



Trinity Dove

October 19, 2008 + Pentecost 23 + 100? 175?

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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✦ Sabbaths & Celebrations

Sunday, October 19 ~ Pentecost 23

Halifax Journey Thanks
Baby Shower & Pot-Luck Lunch

Sunday, October 26 ~ Reformation / Witness

- ✦ Anchor Worship with Affirmation witness at 9:30 am.
Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Caring & Coping with Connie Dwyer.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, November 2 ~ All Saints /Confirmation

- ✦ Anchor Worship with Rite of Confirmation at 9:30 am.
Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: *No Adult Learning this morning!*
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, November 9 ~ Pentecost 26

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Caring & Coping with Dr. Donna Ward
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, November 16 ~ Pentecost 27 / Bible Sunday

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Caring & Coping with Pr. John Lougheed
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, November 23 ~ Christ the King / Baptisms

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Social Justice with Dr. Harold Remus
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, November 30 ~ Advent 1

Captive Free / Advent Choir Concert

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Social Justice with Dr. Oz Arnal
- ✦ Captive Free Family Program & Pot-Luck at 5 pm
- ✦ Advent Choir Concert at Steinmann at 7:30 pm

✦ *andré lavergne*

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✚ Pr. André ~ 100? 175?

Grace and peace, friends.

Last evening, Trinity's Second Century Project Task Group met to frame a number of recommendations for Council. By the time you read this, Council will have had a first look at a Reference Plan including concept drawings, detailed notes, preliminary cost estimates and 8 recommendations.

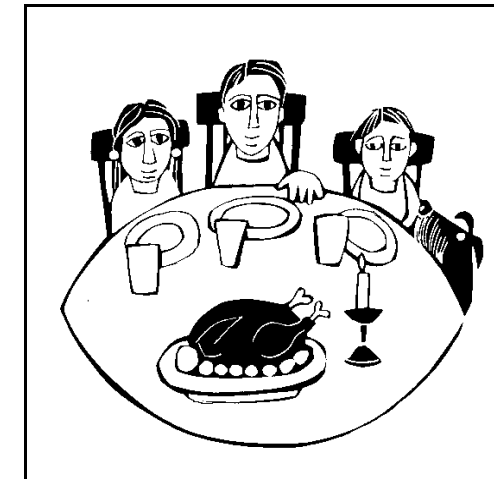
One of the Task Group's project goals has been "to address the need to mark the 100th anniversary of Trinity's sanctuary". In fact, there are not one, but *two* significant anniversaries on the horizon and they are spread out over not two, but *three* years!

2010 marks the 100th anniversary of Trinity's main church building. Sort of. The cornerstone was indeed laid on July 24, 1910. You can read it out front! However, that was just the beginning! Construction proceeded through the summer and fall with the steeple being erected in November and the slate roof applied in December. The dedication, however, followed the next year when all of the interior work was completed and the furnishings installed. The date was March 26, (Lent 4 or Laetare Sunday), 1911. So, we have some fine anniversary possibilities for 2010 and 2011. However, 2009 is also an auspicious year...

On November 21, 1834, Jacob Seyler was born to Philippina (Durst) & Theobald Seyler. Jacob was baptized on the Third Sunday in Advent, December 14, 1834. This was the first recorded pastoral act in the community of Trinity Church. While the identity of the pastor is unknown, clearly a small community of "Lutheran" Christians was busy about the land in Wilmot Township. However, they wouldn't have their own digs until 1851 and so worshiped in borrowed facilities in the local area. In the fall of 1984, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of Trinity Church based on the 1834 date. (Remember Lisa Hagen's wonderful *Godspell* and Ernie Ritz's terrific *Anniversary Book*?) And that makes us 175 years old in 2009! So...

We have three years in which to celebrate —2009, 2010 & 2011— and some interesting possibilities to be explored by Trinity's Council and 2CP Task Group. Stay tuned... In the face of the prevailing economic darkness, I think we're going to have to plan for a little fun.

All Blessings!



✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Adult Learning

Caring & Coping II

In this four-session Sunday-morning series we look at how partners and family members find themselves caring and coping —and what resources are "out there"— in the context of palliative care for a loved-one.

October 19 - Jennifer Jackson offers a CCAC perspective.

October 26 - Connie Dwyer offers a Lisaard House (hospice) perspective.

November 9 - Dr. Donna Ward offers a physician's perspective.

November 16 - John Lougheed offers some cues on care for caregivers.

Currents in Social Justice I

In this two-part (Advent & Lent), 9-session Sunday-morning series we look at the intersection of social justice and Christian (personal) / Church (corporate) life.

Nov. 23 - Harold Remus: The Bible

November 30 - Oz Arnal: The Church

Dec. 7 - Wilma Marie Bindernagel: GHDA & KAIROS

December 14 - Mark Yantzi: Restorative Justice

✚ TRINITY DOVE Online

A number of Trinity families have elected to view TRINITY DOVE online rather than to receive a hard-copy. Simply supply us with an e-mail address and you'll receive notification of the latest issue as it goes to press.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ There Will Be Cake!

January 4, 2009, shall be observed as Christmas 2 and celebrated as Rose & Mike Mueller Sunday.

April 5, 2009, shall be observed as Palm Sunday and celebrated as Ken Seltzer Sunday.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Sacraments & Seasons

Births

Our community welcomes the births of Ella Emily Ropp, August 31, a daughter for Jason & Tiffany Ropp; of Isabelle Grace Gravill, August 27, a daughter for Chris and Sarah Mae Gravill; and of Emily Anne O'Donoghue, October 10, a daughter for Jess (Chester) & Michael O'Donoghue. Congratulations and welcome!

Baptisms

On Sunday, September 28, we welcomed into God's family at Trinity Church Merena Krista MacDonald, daughter of Deb (Wagler) and Brad MacDonald; and Lily Anna Murphy, daughter of Jodie Honderich and Daryl Murphy. Welcome, friends!

Wedding

On Saturday, October 11, we celebrated the wedding of Kristin Snyder & Dave Oliver. Congratulations!

Deaths

On July 18, Liam Wright, twin brother to Haden, and son of John and Pam (Schwartz) died at St. Joseph's Hospital, London. The twins were born on July 11. On September 9, Bruce Briand died at the age of 72, while on September 22, Bruce Snider died at the age of 67. Our community feels these losses keenly and we grieve with those who mourn.

November Birthdays

1 - Katherine Deckert, Dan Fisher, Paul Ziegler, Becky Kaminska, Elesha Ludington, Kyle Kuepfer; 2 - Lynn Pauli; 3 - Amy Chiduck, Adam Preidt, Katie Schwartz; 4 - Sherry Pearson; 5 - Judy Ziegler, Carl Steinman, Murray Deckert, Riley Stewart; 6 - Rick Ritz, Mary Cook-Glencross, Mike Junker, Scott Bingeman; 7 - Tammy Junker, Laura Lindner, Jenna Legare; 8 - Bill Ferguson, Hunter Becker; 9 - Larry Godfrey, Kathryn Ritz, Marty Normandeau, Ian McCurdy, Isabella Ceccardi; 10 - Chris Medley; 11 - Donna Medley; 12 - Millie Buehlow, John Murray, Kara Cook; 13 - Jim Murray, Danielle Long; 14 - Elaine Mohr, Jody Steinman, Jacquelyn Campbell, Mary Aitken, Tyler Johnston, Noah Steinman; 15 - Jim Arbuckle, Greg Ropp, Christy Racho, Ryan Speers; 16 - Carol Merner, Ryan Burchatzki, Carter Gravill; 18 - Brad Martin, Cortney Legare, Ben Klooster, Sapphire Linseman; 19 - Joan Beavis; 20 - Dorothea Butz, Mary Snider, Cindy Briner,

Krista Straus, Cassidy Stewart, Tanner Arnott, Dayton Arnott; 21 - Rick Haffner, Jeff Schmidt, Aasia Dupree; 22 - Nolan Eichler; 23 - Steve Hayden, Andrew Racho, Danita Kuepfer, Adam Aho, Christopher Lindner; 24 - Cy Ridout, Philipp Hofmeyer, Janet Boshart, Robert Stefansson, Jessica Schiedel; 25 - Bonnie Jokic, Valerie Brennehan, Sam Winhold, Trent Otterbein; 27 - Lori Stewart, Melanie Eichler, Christina Baumgaertner, Nicole Pfohl, Morgan Schaaf; 28 - James Ingold, Chris Gravill, Brooke Kienapple, Jason Drexler; 29 - Ray Cook, Betty Stock, Randy Thomson, Kory Steinmann; 30 - Reta Klaassen, Émile St-Pierre, Abby Steinman. Happy birthday, friends!

November Anniversaries

1 - Chris & Donna Medley, Jeff & Krista Schmidt; 2 - Bonnie & Rick Long; 3 - Otto & Renate Berg, Diane & Andrew Hatchwell; 4 - Mathew & Suzanne Lindner, Jessica & Michael O'Donoghue; 5 - Jean & Kim Ruthig, Jason & Tiffany Ropp; 7 - Jeremy & Sandra Cook; 8 - Margaret & Burt Flood; 11 - Heather & Rob Leu; 12 - Rick & Susan Pearson, Fred & Linda Straus; 14 - Murray & Suzan Deckert, Larry & Diane Godfrey, Dale & Dianne Hillar; 19 - Betty & Hollice Stock; 20 -

Betty & Roy Bondy; 21 - Doug & Mim Miller; 22 - Theresa & Dick Bakker; 25 - Bruce & Sharon Hammer, Kevin & Kylie Becker; 28 - Anita & John Meredith, Mark & Tricia McMaster, Amy & Gary Becker, Jeff & Shelly Lindner; 29 - Betty Lou & Paul Ramseyer, Mike & Rose Mueller, Wally & John Mueller; 30 - Ruth & Bill Lindner, Becky & Rodrick Bender. Happy anniversary, friends.

"Wow" Wedding Anniversaries

Ed & Brenda Ingold (October 24 - 50 years)
Bert & Marg Flood (November 8 - 50 years)
Hollice & Betty Stock (November 19 - 55 years)
John & Anita Meredith (November 28 - 55 years)

✚ *jill merner*

✚ Baby Shower & Pot-Luck

Trinity's ELW will host a congregational baby shower and pot-luck on Sunday, October 19, at 11:45 am. People are invited to bring their favourite food and to celebrate the anticipated birth of the person who will likely play the part of Jesus in our Christmas pageant. (By the way, this is the same Sunday that our Halifax TYGers say "thanks"!)

✚ *andré lavergne*



✚ Dear Kim, This is what I believe...

Explaining Christian Faith Today

Each month, by kind permission, we publish an extract from Bill Loader's book, Dear Kim, This is what I believe...

Chapter 4: What About the Church (continued)

The extraordinary achievements of local churches

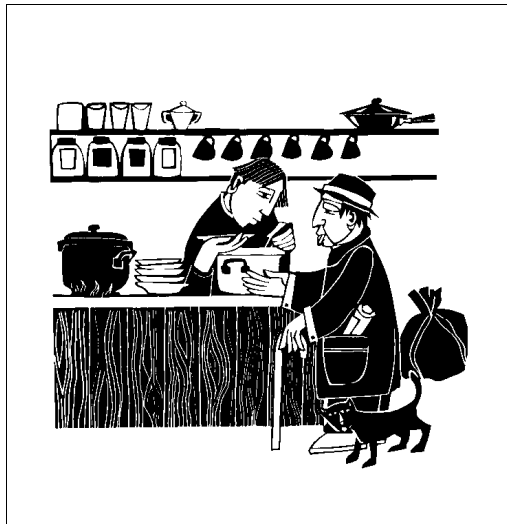
For someone like myself, involved personally and professionally in the Church, it is easy to touch on the sore spots in the Church and also to have blind spots. I also need to remind myself of the extraordinary achievements of the Church in so many unsung ways. Often no one knows the comfort, help and healing given by so many clergy and lay visitors to families facing grief. Few hear of the hours of support of people in crisis in their relationships or within themselves. Ministers and priests are still among the few helpers who feel comfortable, or for whom it is socially acceptable, to make initiating house calls. Much of the front line caring in this way goes unnoticed as people are helped to stand on their own feet again or are referred to helping agencies.

In some congregations there are elaborate networks of mutual caring and support which spill over into the surrounding neighbourhood; few notice the delivered casserole on the doorstep; and the conversation over morning tea at breaking point remains confidential. There is often a privacy about the visit on the anniversary of the death of a spouse or loved one and only the proud and patronising will want to report to all and sundry about relief and assistance brought to the unemployed family or new immigrants.

Church knockers are frequently ignorant of the life given lonely youth in the local church club or by the parents of one teenager to others who just had to spill it all out, because they couldn't approach their own parents. The fellowship which many with disabilities find in church groups or the shelter found by the homeless kids do not make headlines, except in the occasional excesses of some parachurch groups seeking public funds.

Newspapers prefer to report problems and the lashings out by oppressed cultural and ethnic groups than to focus on their creative forms of Christian community which are bringing hope and new vision to so many. Occasionally the Church makes its official voice heard on matters of

poverty, discrimination and injustice; but its more progressive forms have constantly been out front in challenging the dehumanising forces of exploitation which frequently hide behind Christian respectability. From the church have come many of the courageous heroes of communism's collapse in the east, of apartheid's dismantling, of movements for justice within our own countries, of the growth of the peace movement and of the establishment in public consciousness of the need to conserve the environment.



Good, 'honest John' values, which win popular community support, can be far wide of where a commitment to Christian compassion for all would lead. The struggle continues. The Church is big, bigger than the local group, bigger than the local congregation. It is a network of cells for change and conversion throughout society, living from the heritage of liberated and liberating communities of the past and Christ, the liberator, and seeking to remain faithful to that heritage.

A holy place built of people

The church continues to be for so many a place where they find inner stillness and peace, a holy place or a gathering of people which treasures and fosters the sense of awe and wonder that is the essence of worship. I like the image of the church as a community of people being like a building put together from rocks and stones of all various shapes and sizes, some smooth and hard, some weathered and broken, some beautiful, some very plain, some soft or brittle, some very old, some very young, but all together creating a place where people can sense and enjoy the presence of God. There's room for everyone and for all sorts.

It is, therefore, out of the Church, this mixed bag of humanity, with all its warts and disfigurements, that, nevertheless, something beautiful has been possible that goes beyond the ugliness of which it has also been capable. I have this faith in the Church that the stream still flows and that, as long as it does, the life will be there and the love that matters will break through. At times as I stand in the stream I notice an awful lot of sludge and rubbish passing me by; but the same stream also channels life giving nutrient. It is worth being there.

I believe the Church still has good water to offer. In parts it urgently needs to clean up its banks and to make its waters more accessible. But the water is there, the same water that has quenched people's deep inner thirst for two thousand years and brought parched desert places of

humanity to the miracles of peace and love. I believe, too, that that good water also helps us face issues of Right and Wrong to which we address ourselves in the following chapter.

Chapter 5: What About Right & Wrong?

Sex before marriage, abortion, masturbation, prostitution, gambling, alcohol, smoking, playing sport on Sundays, homosexuality, mercy killing, profiteering, embryo experimentation, drugs... there are many areas where we need to know what is right and wrong.

The Church has often been a place where people have expected answers. And often, especially in the past, some in the Church have given answers even when people weren't asking questions. Worse still, they have been often quick to condemn people. Nobody appreciates 'holier than thou' people or those who seem to have to have all the answers. Jesus had his fair share of conflict with religious people of this kind. As we have seen, for him people mattered most and rules or guidelines were there to help people; people were not made to be fitted into someone else's rules and regulations - not even God's. God is much more generous than that!

But all the same we do face decisions and the Church carries with it nearly 3000 years of wisdom on a wide range of issues. It's worth listening to what people found to be right in the past. But, for many people, that is only half the story; there is not only wisdom; there are absolute commandments given by God which must be obeyed. They are not to be questioned; they are only to be obeyed.

I have some problems with this, especially if it means that I am doing things in a kind of blind obedience. I may choose quite freely to obey a commandment given me in this way, but I would much prefer to choose to do it also because it seems right and good. Do I do it because I'm told to or do I do it because I believe it is right and good? I much prefer the latter; it is also how I see good parenting. There's a lot of difference between telling someone to do something 'because I say so!' and getting them to do it because it is right and good for them and for others. The second way shows far more respect for the person.

Love before laws, people before rules

Ultimately, it is respect for people, caring about others and oneself, in short, love, which lies at the heart of Jesus' picture of God. Everything, even creation itself, stems

from God's goodness. I don't mind saying that there is one demand I do feel and that is God's demand of love. But, even so, to speak of love in this way, as God's demand, still makes it feel too narrow. It robs it of its life. Love is much more than a demand. It is wanting what is good. It is caring about others and the world.

So when I think about right and wrong, I don't start with a set of rules, not even a set of commandments, but with this central theme of love. But, as soon as I start looking at specific situations, I grasp for every bit of assistance I can get. Not that I don't trust my own ability to make a decision. But I know myself well enough to know that I can usually only see things in a limited way. I'm not God.

Others will see things I don't see. This is one of the reasons why the more we can make decisions about right and wrong in discussion with others, the better. Also, if I am deciding on something where I am emotionally involved, there's an even greater chance that I may skew my own reasoning and neglect important things. This is also where the wisdom and the rules of previous generations become very helpful. But they need to

be weighed up carefully.

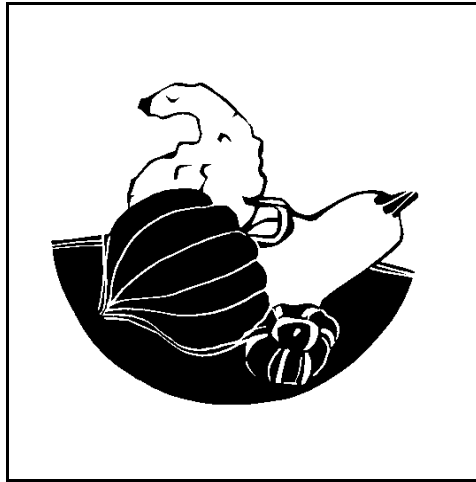
Take a matter like divorce. There's little doubt that Jesus took a very strict line on divorce and forbade it. He may have felt this was really important in his social situation because divorce was being used against women and driving many of them to poverty. Perhaps he saw no other way.

It would be quite logical to apply the same law today and say that at least people wanting to be followers of Jesus should not divorce. How can you change a law laid down by Jesus? Yet many Christians and many Churches today have come to accept divorce as the more loving and creative solution to some marriage situations.

Are they turning their back on Jesus? It depends how you see it. At one level they are; but at another level they are putting Jesus' message of love at the centre and acting on that basis. In many situations to abide by Jesus' divorce instruction would be to contradict the thrust of his central message. In such situations we follow Jesus more truly by being loving than we would by staying with rules.

Next... What about sex?

✚ *bill loader*



✚ Tintinnabulations

November 2, 7 pm ~ Inshallah at St. Mark's

On Sunday, November 2 (All Saints), Waterloo Seminary's Inshallah, under the stewardship of Debbie Lou Ludolph, will be singing at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 825 King Street, Kitchener. free-will offering for Global Hunger.

November 3 ~ ELW

We'll meet at 12:30 pm over a brown-bag lunch. Contact Mildred Knackstedt, 662-3739, for information. This month, we offer a Praise Offering program.

November 4 ~ Prayer Circle Update

Shirley Unrau & pastors meet, 9:30 am, one day later than usual.

November 5 ~ Congregated Dining

Community Care Concepts offers a monthly lunch & program for seniors and adults with a disability. Details are posted in the narthex. Gather at Zion United. Doors open at 11:30 am. To reserve a spot, call (519) 669-3023.

November 8 ~ K-W Conference Gathers

Worship begins at 4 pm with supper following catered by the women of Maranatha Lutheran Church. The focus is on mission. Complete details are carried in the narthex.

November 11 ~ Adult Learning

The Adult Learning Team meets at 8:30 am.

November 18 ~ Gentle Friends Readers

The Gentle Friends gather, 7 pm, in members' homes. This month, we're reading THE ASH GARDEN by Dennis Bock. Info: Kathryn Ritz, 519.662-2960.

November 20 ~ Dove Preparation

The DOVE Preparation Team gathers at 9 am.

November 30, 9 am ~ Advent Choir Concert

Our annual Advent Choir Concert takes place at Steinmann Church at 7:30 pm.

Mondays, 8 pm ~ CLEAN

Community Link Empowered Against Narcotics gathers.

Tuesdays, 6:45 pm ~ TOPS

Taking Off Pounds Sensibly gathers.

Saturdays, 8 pm ~ A/A

A/A gathers for a weekly open meeting.

✚ *andré lavergne & jill merner*



✚ 2CP Update

On October 7, Trinity's Second Century Project Task Group met to frame a number of recommendations for Trinity's Congregational Council.

On October 15 (a couple of days after this issue of TRINITY DOVE went to press), Council received a comprehensive Second Century Project Reference Plan. The Second Century Project Task Group—Rick Ritz, Flex Bender, Pat Schmetzer, Bill Lindner, Darrin Gueguen, André Lavergne and Anne Anderson, with Michel Gascon advising—has done

some remarkable work!

The Second Century Project Reference Plan included: 1. a set of five **concept drawings**; 2. five pages of detailed Reference Plan **notes**; 3. a schedule of **preliminary cost estimates**; and 4. eight Second Century Project Task Group **recommendations**. At present, our project goals are: ① to address the need for a new sanitary sewage line; ② to address the issue of the settling floor in Trinity Hall; ③ to address the need for a more hospitable and serviceable kitchen; ④ to address the need for additional program space; ⑤ to address the need to mark the 100th anniversary of Trinity's sanctuary (2010).

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Mitten Tree to Bloom in November

With great thanks to the late Mme Claudette Gascon, Mike's mom, we have received a large bag of yarn for Trinity's Mitten Tree knitters. The First Sunday in Advent falls on November 30, this year. Knitters... It's time to do your lovely work! We'll be looking for an abundance of wonderful warm winter woollies to eventually grace our Wilmot Family Resource Centre Christmas hampers..

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Finances to September 30, 2008

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 176,705	\$ 11,727	\$ 13,661
Outgo	196,926	2,687	11,886
Balance	(\$ 20,221)	\$ 9,040	\$ 1,774

General Fund Deficit

Expenditures outstripped receipts in the early months of the year placing us in a significant deficit. For the last couple of months, our receipts and expenditures have been about equal and our deficit had remained more or less constant.

This is all a little hard to fathom given the astonishing level of activity in our parish. Perhaps the unsettled economy was being felt even before it was being publically acknowledged? Hard to say.

Are you behind in your contributions? We know that people are nervous. If you are able, please help us to get caught up as best you are able!

In the Capital Fund, we have largely refrained from big expenditures—we have replaced a couple of computers which were on their last legs—and are running a positive balance.

✚ *bob ruthig & andré lavergne*

✚ Affirmation Ministry

Grades 3 & 4 - We have an Affirmation Ministry half-day (9 am - 1 pm) on November 7. The session includes lunch!

Grades 5 & 6 - We have an Affirmation Ministry half-day (12 nn - 4 pm) on November 7. The session includes lunch!

Grades 7 & 8 - Our next Saturday class will take place on October 25 with one after that on November 15. We meet between 9 am and 3 pm. That's for all youth in Grades 7 and 8. Come out for a bit of learning and loads of fun. Lunch is provided!

A reminder to our Grade 9 families: Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, November 2 (All Saints observed).

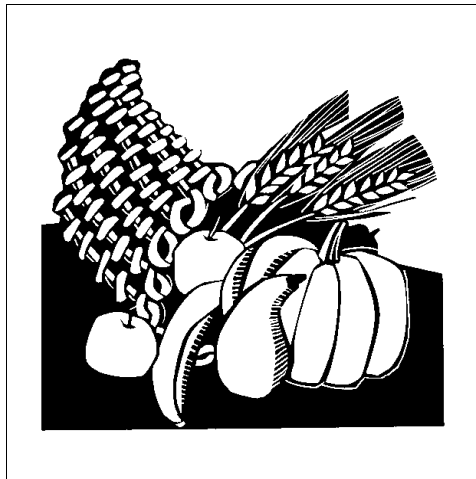
✚ *anne anderson*

✚ Nurturing Faith ~ Children & Youth

On Sunday, November 16, Faith Adventures families will work together to create family Advent wreaths to take home and enjoy. Please join us.

Christmas program practices will take place at the regular Faith Adventures time (10:45 am in Trinity Hall) on Sundays, November 23 & 30 and Sundays, December 7 & 14. The program itself will unfold on Sunday, December 21, at 11 am. Emma Wiechers, assisted by her sister, Caroline, and the Faith Adventures Team, will be in charge.

✚ *anne anderson*



✚ The TYGers' Den

Captive Free

Back by popular demand, Captive Free will be at Anchor Community Worship on Sunday, November 30 (Advent 1). They will also offer a Family Program, followed by a potluck, at 5 pm. A free-will offering will be taken to support their ministry.

We're looking for some host homes! We need four families willing to host one or two young people for the week of November 23-30. Speak to Pastor Anne if you are interested.

Facebook Group

All TYGers: Don't forget our Facebook Group. To participate, e-mail anderson@telc.ca with your Facebook info. I'll get you signed-on.

✚ *anne anderson*

✚ TT@MM's

We are offering our Third Thursdays at Meme's café again this fall. We meet for coffee and conversation at Meme's Café, 7 - 8:30 pm. Everyone—all ages—welcome!

Our November guest is Jesse Dymond, newly-arrived Anglican priest at St. George's. Go to the Trinity website for a complete listing of dates, guests and content.

✚ *anne anderson*