17** - Cali Robbins; **18** - Judy Stere, Brad Martin, Cortney Legare, Ben Klooster, Saphire Linseman; **19** - Joan Beavis; **20** - Mary Snider, Cindy Briner, Krista Straus; **21** - Rick Haffner, Jeff Schmidt, Jeff Pauli; **23** Andrew Racho, Danita Fisher, Adam Aho, Christopher Lindner; **24** - Cy Ridout, Philipp Hofmeyer, Janet Boshart, Robert Stefansson, Jessica Seyler; **25** - Bonnie Jokic, Valerie Brenneman, Sam Winhold; **27** - Lori Stewart, Melanie Taves, Christina Baumgaertner, Morgan Schaaf; **28** - James Ingold, Chris Gravill, Brooke Kienapple, Jason Drexler, Sean Millar; **29** - Levi Nicklas, Ray Cook, Betty Stock, Randy Thomson, Tim Glencross, Kory Steinman; **30** - Reta Klaassen, Émilie St-Pierre, Abby Steinman. Happy birthday!

November Anniversaries

1 - Chris & Donna Medley, Jeff & Krista Schmidt; **2** - Bonnie & Rick Long; **3** - Otto & Renate Berg; **4** - Mathew & Suzanne Lindner; **5** - Jean & Kim Ruthig; **7** - Jeremy & Sandra Cook; **8** - Margaret & Burt Flood; **11** - Heather & Rob Leu; **12** - Jane & Peter Klem, Rick & Susan Pearson, Fred & Linda Straus; **14** - Murray & Suzan Deckert, Larry & Diane Godfrey, Dale & Dianne Hillar; Robert McGlynn & Jane Murray; **16** - Laura & Levi Nicklas; **19** - Betty & Hollice Stock; **20** - Calvin & Carol Schwartzentruber, Betty & Roy Bondy; **21** - Doug & Mim Miller; **22** - Theresa & Dick Bakker; **25** - Bruce & Sharon Hammer, Kevin & Kylie Becker; **28** - Mark & Tricia McMaster, Amy & Gary Becker, Jeff & Shelley Lindner; **29** - Mike & Rose Mueller, Wally & John Mueller; **30** - Ruth & Bill Lindner, Beth & Jim Smith. Happy anniversary!

Deaths

We grieve with the Wooff family the death of Carol's mom, Jean MacLean, on September 29. We also grieve with the Kavelman family the death, October 6, of Ruth Kavelman. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

+ *jill merner*

+ Installation of Shepherds

We have been in the process of reviewing Trinity's neighbourhoods and have made some changes. **Mike & Christine Gascon** have retired as shepherds for neighbourhood 10. Similarly, **Mike & Rose Mueller** have retired as shepherds for neighbourhood 16. We are grateful for your years of service. Thank you!

Darrin & Judy Gueguen, who currently serve as shepherds in neighbourhood 14, are moving and will take over neighbourhood 10, their new home! **Doug & Cindy Hammer** are coming aboard as shepherds for neighbourhood 14, while **Gary & Greta Riedel** are taking over neighbourhood 16. We are grateful to all of you. Thanks for your willingness to serve!

Shepherds will be installed at one or other of the services on November 25 - the Reign of Christ.

+ *andré lavergne*

+ Sabbath Blessings

Writing from Prescott, Ontario, Molly Wolf offers another SABBATH BLESSING. Her first series was published under the title HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT: SABBATH BLESSINGS (Liturgical Press). Her second series, is called A PLACE LIKE ANY OTHER: SABBATH BLESSINGS (Image/Doubleday). SABBATH BLESSINGS are published weekly to the Internet community. Each month, we download and reprint one essay. © 2001 Molly Wolf.

Walls

Woke up this morning not just to the sound of leaves –which is ordinary enough– but to their dancing shadows on the roof over my head. This was because the roof was, in fact, fine-woven fabric, strong and thin as silk, two layers: the tent itself and its fly. Between me and the cold, hard, knobbly ground were four layers of fabric – bedclothes, nightshirt, tent floor, ground sheet– and two of vinyl, containing some cubic feet of mildly compressed air. In short, there wasn't even half an inch of solid stuff between my tender person and the great outdoors.

This is as it should be when you're camping. There's much less, in fact, between me and the great outdoors when I'm outside the tent: at best a single layer of tarp-fabric, cheap blue plastic sheeting, over our picnic table (other, of course, than clothing; while Manitoulin Island isn't as buggy as the mainland, there are still too many mosquitos around for nudism). As I found the first time I went camping, this exposedness –this sense of being only very thinly veiled to your surroundings– is in fact one of the great pleasures of camping. We could, I suppose, have rented one of the small frame cottages around this campground, but it wouldn't be the same.

There's no word for this that I know, other than “nakedness” (and that's not quite right either). We take for granted, in “civilized” places, that the walls between us and the great outdoors will be solid, permanent, weatherproof. In more Interesting Times a few centuries ago, those walls might very well have been three foot thick and solid stone. We're not quite as vulnerable as we were back then, and our walls have grown steadily less substantial over time. But even the most jerrybuilt of contemporary houses is enormously substantial compared to my tent.

Of course, I couldn't live this way always. In past camping trips, we've weathered very heavy rain in this tent with hardly

a drip, having prudently slung a tarp over the fly before the skies opened. But unless you knew exactly what you were doing, you wouldn't want to be out here so lightly protected during the winter. This place at the north end of Lake Huron has winters even more substantial and respect-worthy than we have at home, hundreds of kilometers to the south. I don't know, but I expect that the original peoples here, Odawa and Ojibwa, probably had winter houses. You need those, up here on the fringes of the real North. And this is not real bear country; I don't know if I'd be willing to tackle being this unprotected in serious bear country, not without knowing more than I do now. I respect bears and I don't want to mix with them.

But for right now, living this skinless to the world is pure delight and entirely practical. In fact, when I tried to put thick-soled real shoes on, I found myself teetering around the campsite tripping over roots. On this nubbly ground, thin rubber sandals are far more practical.

Because God is never far away, especially on Manitoulin Island, I thought for a bit (as I strolled over to the loo) about the thickness or thinness of our relationship to Him/Herself.

What I desire most, and fear most, is to have between me and God nothing much thicker than my tent's silky sea-blue wall: a veiling only, not a wall; and a veiling only because I don't yet trust God quite enough to get naked with Him. I've seen myself in too many dress-shop changing room mirrors for that, thank you. But I certainly don't want the between-us space to be filled with hard, protecting walls, as though God were the Canadian winter, something to be feared and hidden from, or as though God were a black bear, dangerously unpredictable but predictably dangerous. No: I do believe in a loving God, and a God with whom I should feel safer than I in fact do.

When I start thinking that way, I start having to reconsider how I believe in God: what bits of the doctrine I hold to stem from genuine note-taking on angel-wrestling (which is what theology is, really) and which of my bits of doctrine are more like walls, meant to protect me and to exclude what I see as dangerous or wrong. Doctrine driven by the need for safety –by fear and mistrust– isn't, I think, what God wants from us. God, being a true lover, would rather have us in the buff than veiled, and rather veiled than dressed in heavy, protective clothing, and rather heavily dressed than armoured, and far rather armoured than lurking on the upper floor of the keep with the doors bolted shut and the ladder pulled up, lest the

Enemy Other get in. I've never sensed God yet in a piece of fortification the way I do in a tent. (Maybe this is why Paul was a tentmaker, not a mason?)

I don't mind a God of power. A good strong wind would certainly knock down our dining-room shelter, and a strong enough wind might harm or dislodge the tent; but you don't get hurricanes up here. A God of power on Manitoulin Island in July could be a God like a summer storm, sweeping across Lake Kagawong, which gleams through the trees a few dozen meters away. I wouldn't want to be out there in a canoe in a thunderstorm, of course.

But I have declared myself to be –and increasingly know myself to be– a lamb in God's fold and under God's protection, a child on my Father's arms. I know increasingly that God is active and helpful in my life: no dangerous black-bear presence; no bleak and distant wintery authority always in need of placation; but a force of love, ancient and substantial as the rib of Earth under my sandals, big as the sky, firm and gentle as the wind in the slender maples, and warm as the sun striking brilliance from the woods around me.

And so I can sleep soundly, wrapped in these few thin layers of fabric, so close to the air. In my middle age, after long experience of long winters and black bears, I seem to be discovering that life with God in it is indeed a safe sort of place, a place in which a person doesn't need foot-thick walls just to get by. Out here in the gentle woods of Manitoulin, which is lapped on so many edges by sweet water, big and small, it's right and proper to sleep with only sea-blue silky cloth above and some squeezed air and vinyl below, and to sleep that way in trust and peace. And so it should always be, for all God's children; and so it will become, in God's own good time.

+ molly wolf

+ Warm Winter Woollies: Mitten Tree

Every year, Trinity festoons a mitten tree during Advent. Hats, scarves, mittens and other warm winter woollies are then placed in Christmas Hampers. Some people are looking for wool for some fall knitting. Got any surplus skeins? Drop them off at the church and we will pass them along.

+ andré lavergne

+ New Members Welcome!

Several people and families are contemplating membership at Trinity. In fact, two adults are planning for their baptisms on January 13. Interested?

We have arranged a series of Inquirers' Classes to be held on October 25, November 20, December 5, December 18 and January 3, from 7 to 8 pm. As well, there is the possibility of a gathering on January 12 for those adults who are going to be received by baptism, to prepare for the event. The Thursday, October 25 session will be an introductory meeting where I will provide an overview of the following sessions. All are invited to attend any or all of the sessions.

Participation in the Inquirers' Classes can be helpful to all —whether new or old in our community— who might wish to join the congregation on January 13. Spouses and friends are welcome! If you're interested, contact me at 662-1810.

+ nadine nicholds

+ Millennium Project: Great News!

The last lights have arrived and will be put up shortly. Support from Trinity members has been wonderful. To the end of September, we have over \$64,000 in hand toward our goal of about \$84,000 in total project costs. We've done very well! Thank you! Have you made your family's financial contribution toward our Millennium Project? Every bit helps. Please get your Millennium Fund contributions in as soon as possible and encourage any family and friends to do the same. Our investment today helps us to keep faith with generations past and generations yet to come.

+ andré lavergne

+ Millennium Parish Photo Album

Photography is now completed with well over 300 families photographed. We are very grateful to **Buck Roth** for his direction and encouragement. All families should receive their photos in plenty of time for Christmas. We have now turned our hand to the creation of our new parish album. This will take a lot of behind-the-scenes work. We hope to have our album in hand for January.

+ andré lavergne

+ Tintinnabulations

November 2 - Royal Winter Fair Bus Trip

The bus trip to the Royal Winter Fair has been fully subscribed. A waiting list is a possibility. Give **Shirley Unrau** a call, at 662-1515, for information.

November 5 ~ ELW

The ELW will gather, 7:30 pm, for its regular meeting. A praise offering will be received for the ELCIC's mission work. Information about Operation Christmas Child will be distributed. Call **Shirley Unrau**, 662-1515, for further information.

November 7 ~ Sacred Circle

The Sacred Circle will gather, 7:30 pm, Wednesday, November 7, at the home of **Barb Honderich**, 62 Bleams Road West, New Hamburg. All women are welcome. For details, call **Chris Ritz**, at 662-1798.

November 10 ~ Nithview Bake & Craft Sale

The event will take place from 10 am to 4 pm. Donations of home baking are welcome and should be brought in by 9 am.

November 11 ~ Remembrance Day

The Royal Canadian Legion will be hosting a Remembrance Day service at 3 pm at the New Hamburg Community Centre. Legion padre **Bob Thaler** will preside. Padre **André Lavergne** will preach.

November 20 ~ Gentle Friends

The Gentle Friends gather, 7:30 pm, to discuss THE STRANGE ONE by **Fred Bodsworth**. Copies available at the New Hamburg Library. **Kathryn Ritz**, 662-2960, has information.

November 21-25 ~ Joseph's Coat

Trinity's **Lisa Hagen** is directing JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT at the River Run Centre, Guelph, From November 21 through 25. For tickets, call the box office at (519) 763-3000.

Continuing Community Calendar

CLEAN (narcotics) - Mondays, 8 pm.

WALC (seniors' exercise) - Tuesdays, 10:30 am

Jolly Losers (weight loss) - Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Trinity Quilters - Wednesdays, 9 am

A/A - Saturdays, 8 pm

Bits & Pieces Crafts - Third Monday, 7 pm

Parent Support - Fourth Monday, 7 pm

Reading Group - Third Tuesday, 7 pm

Day Care - Weekdays, 7 am to 6 pm

Interfaith Counselling - By appointment.

Need information? Call 662-1810.

+ *andré lavergne & friends*

+ Discipleship ~ Kids/Youth

We have now entered into the longest Sunday School term of the year. Full steam till Christmas! One of the reasons we can survive these long hauls is the fact that we have great helpers. Helpers come

in all sizes, some are parents and some are high school students and all are appreciated for their hard work Whether it's cutting craft bits or dramatizing the Gospel, helpers are servants of the Lord.

Affirmation! Ministry

A reminder that the grade 3's receive their Bibles at the 9 am service on October 28.

Here are the dates for all the Affirmation! Ministry events in November and December:

November 6 - Faith and Life - grades 7 & 8, 7 - 8:30 pm

November 20 - Grades 3-6, 7 - 8:30 pm in Trinity Hall,

"Create-a-Cover" for our cookbooks. I hope we still have recipes coming in, it's not too late!

December 4 - Grade 7 Affirmation! class, 7 - 8:30 pm

December 7 - Grade 6 Affirmation! day, 9 am - 3 pm

December 11 - Grade 8 Affirmation! class, 7 - 8:30 pm

Mentor Meetings and Program

Blue - Making Disciples 12: CHURCH LIFE (Oct. / Nov.)

Red - Making Disciples 9: BAPTISM (Nov. / Dec.)

Gold - "WHERE AM I GOING?" Share Sheet (Nov. / Dec.)

+ *nadine nicholds, claire otterbein & friends*

+ Finances to September 30, 2001

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 164,001	\$ 12,208	\$ 11,155
Outgo	182,628	8,359	8,600
Balance	- 18,627	3,849	2,555

	Millennium Fund	Memorials
Income	\$ 63,689*	\$ 215
Outgo	79,188*	-
Balance	- 15,499*	215

*Millennium combines 2000 *and* 2001.

General Fund Update

Last year, to September 30, we had a deficit of \$20,200 versus this year's at \$18,627. About \$8,219 of GST is included in this year's figures largely due to the Millennium Project. (We get half back!)

Capital Fund Update

Major Capital expenditures have been for the parsonage roof (\$6,850) and the church kitchen stairs (\$736). Repairs to church eaves-troughs are in progress.

Millennium Fund Update

To September 30, we have over \$63,689 or 75% in hand toward our goal of about \$84,000 in total costs.

Transfers Update

Transfers include Global Hunger (\$5,934), Disaster Relief (\$1,060), TYGers (\$1,513) and ELW (\$835).

Direction for Trinity Church

Our General and Millennium Funds represent our first priority. Can we move these into the black by December? We think so! Please take Trinity's needs to heart! Your last offering statement contained an all-purpose offering envelope. Please use it.

+ *laurie clarke & friends*

+ TYGer Tales

November 2 ~ Hockey Game

We gather at 7:15 pm to see Woodstock play New Hamburg at the New Hamburg Arena. Leadership is provided by the **Aho** and **Ritz-May** families. This is a mentor-friendly event!

November 18 ~ Craft Sale

A Christmas Craft Sale will be held between the services on November 18. The proceeds will support the youth attending Cry Out!, 2002 national youth gathering. Can you help? Get your crafts to the church by November 11. Leadership is being provided by the **Aho**, **Roth** and **Schwartzentruber-Whittaker** families. Tax receipts for donations-in-kind are available. Questions? Call **Deb Roth**, at 662-3238, or **Ruth Aho**, at 662-3835.

November 18/25 ~ Book Table

A book table will be offered in conjunction with the craft sale on November 18 and the week after. Our youth earn a commission toward Cry Out! on books provided by Sperling Church Supply. Leadership is provided by the **Ritz** and **McCurdy** families. Contact **Rick Ritz**, 748-4868, for info.

December 1 ~ TYGers Planning Meeting

The next planning meeting for TYGers (and especially for all Cry Out! families, including youth and one or both parents) will take place on Saturday, December 1, at 9:30 am. At this meeting, we will receive any outstanding registration forms and the \$200 deposit; bring families up to date on any available current travel information; review our TYGers Program Plan to September, 2002, with a view to making any necessary additions, adjustments.

+ *andré lavergne, nadine nicholds & friends*

+ Trinity on the Web - www.telc.ca

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church maintains a great web site at www.telc.ca. It's terrific for snow birds to visit and keep up to date! We have some terrific new artwork provided by a Spanish Franciscan monk. Come, take a look!

+ *andré lavergne*