

Trinity Dove

February 18, 2007 + Transfiguration + Emerging Church

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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✚ Sabbaths & Celebrations

Sunday, February 25 ~ Lent 1

- ✚ Worship at 9 am (Parish Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- ✚ Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- ✚ Sunday School at 10:05 am.
- ✚ Adults: The Emerging Church - Session 1: Dr. Kristine Lund: the Emerging Church and Young People.

Sunday, March 4 ~ Lent 2

- ✚ Worship at 9 am (Parish Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- ✚ Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- ✚ Sunday School at 10:05 am.
- ✚ Adults: The Emerging Church - Session 2: Pastor Anne addresses Emerging Church Characteristics

Sunday, March 11 ~ Lent 3

- ✚ Worship at 9 am (Parish Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- ✚ Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- ✚ Sunday School at 10:05 am.
- ✚ Adults: The Emerging Church - Session 3: Jackie Comer will talk about *Art & Space*.

Sunday, March 18 ~ Lent 4

- ✚ Worship at 9 am (Parish Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- ✚ Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- ✚ Sunday School at 10:05 am.
- ✚ Adults: The Emerging Church - Session 4: Pastor Anne talks about Kelly Fryer's A.K.A. model and asks the question "What of Trinity?"

Sunday, March 25 ~ Lent 5

- ✚ Worship at 9 am (Parish Ministry update at 8:50 am.)
- ✚ Community Fellowship at 10 am.
- ✚ Sunday School at 10:05 am.
- ✚ Adults: The Emerging Church - Session 5: Discipleship Team discusses the Sunday School *Rotation Model*.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ New Council for 2007

This month, Henry Simon, Lyla Wettlaufer, Sheri Morrison and Anne Lindner complete terms on Council. All have provided excellent ministry! Henry and Lyla have completed 6 years (2 terms) on Council and cannot return. Sheri & Anne (second term), together with Pat Schmetzer and Bill Lindner (first term) were acclaimed to positions on Council at the February 11 Annual Meeting.

✚ *andré lavergne*

Inside TRINITY DOVE

Pastor Lavergne ~ EMERGING CHURCH	2
Luther Hostel 2007	2
Sacraments & Seasons	3
Molly Wolf ~ AT LAST!	4
Nurturing Faith ~ Adults	5
Tintinnabulations	6
Finances	7
Nurturing Faith ~ Children & Youth	7
In the TYGers' Den	7

✚ Pastor André ~ Emerging Church

Grace and peace to you.

“Emerging Church”. It’s a phrase we’re going to hear a lot around here in the weeks and months to come. It’s a word we first explored in earnest when the Call Committee met with Pastor Anne back in the summer of 2006.

“Emerging Church” has to do with a community which deliberately, carefully and thoughtfully extends its ministry to those who have not been embraced—or who have not perceived themselves to have been embraced!— by the church. That’s the gist of it. Of course, it’s a *little* more complicated than that. In any event, it is what we’re going to be about in the days to come. We’ll hear about Emerging Church at adult learning; at our pastors’ book study; in preaching; all over the place!

The Emerging Church idea is foundational to our plan to extend our Sunday worship to a second, evening service having a new and different character. A foretaste of this Emerging Church worship will be offered at our April 7, Great Vigil of Easter. It will be a grand and colourful liturgy. It will include the lighting of the new fire out-of-doors, a procession into the church, eight baptisms and ... well ... stay tuned!

One of the elements of our theology which undergirds the Emerging Church vision comes from 1 Corinthians 13, read at worship on Epiphany 4: “Faith, hope and love, abide, these three. But the greatest of these is love.” Love! Love is greater than faith. Love is greater than hope. Love is the main thing. So we are seeking to build a community wherein the preeminence and clarity of our love are unmistakable; where love is the main thing. We are seeking to build a community which sees us living—and loving!— in the present rather than dwelling in the past (allowing faith to trump love); or escaping into the future (hope trumping love).

Sound complicated? We’ll ease into things. We’ve already begun to explore the whole question of love in recent sermons (Epiphany 4, 5, 6...). And Molly Wolff picks up this theme, citing C.S. Lewis, in this month’s *Sabbath Blessing*.

We have a great journey ahead: a wonderful journey—faithful, hopeful and loving. But love *is* where we will place the accent. Love *will be* the main thing.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Luther Hostel 2007

This summer, take a journey to an amazing destination called Luther Hostel. A vacation destination of a different kind, Luther Hostel will leave you feeling inspired and energized as you take the time to explore your faith, meet new friends and rekindle old relationships. Come to Luther Hostel.....five amazing days in June!

Live ~ Begin your day with inspiring, uplifting and exceptional worship services. Worship at Luther Hostel soars with a combination of exquisitely crafted services, chancel dramas and stunning old and new music. The services unlock the day with praise and thanksgiving.

Learn ~ Stretch your mind. Listen, ask questions, discuss. With four certificate courses to choose from and renowned Gordon S. (Tim) Huffman offering a daily lecture, there will be an abundance of topics to discuss over dinner and consider for months to come.

Laugh ~ No More Pencils, no more books... Evenings at Luther Hostel are reserved for fun. Karaoke night is a highlight. Barbecues, banquets, great entertainment, it's all here at Luther Hostel 2007.

Luther Hostel will run June 11-15 at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary on the Campus of Wilfrid Laurier University. Details and pamphlets are contained in the narthex. Pastor Anne will be attending... What about you?

Visit www.seminary.wlu.ca for further information.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Soup, Sandwich, Sermon & Song

Trinity will participate in the New Hamburg and Area Ministerial’s *Soup, Sandwich, Sermon and Song* series held Wednesdays during Lent (beginning February 21). The theme is “Stories of Jesus: Parables of Lent.”

This year, Trinity will host the February 28, noon-hour service and lunch. Pastor André will lead the service on John 12: 20-29 (Unless a grain of wheat...). Betty Ritz and friends will co-ordinate the lunch effort. We gather at Zion United Church on Peel Street.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Sacraments & Seasons

Births

We rejoice at the January 10 birth of Joseph Walter Ross Durrer, a son for Krista (Wagler) and Kevin Durrer; and at the February 7 birth of Rachel Anne Steinberg, a daughter for Jane & Greg Steinberg. Congratulations, friends!

Baptism

On February 4, we celebrated the baptism of Nolan James Eichler, son of Jim Eichler & Alyson Lockie. We welcome you into the Lord's family!

Deaths

Our community has suffered three losses in recent days. Our congregation grieves the deaths of John Sippel, January 21, at the age of 87; of Bill Becker, January 23, at the age of 94; of Carol Schwartzentruber, February 8, at the age of 54. We grieve with those who mourn.

March Birthdays

1 - Nancy Ropp, Linda Bjerre Danner, Caroline Wilson, TJ Godlewski; **2** - Helen Roth, Jim Szanto, Christine Gascon; **3** - Sandra McCorkindale, Caley Klaassen; **4** - Joan Firetto, Walter Briner, Taylor Randerson; **5** - Brenda Ingold, Manfred Chiduck, Dick Bakker, David Hillar, Griffin Smith; **6** - Dave Mello, Kelsey Briner, Abby Burchatzki; **7** - Todd Nickolas, Delaney Bender, Caitlin Sostar; **9** - Melissa Racho, Michael Schiedel, Willow Racho, Heather Heise; **10** - Bruce Junker, Paul Ramseyer, Bonnie Long; **11** - Elaine Bowman, Dorothy Jardin, Jaida Regan; **12** - Kathryn Genrick, Shaelyn Lindner, Jairus Eastlake-Keller; **13** - Wilfred Greulich, Cassidy Lake; **14** - Tom Pearson, Mark Beavis, Valarie Ceccardi, Robert Johnston, Kristopher Stefansson; **15** - Arlene Meyer, Kim Ruthig, Bryan Chester, Carl Seltzer; **16** - Mel Snyder; **17** - Rita Coxson, Del Yutzi, Kelly White; **18** - Lloyd Hagen, Angela Snider; **19** - Jim Snider, Matt Ceccardi, Jason Faulkner, Adam Jantzi; **20** - Carl Schroeder, Gerry Baan, Lisa Hagen, Jacob Aicken; **21** - Paul Morrison, Misty Parsons, Lucas Ruby, Christian Thomson, Nathan Riedel; **22** - Ron Witzel, Mackenzie Normandeau; **23** - Bob Steinberg, Brooke Wettlaufer; **24** - Edward Ingold, Jim Hammer, Conner Glencross, Dylan Bender; **25** - Lynn Buehlow, Tom Otto, Nancy Brodrecht, James Patton, Breanne Pauli; **26** - Tim Scheerer, Erica Buehlow, Erin Persaud; **27** - Kathy Hancox,

Tom Hinz, Kevin Erb, Sadie Bowslaugh; **28** - Michael Klosch, Jeanette Long, Maggie Siegel, Joshua Knackstedt, Caitlin Livingston; **29** - Merva Zehr, Bob Hillar; **30** - Kevin Becker, Beth Lowrie; **31** - Bonnie Hell, Aidan Ruthig. Happy birthday, friends.

March Anniversaries

4 - Richard & Sheila Zoeller, Andrew & Jane Knackstedt; **9** - Joan & Bob Cook; **10** - Pat & Paul Diebel, Joanne & Steve Aitken; **16** - Bruce & Janice Junker; **21** - Elaine & John Bowman. Happy Anniversary!

✚ *jill merner*

✚ Interfaith Update

Interfaith Community Counselling Centre is entering its 24th year of offering counselling for individuals, families and couples in New Hamburg and the surrounding area. We also offer a program at Waterloo Oxford Secondary school and do children's groups in the schools. We also offer adult support groups as the need arises.

This year, we have received a grant from the HSO program with the Ministry of Health which allows us to accept referrals for counselling for patients under that plan. We are very pleased with the results we see from our work and are confident the future will be equally positive for the agency.

We have a highly trained group of professional counselors that work for us on a contract basis. We also train Master of Social Work Interns from the Wilfrid Laurier University School of Social Work.

We have a new administrative assistant. Carol-An Nagy began with us in November, 2006. Although we sadly miss Margaret Oakey —she and her husband, Pastor Lloyd Oakey, moved to Ayr, Carol-An is doing an excellent job for us!

We have operated out of Trinity Lutheran Church since we began in 1983. We very much appreciate Trinity allowing us to continue in the church at a very reasonable cost. Without this gift of space we would not be able to operate.

Thank you again to Pastors André and Anne and the entire congregation for the assistance you provide us in doing this very important work in the community.

✚ *ruth martin, executive director*

✚ Molly Wolf's Sabbath Blessings

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

At Last!

Winter, that is. It's white and cold out there, and we've had freezing rain as well. It's not too bad here, but I gather Toronto is a real mess. Torontonians are relearning their winter driving chops the hard, expensive way. (Sidetrack: the rest of us Canajuns, except British Columbians, who know how little they know about snow, have been tweaking Toronto about the s-word ever since, several years ago, the city had to call in the army after a series of back-to-back snowstorms dumped 2-1/2 feet of snow on the joint. Sorry, Toronto: the price of greatness is the occasional raspberry.)

There is one secret and one only for making your way around by car in snow: patience. Go slow. Leave space. Hope the other guy leaves you space, but that's a good reason for being even more patient. When starting from a stop, lay the tip of your great toe ever-so-gently upon the accelerator. Make your turns in serene slow-mo. Use the brakes only if it's necessary, and do your best to make sure that necessary isn't. (Having a standard transmission helps no end, of course.)

I find myself falling into habits of winter-driving patience with surprising ease, given the fact that in non-winter conditions I am just a trifle ... er... quick. Generally more often passing than being passed — not really *aggressive*, though, just peppy. But when snow hits, an inner switch flips in my driving hindbrain, and I pull out the patience long since developed by having a five-year-old stand on my foot and take 45 minutes to narrate the plot of a 30-minute Teenage Ninja Mutant Turtles show, as I got supper ready.

Sometimes, unless you're an emergency response person (they've been busy), there is no point in even thinking about trying to hurry something up. Births, deaths, hard-boiled eggs, book production, friendship, getting to the supermarket in a snowstorm — these take their own good time, and getting one's knickers twisted by their slowness is counterproductive, as hundreds of fender-bent Torontonians have forcibly recollected today.

I thought of this as I fish-tailed slowly and gracefully (and in perfect control) across a wash of plow-churned slush: the

human tendency to want it NOW. Victory, for example, or gratification or love or any other thing that we desire strongly. Sometimes we're so fixed on the immediate I WANT IT that we fail to note that patience may be what's most required. No, I am not going to make that green light and the heck with it; another one will appear in due course.

One thing some people are in a hell of a hurry for, apparently, is the Second Coming: they want Jesus to reappear in dazzling brilliance in the East and put the whole show to an end: Judgment Day, the raising of the dead, the Rapture. I have, I freely admit it, a cynical streak, and I have to wonder if part of their eagerness stems from a deep desire to see the unRaptured heathen get theirs, but I should be more charitable.

But predicting the immanent Second Coming can be like trying to get God to play according to our immediate wishes. We don't have to make sacrifices for the future that we've borrowed from our grandchildren, if we've decided that the future will end very shortly. We're trying to force God's hand, and that simply will not

work, any more than I can pretend that winter will go away if I want it to. Some seem to feel that because the Second Coming could happen any day now, there's really no need to pay much heed to, say global warming. It will all look after itself when Jesus comes. If I remember correctly, St. Paul had similar expectations about the future of marriage, getting on for two millennia ago.

The oldest document in the New Testament (scholars tell us) is Paul's letter to the little church in Thessalonika, which was worrying about the fact that some of its members had died while awaiting Jesus's return. Paul really struggles with this problem. He still believes that Jesus will return in his lifetime, but in the meantime, he tells them what prophets have been telling people since Jeremiah, at least, probably before: be patient. Live faithfully and lovingly in this day.

C.S. Lewis said wisely not to live in the past or in the future, but in the present — but part of the present is making ready for the future. It is not living in the future if I make ready for winter; it's living with this world in the here-and-now. Maybe it won't hurt us — won't be a matter of faithlessness — if we even give a thought about what we need to do tomorrow, not worrying about it, but making ready for its possibility, even its likelihood.

We're called upon to believe in the ultimate victory of God's Kingdom way, and we are called upon to work for it here and now, in a future that still unfolds one step at a time, so far as

we know. It's a paradox, as is so much else in faith: to live ready to leave *and* ready to stay, the two held in tension, but both pulled Godward. We're called upon to be both hopeful and patient, but above all, to live as fully as we can into the reality that surrounds us. Which means driving for winter conditions when it's winter instead of pretending that if we ignore it, it will go away.

I really shouldn't tease Toronto; it's unkind. But hey, *I* survived the Great Ice Storm of '98 and I know a thing or two about how to handle a car under highly trying circumstances. Just everybody take a deep breath, slow up, leave space, be patient. This too shall pass.

✝ *molly wolf*

✝ Day Care Update

2006 was a very busy and exciting year for New Hamburg Community Day Care. We have branched out and opened a new campus attached to Baden Public School.

The new operation is called Creative Beginnings Child Care Center. A lot of hard work and dedication went into opening our new campus which is meeting a tremendous demand.

To ensure the centers are operating to their fullest potential, new staff positions have been created. Kim Lafontaine has taken the role of Director of Finances and Administration. Kim (the former New Hamburg Director) manages the financial responsibilities of the centre including grants, fees, budgets and wages. She has great experience in this area.

In March, 2006, I (Sue Gardner) began as Director of Human Resources and Programming. I was responsible for hiring and training the new staff for Creative Beginnings. To ensure a strong team, I continue to develop training programs and staff development opportunities. I also evaluate the program and work directly with staff and supervisors to ensure that we are offering high quality programs for the families in the area.

Both centres have site supervisors to deal with day-to-day operations and a terrific staff of front-line workers. Christina Mina began her position as Site Supervisor for New Hamburg in July, 2006.

The people of Trinity are always welcome to drop by and to experience the terrific program hosted at Trinity Church.

✝ *Sue Gardner*

✝ Nurturing Faith ~ Adults

Sunday Mornings

✝ On February 25, we'll begin a new adult learning series, coordinated by Pastor Anne, on the *Emerging Church*. So, what is the Emerging Church? Dr. Kristine Lund of Waterloo Lutheran Seminary will be the first presenter. She will talk about the Emerging Church and Young People.

✝ On March 4, Pastor Anne addresses Emerging Church Characteristics.

✝ On March 11, Jackie Comer talks about Emerging Church: Art & Space.

✝ On March 18, Pastor Anne talks about Emerging Church: Kelly Fryer's A.K.A. (achieve / keep / avoid) model and asks the question "What of Trinity?"

✝ On March 25, the Discipleship Team talks about Trinity's new Sunday School Rotation Model.

Tuesday Evening Pastors' Study

Marcus Borg has written a fascinating book called *Heart of Christianity*. Through Lent & Easter we'll be looking at his book —and our faith— from a variety of perspectives. The purpose of our study is to afford our community the opportunity to examine the transformation we experience through our relationship with God.

The group will meet on Tuesday evenings beginning on February 27 from 7-8:30 pm.

We'll use a *Companion Guide* to better explore the many issues covered. If you would like to join this study group, please speak to a pastor right away as you will need to get the books and read some of the material for the first gathering. (We ask participants to make a donation of \$35 —put it in an envelope; give it to a pastor— to cover the cost of the books. Can't afford it? No problem. Can you give extra? Great!

Participants are asked to read in advance...

- ① *Me & Jesus* (biography of Marcus Borg);
- ② chapter 1 of *Heart of Christianity*; and
- ③ the material through Session 1 (to page 8) in the Borg/Scorer *Companion Guide*.

✝ *anne anderson & andré lavergne*

✝ Tintinnabulations

February 26 ~ Blood Donor Clinic

Zion United will host a clinic on Monday, February 26, from 2 pm to 8:30 pm at W-O. Speak to Ken Seltzer for information or call 1-888-TO-DONATE to donate!

March 2 ~ World Day of Prayer Service

The annual World Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday, March 2, 7:30 pm, at Zion United Church on Peel Street in New Hamburg.

The theme is “United Under God’s Tent” and worship will reflect material provided by women in Paraguay. The speaker will be Henry Regehr, former pastor of Hillcrest Mennonite Church. Pastor Regehr was born in Paraguay. All Are welcome!

March 5 ~ ELW

The ELW gathers at 2 pm for a Lenten program. All are invited and all are welcome. Complete meeting details are always available from Shirley Unrau at 662-1515.

March 6 ~ Prayer Circle Update / Special Need

Shirley Unrau meets with the pastors at 9:30 am on the first Tuesday of the month for a Prayer Circle update.

A group of 10 people currently hold the congregation and community in their prayers. Would you care to join them? Speak to Shirley Unrau.

March 19 ~ TOTS

The “TOTS” (Syd’s Kids) gather at 11:45 for their monthly meeting. Details are published in the *GUIDE TO WORSHIP*. All are welcome. Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Contact Pr. Syd Hills, 662-4919, for information.

March 20 ~ Gentle Friends

The Gentle Friends gather at 7:30 pm, at the home of Kathryn Ritz, 39 Hunter Street. We’re reading *IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES* by Julia Alvarez. Copies are on reserve at the library. Contact Kathryn, at 662-2960, for information.

✝ *andré lavergne*

✝ CLWR “We Care Bags”

The women of Trinity’s ELW are again working on one of their annual projects —baby bundles, formerly called “layettes”, for Canadian Lutheran World Relief.

Last year we made some 35 baby bundles containing two pairs of sleepers, two shirts, one knitted sweater, four diapers, two receiving blankets, two face cloths and two diaper pins.

As ever, we’re hoping that some of the knitters in the congregation will knit a sweater or two for the project. Trinity is blessed with some terrific & dedicated knitters. Those who do not knit might make donations! Bundles are sent to Canadian Lutheran World Relief in CLWR’s new *We Care Bags* —See the narthex display!— through the generosity of Larry Taylor and Home Hardware.

New this year: The Canadian Lutheran World Relief *We Care Bags* and *We Care Backpacks* —all made in India— can also be used for School packs, Children’s kits, Hygiene kits and other sorts of kits and packs. See the brochures in the narthex and consider making up one of the suggested packs or kits. We would forward them by the last week of April together with the baby bundles. See the material on the narthex board for more information about possibilities.

Special Need

We need people to hem diapers for the baby bundles. Arlene Kropf has volunteered. Any other takers?

Please speak to Florence Sebert (662-1741) or Betty Ritz (662-1037) to assist in this terrific project. We’d be grateful!

✝ *betty ritz*

✝ Camp Edgewood News

We’re getting ready for summer, 2007, and staff applications are out. If you are 17 or older and are looking for a fun summer job in life guarding, counselling or as maintenance staff please contact Pastor Anne for information.

Camp Edgewood is always looking for adults who would like to volunteer some time in maintenance, as a camp nurse or in finding craft supplies. Please contact Pastor Anne.

✝ *anne anderson*

✚ Finances to January 31, 2007

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 16,841	\$ 1,142	\$ 605
Outgo	22,687	290	575
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Balance	(\$ 5,846)	\$ 852	\$ 30

We begin the new year with a significant General Fund deficit. Our biggest expenses were related to some high electricity and heating bills coupled with a large, front-of-year set of office expenses.

All of these expenses are higher than usual and will average themselves out —and downward!— over the course of the coming months.

The small Capital Fund expense was related to the labour for installing our new sound equipment. The actual cost for the equipment was borne in 2006.

✚ *bob ruthig & andré lavergne*

✚ Scholarships Available

We have received the latest set of Eastern Synod scholarship application forms. Many Trinity youth have received scholarships. Interested? Forms are available in the narthex. Speak to pastor Anne. The application deadline is April 30.

✚ *anne anderson*

✚ Nurturing Faith ~ Sunday School

February Winterfest

On Sunday, February 25, we'll gather 2-4 pm at the home of Tom & Deb Linseman for a Family February Winterfest. There will be winter games, food, a bonfire and lot's of Trinity family fun. All are welcome! This event is sponsored by the Discipleship Team. Please sign up in the narthex!

March Games Gathering

Families are invited to the church, March 31, 2 to 4 pm, for board games, snacks and lots of laughs. All are welcome!

✚ *anne anderson*

✚ Nurturing Faith ~ Affirmation!

✚ On Ash Wednesday, February 21, at 6 pm, Grade 7 and 8 Affirmation! youth and their families will gather for a meal and conversation. We'll go to worship at 7 pm. All grade 7 and 8 families are expected.

✚ Confirmation Camp Info night: Monday, March 5, 7 pm, in the Mosig Room. This is a meeting for all parents of youth entering grades seven or eight in the fall of 2007. Camp forms will be distributed. Please be sure to attend to receive all of the necessary information.

✚ Grade 7 Confirmation class: Wednesday March 7, 7pm, in the Martin Luther Room.

✚ Grade 8 Confirmation class: Wednesday, March 14, 7pm, Martin Luther Room.

✚ *anne anderson*

✚ From the TYGers' Den

✚ Junior & Senior TYGers and parents: We'll have an information meeting for Summer youth events, Monday, March 5, 8 pm, in the Mosig Room. (This meeting follows the Confirmation Camp meeting mentioned above.)

We will discuss upcoming (2007) Senior and Junior youth events such as the (Paris, Ontario) Pitch and Praise Camp and the Synod Youth Gathering.

We will also look at possibilities for 2008, including the National Youth Gathering in Whitehorse. Please attend if you are interested in any of these events. We will discuss planning and fundraising possibilities at this meeting.

✚ Junior TYGers (Grades 6-8): We will be tobogganing at Mount Trashmore in Kitchener, Sunday, March 11, 2007. Meet at the church, 2 pm, weather permitting. We will have an alternative event at the church if there is not enough snow. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

✚ Senior TYGers (Grades 9-12): Total Tubing (weather permitting) or "Bigger or Better". We will be tubing on Saturday, March 24. We will meet at the church at 2pm. Please sign up in the narthex. If there is no snow we will be playing a New Hamburg-wide game of "Bigger or Better"—the ultimate game of trading up!

Friends always welcome!

✚ *anne anderson*