



Trinity Dove

August 19, 2007 + Pentecost 12 + Sanctuary
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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✦ Sabbaths & Celebrations

Sunday, August 26 ~ Pentecost 13

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.

Sunday, September 2 ~ Pentecost 14

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.

Sunday, September 9 ~ Pentecost 15

Faith Adventures begins today!
Sanctuary Community gathers for first time!

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Interesting Lives: **John Ritz**
- ✦ Open House / Potluck at 11:45 am.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, September 16 ~ Pentecost 16

TT@MM! We gather for first time this week!

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Interesting Lives: **Jim Murray**
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.
- ✦ Sanctuary Potluck at 6 pm.

Sunday, September 23 ~ Pentecost 17

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: In Mission with Others: **CLEAN**
- ✦ Ritz Reunion at 12 noon.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, September 30 ~ Pentecost 18

- ✦ Worship at 9:30 am (Ministry update at 9:20 am.)
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Nurturing Faith at 10:45 am.
Adults: In Mission with Others: **A/A**
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

✦ *andré lavergne*

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✚ Pastor Anne ~ Sanctuary

Grace and peace, friends.

We have been busy getting many things ready for our fall season and, in all the preparation and rushing around, there have been two things on my mind.

The first is a song by a group called Caedmon's Call. They are a group from the US who really don't fit the mould of the happy-clappy praise band. They have lyrics that ruffle some feathers and that give the listener a glimpse into members' lives. The song that has stuck with me is called *Shifting Sand*. At first I just liked the sound—simple and reflective with a great melody. Then I started to look at my friends' faces as we listened to the song together.

I began to realize that something was hitting home with more than a few people. The theme of the song has it that we are all moving on shifting sand—trying to find a place to belong; to fit; to be loved. And what it all comes down to is that we can stand firmly—with sure feet—only on God's grace. Here is a taste of *Shifting Sand*.

Sometimes I believe all the lies
So I can do the things I should despise
And every day I am swayed
By whatever is on my mind

I hear it all depends on my faith
So I'm feeling precarious
The only problem I have with these mysteries
Is they're so mysterious

And like a consumer I've been thinking
If I could just get a bit more
More than my fifteen minutes of faith,
Then I'd be secure

My faith is like shifting sand
Changed by every wave
My faith is like shifting sand
So I stand on grace

I am attracted by the fact that someone is willing to sing about the tricky topic of how we sometimes try to use our faith to be "good enough". The idea that if we only prayed hard enough, sang well enough, knew enough Scripture—or whatever—we would belong and know God's acceptance and love. The problem—One of them!—with that idea is that it just doesn't work. Life's waves crash down hard on the sand where we have been standing, and

building, and the waves having retreated, we find ourselves stranded, standing on *grace*. Grace!

What it all comes down to is the grace of God. A gift of love freely given—not because of anything we have done—simply because we are first loved by God. We stand on grace.

The second thing that I have been thinking about in connection with this fall's new beginnings is Article 7 of the Augsburg Confession. (Actually, it was in reading André's convention speech that it was brought back to mind.) Article 7: "For the true unity of the church it is enough to agree concerning the teaching of the Gospel and administration of sacraments. It is not necessary that human traditions or rites and ceremonies... be everywhere the same."

So for us Lutherans, it's *Word and Sacrament* that are necessary. We are called as the church to tell the Good News—that we are loved by God—and to celebrate that Good News—in communion and through baptism. In each community and congregation, the "how" of the Gospel may differ. Our worship

may not all look the same everywhere. Our expressions of God's love will be unique to each context. What remains the same is the *Word and Sacrament* core of our faith. We stand on grace.

So what does this all have to do with our fall program? Well, at 5 pm on Sundays, a new community will gather for worship. The worship will be called "Sanctuary". The people will gather as the "Sanctuary Community". The people who gather will be working out what it means to stand on grace and to live lives of love—same as at 9:30 am on Sunday morning!

The Difference? The forms of Word and Sacrament, the forms of worship, may be a little different. For example, the sermon may take the form of a discussion or the use of new media or art. Our music will still largely reflect the treasures of Evangelical Lutheran Worship but you'll likely find a guitarist, pianist, drummer or others up front. Our liturgy will likely reflect a different setting or none at all! But while our style may be different, the core will remain the same: Word and Sacrament, firmly rooted in God's grace. We stand on grace.

The shape of worship will be born of the experiences and ideas of the gathered community. The hands and hearts of the Sanctuary Community will give shape and substance to our time together. In a simple and heartfelt way each person will have a hand in how our community evolves and what sort of church emerges.

It is my hope that in our Sanctuary Community there will be room for people who have not been to church for a while; for the curious; for people who haven't yet found a place where they fit in; for people who have questions. Of course, others are welcome too!

I hope that we might learn to journey together through the waves and through the shifting sand.

I hope that we can remind one another where we all end up standing.

I hope that there will be room enough for all because we all stand on grace.

I'll be looking for you on the journey!

✝ *anne anderson*

✝ Sacraments & Seasons

Baptism

On Sunday, July 15, we celebrated the baptisms of Tori Sophia Burchatzki (born May 4; child of Shawn & Sonya Burchatzki). We welcome you into the Lord's family!

Weddings

On Saturday, June 23, Kristal Lee-Ann Stere & Adam Daniel Preidt were married at Trinity.

On Saturday, July 7, John Roth & Carla Yule were wed in New Dundee. Congratulations, friends!

Deaths

Our community grieves the deaths of Margaret Simon, July 6, at the age of 92; and of Joan Firetto, July 25, at the age of 65. Blessed are they who mourn.

September Birthdays

2 - Connie Forler, Maria Baumgaertner, Stacy Medley, Rae-Leala Gole; **3** Ken Bean, Cara Scheerer, Stacey Holst; **4** - Steve Malloch, Mark Godfrey, Alec Merner; **5** - Ruth Jones, Sheila Snyder, Judy Gueguen, Tamara Bakker; **6** - Marilyn Barrow, Brian Wettlaufer, Teagan Cook; **7** - Gerald Eichler, Mark White, Jennifer Becker, Bailey MacKenzie, Eryka Mountain; **8** - Rick Whittaker; **9** - Mildred Cook, Ralph Pauli, Judie Seltzer; **10** - Florence Herman, Joey Brennan, Mykaela Erb, Aspen Kienapple; **11** - Mark Hagen, Rick Long, Ryan Danner, Travis Hatchwell; **12** - Joyce Snyder, Alison Burchatzki; **13** - Hugh Stere, Aimee Anger, Stefanie Bender; **14** - Marcus Buehlow, Darrin Gueguen, Leeanne

Barrett; **15** - Kathy Weicker, Melanie Jahn, Brody Lagace-Roote, Lillian Schwartz; **16** - Pat Schmetzer, Kevin Durrer; **17** - Nancy Arbuckle, Ruby Strauss, Meredith Hagen, Shelby Ingold; **18** - Bill Lahn, Mike Schiedel, Benjamin Knackstedt; **19** - Don Zarnke; **20** - Ray Merner, Cindy Holst, Kevin Power, Dale Egerdee, Chazen Snyder, Brayden Smith, Easton Mayer; **21** - Peggy Faulhafer, Andrea Aho; **22** - Michelle Jokic; **23** - Don Shaw, Jake Ritz, Caitlin Pearson; **24** - Denise Kienapple, Anne Anderson, Travis Bondy; **25** - Marlene Schamber, Denise Gingerich, Claire Otterbein, Rick Trafford, Jim Eichler, Alexandra Smith, Lucas Bast, Joshua Durrer; **26** - Claudia Danner, Sheri Morrison, Barry Kienapple, Matt Aho; **27** - Joyce Hammer, Nicole Parsons; **28** - Mim Miller; **29** - Dianne Stere, Carolyn Witzel, Jane Murray, Patricia Bruce, Ethan Daniels; **30** - Lorrie Power, Troy Ferguson, Chad Prues, Brett Bakker, Anne Aitken, Michelle Hammer.

September Anniversaries

1 - Edna & Marcus Buehlow, Neil & Reta Klaassen, Dolores & Neil Hofstetter, Linda Bjerre Danner & Perry Danner; **3** - Carl & Norma Steinman, Gordon & Shirley Bender; **4** - Brad & Jennifer Becker; **5** - Carol & Rob Murray; **6** - Hans & Joyce Lass, Dan & Janet Boshart; **7** - Debbie & Tom Linseman; **8** - Bev & Robert Yule; **9** - Earl & Susan Nickolas, Mary & Todd Seltzer; **10** - John & Lorene Wallace; **12** - David & Wendy Schwartz, Lisa Hagen, Randy Thomson; **13** - Paul & Sheri Morrison; **14** - Jim & Leanne Snider; **16** - George & Marlene Mueller, Brendan & Amy Cape; **17** - Kathryn & Bill Ritz, Cindy & Walter Briner, Christine & Mike Gascon, Debbie & Todd Nickolas, Anesa & Bryan Wettlaufer, Don & Gwen Zarnke; **19** - Richard & Valerie Gerber, Gerry Baan & Doreen Lindner-Baan; **20** - Cy & Reta Ridout, Millie & Stuart Rhem; **22** - Dave & Susan Rogers; **24** - Myrtle & Ralph Pauli, Adam & Katrina Jantzi; Travis & Catherine Deckert; **25** - Don & Ritz Coxson, Dave & Greta Mello; **26** - Michelle & Chad Gravill; **27** - Kelly & Russell Strickler.

BIG Days!

Look for the following "Wow!" wedding anniversaries coming this September:

Hans & Joyce Lass (September 6 - 55 years)
Stu & Millie Rhem (September 20 - 55 years)
Cy & Reta Ridout (September 20 - 60 years)
Don & Rita Coxson (September 25 - 60 years)

✝ *jill merner*

✚ Molly Wolf's Sabbath Blessings

Each month, we download and reprint one of Molly Wolf's lovely essays. © 2007 Molly Wolf.

This essay: for Stefen and Val, with unending gratitude.

Paint Job

Over the last three days, my new neighbour and I have been painting my living room. When I got the house keys on Thursday, the living room — which is long and large, with a fireplace at one end — was dismal indeed. It had been painted a sort of yellowy tan. Smoking had tinted it deeper with nicotine, and one former occupant's simmering resentment had added a sort of spiritual staining as well. It was such a sad room. But I we scrubbed it down with trisodium phosphate and rinsed that off, and then we primed it and painted it. It took us three days, because there was such a lot of brushwork, and the ceiling still needs a second coat.

Now it's brilliant. As my neighbour observed, new paint has made it a foot higher, eighteen inches longer, and at least two feet wider, and it's *elegant*. It doesn't sing yet, but the potential's there.

We talked as we painted, about the town I'm moving into, about our lives (interesting stuff there!), about what it is to be a man in this day and age, about our kids. About the church we both attend, two blocks from our next-door houses; about its challenges and patterns, the things he finds frustrating but that I understand — ach, eastern Ontario small-town Anglicanism. His wife drifted freely into and out of the house, and we took breaks and sat out on my verandah and drank iced tea while they smoked.

We share certain visions. The big one is that faith is meant to be lived out, practically, in day-to-day matters. He wasn't helping out with the painting simply to be neighbourly, although that was certainly part of it. He was doing so out of a profound belief that (pace Luther) "faith without works is dead". If we truly do believe that God took the action of coming to live among us, even to sharing our death — and as Christians, we do believe that — then the least we can do is lend a hand with a paintbrush when a single woman takes over a Victorian house sorely in need of repainting.

It's got to be reciprocal, of course. My help for my neighbours goes without saying — whatever I can manage practically, but also more than that. I haven't their talent for house renovations and repairs; I never learned, and I have very little self-confidence (they intend to get to work on that). What I can offer is what I do best, which is hands-on

Godtalk stuff, which they need the way I need help with the painting. So when we'd finished the painting, we sat out on the verandah and started planning how we can build a community that nourishes Christian spirituality on a very practical and day-to-day basis, working in a small Eastern Ontario Anglican church. We've got some ideas going. We're starting to talk theology.

Then my neighbours and I went into the kitchen, where we demolished a redundant, ugly cupboard, starting the next stage. Tomorrow, after I finish my work project, I'd get myself over to the new house and start washing down kitchen cupboards, readying them for paint. It will take all next week, but I'll get it done.

✚ molly wolf

✚ Convention News

The big news from the 2007 ELCIC national convention was that Susan Johnson was elected National Bishop of the ELCIC. Wow! Terrific news! Susan has served her church with distinction and will make a wonderful witness in her new role and ministry.

We passed a *Greening of the Church* motion which will see our congregation invited into the wider greening of the church effort. Trinity is already moving in this direction with our recently-undertaken energy audit.

The following National Church Council *Mission* motion failed by a 200/181 margin: That this convention affirms that the diversity within Canada's culture requires responses to a variety of persons in order for this church to be *In Mission for Others*. We also affirm that the synods have the mandate to devise mission strategies appropriate to their regional settings. Accordingly, we encourage synods to develop ways to best minister to people who live in committed same-sex relationships, including the possibility of blessing such unions.

Clearly, our church is not of a mind. Moreover, the failure of this motion sees people in our synod and others in the ELCIC in very different places, on very different journeys. Although we — Emily Ritz and I — were prepared to speak on the motion, time was called and we could not speak. In fact, I had prepared four speeches, each having a different emphasis (personal experience, Augsburg Confession, Scripture, contemporary society). The first two, together with Emily's, are posted in the narthex and are available in the "documents" section of our website at www.telc.ca.

For complete convention coverage, visit www.elcic.ca .

✚ andré lavergne

✚ New Faith Adventures!

Great things are happening here!

Our opening Sunday is September 9. We'll gather, at 10:45 am in Trinity Hall (after our 9:30 am worship and some community fellowship time in the Katie Luther Room).

At 10:45 am, we'll meet in Trinity Hall—our new music and gathering area! We'll meet our Faith Adventures teachers and shepherds & explore our new spaces—theatre, story-telling room, art room and music area.

At 11:45 am, we'll share a pot-luck lunch together with the whole Trinity community. We invite everyone to bring something to share!

Thank You

I would like offer a big word of thanks to all of the people of Trinity who have been helping to birth Trinity's Faith Adventures. There have been many donations of money, resources and equipment that have allowed a hard working team of volunteers to create our space and plan our program. Thank you, thank you, thank you everybody! You are helping to create an inviting, festive and creative place for kids to explore their faith!

We have had a great crew of painters and designers including Sarah Clarke, Ericka Mueller, Jess O' Donaghue Rachel Gueguen, Lori Arnott, Holly McCurdy, Dean Clarke, Nancy & Glen Brodrecht, Ross & Jane Eichler. Thank you.

We have had many willing hands to create our new space and contents including Bill Lindner, Jeff Lindner, Henry Simon, Cy Ridout, Paul Diebel and Buck Roth. Thank you!

Faith Adventures Program

This fall, we will be using the *Firelight* curriculum from Augsburg Fortress Publishing. The material is made to be used in a rotation model and the two themes we will cover over 2007-2008 are *The Church Seasons* and the *Parables of Jesus*. The kids will have units that will alternate between the themes to have a good mixture. If you would like to know the specific unit we are covering in any given week, take a look at our program plan posted on the bulletin board in the Faith Adventures hall.

We're in for a terrific year, friends. We're excited about the possibilities. Bring your kids; bring their friends!

✚ anne anderson

✚ Affirmation!

Grade 7 Affirmation! ~ We gather on Tuesday, September 25, at 7 pm, in the Martin Luther Room.

Grade 8 Affirmation! ~ We gather on Wednesday, September 26, at 7 pm, in the Martin Luther Room.

✚ anne anderson

✚ Young Adults: TT@MM!

Trinity has invited other churches—Hillcrest, St. George's, Steinmann, Zion—to join us to offer a monthly young-adult "philosopher's café" featuring guest speakers, coffee and conversation. The venue is MeMe's Café. The date is the Third Thursday of the month. The time is 7 pm. Our first speaker (September 20) is Dr. Oz Cole-Arnal. He will begin our conversation around the theme "Justice... Not Just Us!". Look for the posters around town!

✚ andré lavergne

✚ Adult Learning

Sunday Mornings: Crossing Over & More!

We begin with two Interesting Lives sessions featuring John Ritz (September 9) and Jim Murray (September 16).

For the rest of September and October we'll offer a five-session series called "In Mission with Others". We'll be joined by guests from CLEAN, A/A, Community Care Concepts, Wilmot Family Resource Centre and Creative Beginnings Day Care.

The fall will include a four-session series called "Crossing Over." We'll be joined by lawyer Randy Thomson, financial planner Jeff Harris, and funeral director Trevor Jutzi—each with a unique take on *crossing over*. Pastor Lavergne will conclude the series.

This Fall: Wednesday Evenings: LtQ

Pastors André and Anne will be offering a pastors' study which will unfold beginning October 31, 2007. The series is called LIVING THE QUESTIONS and will afford us the opportunity to pick up where we left off after HEART OF CHRISTIANITY. Complete details will be published in September. More? Visit <http://www.livingthequestions.com/>.

✚ andré lavergne

✚ Tintinnabulations

August 27 ~ ELW Gathering

Trinity's ELW will gather on Monday, August 27, 7:30 pm, in Trinity Hall. All women of the parish and community are welcome. Contact Shirley Unrau, 662-1515, for information.

August 27 ~ Blood Donor Clinic

Nith Valley Mennonite Church will host a clinic on Monday, August 27, 2:00 - 8:30 pm at W-O. Speak to Ken Seltzer for information or please call 1-888-TO-DONATE to donate!

September 4 ~ Prayer Circle Update

Shirley Unrau & pastors meet, 9:30 am.

September 18 ~ Gentle Friends

The Gentle Friends Reading Group gathers, 7:30 pm, at the home of Kathryn Ritz, 39 Hunter Street. Information: 519.662-2960.

September 20 ~ DOVE Prep Team

The DOVE Preparation Team gathers at 9 am.

September 20 ~ TT@MM!

Prof. Oz Cole Arnal is on at 7 pm. You should be too!

October 1 ~ ELW Gathering

Trinity's ELW will gather on Monday, October 1, 7:30 pm, in Trinity Hall for a meeting with a Thanksgiving theme. Contact Shirley Unrau, 662-1515, for information.

Saturdays, 8 pm ~ A/A

A/A —Alcoholics Anonymous— meets Saturdays, 8 pm, for an open meeting in Trinity Hall.

Mondays, 8 pm ~ CLEAN

CLEAN —Community Link Empowered Against Narcotics— meets in the Martin Luther Room.

Tuesdays, 7 pm ~ TOPS

TOPS —Taking Off Pounds Sensibly— meets in the Martin Luther Room.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Council Proclamation

At its June meeting, Trinity's Council issued the following proclamation:

October 7, 2007 shall be observed as Pentecost 19 / Thanksgiving and celebrated as Brian Racho & Bruce Hammer Sunday.

December 16, 2007 shall be observed as Advent 3 and celebrated as Jane Trafford Sunday.

January 13, 2008 shall be observed as The Baptism of Our Lord and celebrated as Don Jardin Sunday.

March 30, 2008 shall be observed as Easter 2 and celebrated as Dave Mello Sunday.

There are many great people who give shape to the ministry of Trinity Church. Let's celebrate them!

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Bruce Hammer Retires

A few weeks ago, Bruce Hammer tendered his resignation as sexton at Trinity Church on account of illness. For a number of years, Bruce had job-shared the position with Brian Racho.

Since then, Bruce has undergone surgery and is contemplating various possibilities around further treatment. Of course, we embrace Bruce, Anne and their family in our prayers.

Bruce has been a terrific member of the leadership team at Trinity: responsive, willing, helpful, dedicated. We are grateful for his years of faithful service.

As it happens, and as mentioned above, Council had already made the following proclamation: "October 7, 2007, shall be observed as Pentecost 19 / Thanksgiving and celebrated as Brian Racho & Bruce Hammer Sunday."

We'll have an opportunity, then, to honour Bruce —and Brian!— and to give thanks.

For the time being, Brian Racho is picking up the slack and performing the sexton's role full-time. Ray Merner provides back-up.

Thank you, friends!

✚ *andré lavergne*

✦ Finances to July 31, 2007

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 139,467	\$ 8,743	\$ 10,680
Outgo	149,368	1,712	7,798
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Balance	(\$ 9,901)	\$ 7,031	\$ 2,882

While our General Fund offerings are running 5-6% ahead of last year's, in 2006 we covered much of the year with a single pastor so our payroll was less. This year, we are back up to full strength, and very busy! As well, expenditures are up owing to a large heating repair and other front-of-year costs. All tolled, we are showing an accumulated General Fund deficit.

While we are in the black in the Capital Fund, we expect to spend our accumulated surplus on a number of approved projects within a few weeks. This will a new furnace and kitchen counter at the Peel Street parsonage.

Please review your contributions and help to keep us in good financial shape!

✦ *bob ruthig & andré lavergne*

✦ Property

Energy Audit Results

During the week of June 10, a comprehensive energy audit was undertaken of Trinity Church and parsonages. The audit was performed in cooperation with Greening Sacred Spaces - Waterloo Region, itself a cooperative venture of Faith and the Common Good and the Residential Energy Efficiency Project.

The results will become available to us this fall and will inform our program for late 2007 and for 2008 thereafter.

Property work

One of the front porch pillars was rebuilt at the Peel Street parsonage. Work has been completed to replace the stair treads leading from Trinity's main entrance to the lower level. A number of items related to our new Faith Adventures Sunday School program have been completed.

Please note that a parish work day is planned for Saturday, October 20, at 8 am.

✦ *bill lindner & andré lavergne*

✦ The TYGers' Den

Junior TYGers (Grades 6-8)

Time to sign up for the Great Egg Race. Come, join a great race around town that involves an egg buddy of your very own! We'll meet on Saturday, September 22, 1 pm, in the Martin Luther Room to begin the race.

Wear clothes you can get messy and bring some friends! There's a sign-up sheet at church!

Senior TYGers (Grades 9 and up)

Time to sign up for the 'Drive-In' Trip to Woodstock. On Friday, September 14, 7:30 pm, we will meet at the church and car pool to Woodstock to the drive-in movie theatre. If we find that the movie is not one that is worth seeing, we will have an alternative event planned for you.

I have heard that there are some people who want a re-match of Scene-It: the O.C. edition. All right then... bring it on!

Friends are always welcome! Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

✦ *anne anderson*

✦ Invitation to Sing!

Can you sing? ...know someone who does? We'd love to have you join our terrific Trinity Choir, Affirmation Singers, Youth Choir or cadre of soloists! Do you play a musical instrument? ...know someone who does? We'd love to use your talents in our Sunday morning service or Sunday evening Sanctuary Community worship.

To offer your gifts or suggestions, speak to Pastor André, Pastor Anne, Gywin Murray or Lisa Hagen. Come, join our faithful journey!

✦ *andré lavergne*

✦ Road to Peace Benefit

Come to the Trinity sanctuary on Friday, September 28, 7 pm, for the Road to Peace benefit concert for Interfaith Counselling. The concert will feature New Hamburg's Keith "Papa" Thom and friends.

Tickets are \$10, and are available from the church office. Keith Thom is one of our sanctuary worship musicians.

✦ *anne anderson*