



Trinity Dove

Sept. 21, 2008 + St. Matthew + **And They're Off!**
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

André Lavergne and Anne Anderson, Pastors
 Robert Bender, President + Syd Hills, Pastoral Assistant
 Gywin Murray, Director of Music + Lori Endress, Missionary in Thailand
 23 Church Street + New Hamburg + Ontario + N3A 1J1
 Phone (519) 662-1810 + Fax 662-4713 + Web www.telc.ca + E-mail mail@telc.ca

✦ Sabbaths & Celebrations

Sunday, September 28 ~ Pentecost 20

Baptismal 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: Nurturing Faith through the Years - 3/4.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, October 5 ~ Pentecost 21

Schneider Male Choir for CCC

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
Adults: Nurturing Faith through the Years - 4/4.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.
- ✦ Schneider Male Choir at 7:30 pm.

Sunday, October 12 ~ Pentecost 22 + Thanksgiving

Betty Ritz Sunday

- ✦ Anchor Worship at 9:30 am. Parish update, 9:20 am.
- ✦ Community Fellowship at 10:30 am.
There will be cake in honour of Betty Ritz!
- ✦ Faith Adventures at 10:45 am.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, October 19 ~ Pentecost 23

Halifax Journey Thanks Baby Shower & Pot-Luck Lunch

- ✦ 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 Jennifer Jackson.
- ✦ Baby Anderson Shower & Congregational Pot-Luck at 11:45 am. Bring some food; bring a friend!
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

Sunday, October 26 ~ Pentecost 24 / Reformation

Confirmation Witness

- ✦ 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 Connie Dwyer.
- ✦ Sanctuary Worship at 5 pm.

✦ *andré lavergne*

Inside TRINITY DOVE

Pastor Anne ~ AND THEYRE OFF!	2
Schneider Male Choir at Trinity	2
Sacraments & Seasons	3
Bay Shower & Pot-Luck	3
Bill Loader ~ DEAR KIM	4-5
Second Century Update	5
Tintinnabulations	6
Financial Picture	7
Nurturing Faith	7
The TYGers' Den	7

✚ Pr. Anne ~ And They're Off!

Grace and peace, friends.

I am just coming back to the parish after a great week with our grade 7 & 8 Affirmation youth at Confirmation Camp. Soon I hope to catch up on my sleep—that might be sometime in October! The week was fantastic. Part of it had to do with our great students—15 of them—and part of it had to do with the theme for this year. It encouraged me immensely and I hope that it will do the same for you.

The theme was “Change our church and change our world.” We started our Sunday evening worship listening to a song by John Mayer, “Waiting on the World to Change”. It’s a pop song you may have heard on the radio lately. While listening to the song the youth created a banner/altar cloth that we used for the whole week. On the piece of material they expressed their hopes and dreams for the church and for our world: real relationships, peace, understanding between religions, no guns, living out the gospel in real life, etc. The cloth is making its way around the participating churches. Watch for it here, at Trinity, soon.



The week was about change. However, the thing that struck me was that our youth weren’t saying that we need to change everything about who we are as a church to accommodate them or to entice them into coming on Sunday. Rather, they were encouraging our community to engage and interact with them in heartfelt ways; to be in conversation with them; to learn about them; and not to fear them (and their sometimes “different” way of life). Living out faith together is what they see as important as we learn from each other!

As we finished our week on Friday, I led the youth in worship and we talked about using the gifts God has given us, where we are, in the communities God has drawn us to. I encouraged them to participate in their home congregations. We need to hear their voice. We need to be challenged by our youth. We need them because they are as much a part of our family as are any others. So...

If you are a young person, come and share your voice! If you are a parent, bring your young person. If you are a senior, welcome our youth! We all have our place in changing our church and world through God’s love. All blessings. See you all in church.

✚ *anne anderson*

✚ Schneider Male Choir ...at Trinity!

The renowned Schneider Male Choir will sing at Trinity on Sunday, October 5, at 7:30 pm. This is a fund-raiser for Community Care Concepts—CCC. CCC provides support to seniors and adults with disabilities in the townships of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot. Tickets—\$10 for adults; children under 12 are free—are available from Cy Ridout and the church office.

The Schneider Male Choir has roots that run deep in local choral history. It grew out of the merger of three male choirs that performed at the Friedenfest (Peace Festival) at the end of the Franco-Prussian War in 1871. The choirs were the Orpheus Singing Society of Waterloo, the Liedertafel and the Berlin Philharmonic Societies. The merged choir (1994) was called the Orpheus Male Choir. The Schneider Men's Chorus, made up of employees of the J.M. Schneider Company, was formed in 1938 and merged with the Orpheus Male Choir in 1947 to become the Schneider Orpheus Male Chorus, and later the Schneider Male Chorus. Today, the Schneider Male Choir performs widely

under the direction of Laurence Rowbotham & Barbara Kellerman. Jennifer Famme is their accompanist.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Neighbourhoods Rejigged

Owing to the substantial expansion of the Baden community in recent years, we have split the Baden neighbourhood and the task of getting TRINITY DOVE out to the Baden area. John & Wally Mueller, who have done the job for years, will continue with the Easterly half of Baden while Dale & Rhonda Egerdee will take over the westerly half. Foundry Street will serve as the boundary between neighbourhoods.

As well, New Hamburg’s Astor-Conestoga neighbourhood has been expanded to take in some new development including Theodore Schuler Blvd. Jared & Shannon Snyder have been invited to take over the shepherding duties, long-performed by Rick & Susan Pearson. We are grateful to all of our shepherds, new or retired, for their service! Thanks, friends.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ Sacraments & Seasons

October Birthdays

1 - Joshua Stewart, Brittany Brooks; 2 - Ruth Lindner; 3 - Nancy Hallberg, Maxwell Junker; 4 - Paul Diebel, Ted Seyler, Tara Keller, Holly Plein, Meghann Otterbein, Zachary Whittaker, Justin Steinmann, Zack Winhold; 5 - Burt Flood, Tara Schaaf, Jessica O'Donoghue, Bradley Egerdee; 6 - Reta Ridout, Michael Van Meyl; 7 - Dave Pauli, 8 - Joan Cook, Dhana Clements, Kelly Jantzi, Jeff Malloch; 9 - Tim Pearson, Patty Ingold, Jeremy Baan, Stephanie Rogers, Hailey Gingerich; 10 - Brett Witzel, Madison Erb, Olivia Farr; 11 - Shayna Dramnitzke; 12 - Kara Patton, Cody Klaassen; 13 - Virginia Schmidt, Ed Danner, Tim Junker, Trevor Steinmann, Rowan Gravill; 14 - Mackenzie Leclaire; 15 - Barb Schwartzentruber; 16 - Lorraine Schroeder; 17 - Jean Hammer, Rodrick Bender, Gailen Ludington; 18 - David Bast, Stephanie Morrison; 19 - Henry Simon, Pat Diebel, Kris Ferguson, Laura McCurdy, Ali Pearson; 20 - Ebba Petersen; 21 - Larry Roth, Chris Leu; 22 - Lynn Prues, Dee Radke, David Butz, Tim Bailey, Alexandra Glencross, Leeta Currah; 23 - Earl Cressman, Marjorie Forler, Karen Jutzi, Laurie Bingeman, Sandra Cook; 24 - Myrta Biesel, Eileen Miller; 26 - Frieda Mueller, Arlene Roth, Lori Persaud, Kyle Power, Kaileigh Lindner; 27 - Jo-anne Randerson, Kyle Kaminska, Rochelle Becker; 28 - Lou Sippel, Kathryn Eichler, Kim Pearson, Josh Brennan; 29 - August Popp, Joanne Snyder; 30 - Bruce H. Hammer; 31 - Otto Berg, Janice Junker, Amanda Morrison.

Happy birthday, friends!

October Anniversaries

1 - Christine & Marty Normandeau, Judy & Bob Hillar; 2 - Keith & Rachel Heise, Jo-anne & Dave Randerson; 3 - Karen & Rick Haffner; 5 - Kevin & Stephanie Price; 6 - Joyce & Verne Hammer, Melanie & Michael Eichler; 7 - Doug & Nancy Kaminska; 9 - Paula & Bob Povey, Matt & Valarie Ceccardi; 11 - Dorothy & Don Jardin, Kelly & Mark White; 13 - Kevin & Krista Durrer; 18 - Diane & Bob Anger; 19 - Pam & Paul Koehler; 20 - Keith & Nancy Ropp; 21 - Karen & Ken Barnes; 22 - Glad & Merv Roth; 23 - Clarence & Marlene Schamber; 24 - Brenda & Edward Ingold; 27 - Muriel & Wilfred Greulich.

Happy anniversary, friends.

BIG Days!

Look for the following "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.

BTW, this is the same Sunday that our illustrious Halifax TYGers will say thank-you to the congregation at morning worship.

✚ *mildred knackstedt*



✚ TRINITY DOVE Online

In recent days, 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 the printer.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ There Will Be Cake!

October 12, 2008, shall be observed as Pentecost 22 / Thanksgiving and celebrated as Betty Ritz Sunday.

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*

✚ 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)

Obsessions of religious people

It is my view that what we see as the obsessions of the religious people of Jesus' day are not so different from what have become the obsessions of many in the Church. They mostly touch situations where allegedly divinely sanctioned law and ordinance are given higher priority than human need. The Church too often finds itself not on the side of flexibility. There is a quasi fundamentalism often operating in discussions of such matters as church order, ordination of women, divorce and remarriage, and who may receive or celebrate Holy Communion.

At worst, we find ourselves back with a puny understanding of God, who is liable to get terribly upset if things are not done in exactly the right way, the way they have always been done. Such images of God are blasphemous. Would any of us, at our best, behave the way God is, at times, alleged to behave? Parents, at their best, encourage children to experiment, to ask questions and to explore and they stay with them even when they have their doubts. I can't believe any less of God; yet so often the picture I get is of a very insecure God, with little trust and full of oppressive fear. This is not the God I find in Jesus.

Setting boundaries and keeping our identity

To stay with the image of parenting, parents also need to know the importance of setting boundaries. Many of the Church's traditions have arisen from just such a need. The need continues. Within the community of faith we need to recognise that we are not perfect; there are things we do not see; we make mistakes. We need each other and we need the voices of the past. They are brought to us through tradition, especially in its earliest form, the scriptures. We also need to listen to the skilled interpreters of Bible and tradition and to those in the present whom we recognise as especially wise.

I am all for our having a very positive, appreciative attitude towards what has gone before us in the stream and a respect for the various practices which have become special to people. However I think that this can all

happen without losing sight of the first priority, living out the good news about God we find in Jesus in the present. I am not advocating that the Church abandon its tradition. Jesus was not advocating that to the religious leaders of his day; but he was calling them back to what really mattered and he sat lightly, when necessary, to the rest. I think the Church needs to live by that principle.

You and me and the church

Where does that leave you and me, as individuals, in relationship to the Church? As I said, I think each of us as individuals faces similar issues in our own lives to those faced by the Church. We need to show the Church community the same tolerance and love. For instance, there are plenty of people who, in a similar way to the Church, get stuck with doing things the way they have always done them and who do not seem to have the flexibility to make changes that would be so good for them and for those around them. That doesn't mean forgetting everything we were. We can't do that; but being alive means being awake to doing things in new ways as new situations arise and to following old patterns only when they

are still relevant.

A way of being together?

How, then, do I, as an individual, relate to the Church? I go along to Church and to wider Church gatherings and I meet all the things I have just described. I feel I belong there, even when I feel frustrated and it is hard. I will continue to go. But I know I also need more than that. I also value the support, encouragement and friendship from others who are on the same path of faith. I value plain talking and direct personal encounter, meeting people and being enriched by sharing issues and experiences with them. Therefore I need to be able to get closer to people than is usually possible in a large (or small) Sunday congregation.

I would not want to give up the rest and stay only with a close or closed group, though I know a lot of people who have chosen this path and I have a lot of sympathy with them. In fact, my hunch is that many people are outside the Church today because nothing like the small group existed for them within the Christian community. It is asking a lot of people to expect them to come each Sunday to a traditional service and there decode, demythologise, and translate what is going on before they can gain any benefit from it — it can be hard work! I sometimes find it so. We are losing, or have already lost, many of our more thinking and more feeling souls by our



persistence in pandering to more staid and conservative movements in the Church and the fear they engender, especially among clergy wanting to feel accepted. In the smaller more intimate group there would be a place for such people. The last decade has seen a significant swing towards establishing such groups.

I often find it strange that few people reflect on the major changes which came about in Christianity when, after flourishing successfully for two hundred years, it finally received authority to build churches, that is, church buildings. Before that Christians met in houses. Groups must have been smaller than most of our congregations. The house would add greater intimacy and informality. Communion would probably have been served from the meal table and usually after or in connection with a normal meal. They still had sermons, at least, according to Acts, because there is the celebrated incident of someone going to sleep and falling out a window!

In some cities there were a number of such house churches. We don't know whether, or how often, they would have all crammed together for a common celebration or service. Probably they did from time to time. It seems to me that such a system had special value worth recovering. I sometimes have a vision of Christians returning to make the local house group their main gathering and feeding centre again and meeting only, say, once a month in the wider group. As I've said above, I think the wider connection with other Christians is essential and I sometimes find it very uplifting, but I wonder if making Christianity's main activity a weekly Sunday meeting in a large hall or specially constructed building has not robbed Christianity of something vital. I hope we will see more experiments in this direction. They are beginning to happen. It has immediate implications for our traditional understanding of ordained ministry and administration of the sacraments, but that is a refreshing change. It also calls for ministers to play a major support role for local group leaders and for leadership teams.

The danger I would see in such groups, apart from the possibility of poor resourcing and oversight, is potential exclusiveness. We need to make all sorts welcome in our homes and learn to live with much greater openness, abandoning the 'my little castle' approach to own homes. Maybe that, in itself, would make us more Christian where it counts — in the neighbourhood! A feature of earliest Christianity, soon noted by outsiders, was its hospitality.

In my imagining I still see a role for the local congregation, groups for the children, youth and adults, and occasions of

worship and celebration. I hope the churches will continue to be centres of vibrant life for young families in the new suburbs. Coming to a friendly congregation where the children have something for them and you find something for yourself can be an enrichment and inspiration for the week. Appropriate worship and fellowship for seniors in the older centres of population must continue to be a strong feature. It's everyone in between that worries me and where I think we need greater flexibility and more imagination. The worsening financial state of the Church is forcing the Church to consider some of these options, but it is far better if they are looked at with a view to being more effective than only with a view to saving money.

Next... The extraordinary achievement of local churches.

✚ *bill loader*

✚ Second Century Update

On September 3, Trinity's Second Century Task Group met to integrate two streams of information derived from architect Terry Marklevitz of Stratford and from the Task Group's own internal research. The Task Group reviewed a refined & expanded set of

concept drawings and continues to look at possibilities and alternatives. As we move beyond the early concept stage, we will look at costing, fund-raising, scheduling and other important matters. The next Task Group meeting is September 23. We expect to report to Council in October.

Our project goals remain as ever: 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 kitchen; 4. to address the need for additional program space; 5. to address the need to mark the 100th anniversary of Trinity's sanctuary.

✚ *andré lavergne*

✚ "Up on the Roof" at Edgewood

The folks at Camp Edgewood are hoping to repair/replace 5-6 roofs over the October 17-19 weekend (after Thanksgiving). They also hope to do some significant electrical work. Workers are welcome to stay over—bring a sleeping bag—and will be fed and cared for by Edgewood staff. All skill levels required. Interested? Speak to Pr. Anne who serves on the Edgewood board.

✚ *andré lavergne*



✚ Tintinnabulations

September 27, 8 am ~ Parish Work Day

We'll gather at 8 am. We have many jobs and lots of work. Please sign up at the church.

October 1, Noon ~ 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.

October 5 ~ Schneider Choir

Join us at 7:30 pm. Complete details are carried on page 2.

October 6 ~ ELW

We'll meet at 12:30 pm over a brown-bag lunch. Contact Mildred Knackstedt, 662-3739, for information. Our focus, this month, is "Thanksgiving."

October 8 ~ Prayer Circle Update

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

October 16, 9 am ~ Dove Preparation

The DOVE Preparation Team gathers.

October 19, 11:45 am ~ Pot-luck Baby Shower

Details are carried on page 3. All welcome!

October 21, 7 pm ~ Gentle Friends Readers

The Gentle Friends gather, 7:30 pm, in members' homes. This month, we're reading *THE TIME TRAVELLER'S WIFE* by Audrey Niffenegger. Info: Kathryn Ritz, 519.662-2960.

October 27 ~ Blood Donor Clinic

Hosted by the New Hamburg Lions & Lionesses, our clinic will be held Monday, 2 to 8:30 pm, at W/O.

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*

✚ Adult Learning

Sunday Mornings: Nurturing Faith

Our terrific Adult Learning series called "Nurturing Faith Through the Years" continues through October 5. Eastern Synod Learning Ministry Director Jackie Nunns is walking us through four stages of faith development and is offering ideas on how to incorporate aspects of faith in our homes.

Sunday Mornings: Caring & Coping

In this four session 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 offer 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.

Wednesday Evenings: LtQ II

Pastors André & Anne are offering a Wednesday evening pastors' study called *LIVING THE QUESTIONS II OR LTQ II*. This completes the series offered fall, '07 & winter, '08. Each DVD-based session is an immersion in one of the major themes of Christianity. LtQ II also picks up where we left off after the *HEART OF CHRISTIANITY* series. Look for nine Wednesday, 7 pm, sessions between September 24 & December 3. Sign up in the narthex.

✚ *anne anderson*



✚ Finances to August 31, 2008

	General Fund	Capital Fund	Transfers
Income	\$ 156,541	\$ 10,348	\$ 12,568
Outgo	176,078	1,846	10,871
Balance	(\$ 19,537)	\$ 8,504	\$ 1,696

General Fund Deficit

Expenditures outstripped receipts through the spring and into the summer. The reasons are a little unclear. Things turned around in August a little bit. Behind in your contributions? Please get caught up and help us to get caught up!

In the Capital Fund, we've begun the replacement of our computers which has been delayed since last year. Anne has a new laptop which is already working very hard for us!

PARTicipation

We receive \$10,822 monthly from 81 PAR contributors. Some \$9,399 is earmarked for the General Fund —about 45% of our annual budget. Another \$938 is allocated to Capital, and the rest to Global Hunger, etc. Care to PARTICIPATE? Speak to Jill Merner.

✚ bob ruthig & andré lavergne

✚ Affirmation Ministry

Our Affirmation Ministry is off the ground for fall! Our first Saturday class was held on September 13 while the next will take place on October 25. 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 for our Grade 9 students that witness preparation will take place on Friday, October 3, 7-9 pm and Saturday, October 4, 9-12 noon. Get your creative juices flowing! We'll be making banners to share with the congregation on Sunday, October 26 (Reformation observed). The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, November 2 (All Saints observed).

✚ anne anderson

✚ Nurturing Faith ~ Children & Youth

We hope that parents and families have been enjoying our great Sunday morning Adult Learning series called "Nurturing Faith Through the Years." The series concludes on October 5.

I want to extend a word of thanks to all of our staff and teachers who have helped to get our year off to such a great start! Thanks, as well, to our hardworking Faith Adventures Team who pull it all together. We couldn't do it without you!

✚ anne anderson



✚ The TYGers' Den

The Halifax Journey TYGers will host a Thank You Service on Sunday, October 19, at 9:30 am. All TYGers: Come and join us even if you weren't able to get to Halifax. You'll get in the mood for our next service adventure!

Junior and Senior TYGers: On Friday, October 17, we've been invited on a road trip with St. George's, Anglican, to attend a U2charist. Curious? Do you

like the band U2? Do you want to help people in South Africa? Sign-up to participate. More details to follow.

We're looking for some happy host homes! Captive Free is returning to Trinity this fall and we need four families willing to host a young person or two for the week of November 23-30. Speak to Pastor Anne if you are interested.

All TYGers: Don't forget that we have a 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 will be 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! On September 18, Jody Leis will challenge us on "Thinking & acting locally & globally" while on October 16, Pr. Bonnie Schelter Brown will offer "An Encouraging Word." Go to the Trinity website for a listing of dates, guests and content.

✚ anne anderson