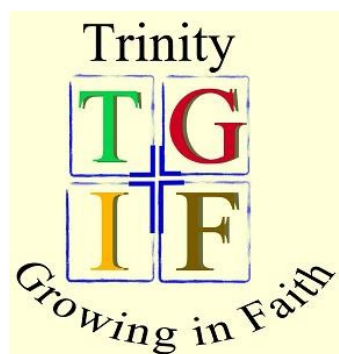


Trinity Happenings

Our Mission

*We are here to:
Worship God,
Walk with Jesus,
Change lives,
and Serve the
community, through the
power of the Holy Spirit.*



Welcome to Trinity

We welcome all visitors and new comers who have come to join us as we pray and give thanks, praise and worship, and learn about the word of God here at Trinity.

Feel free to meet us downstairs in the auditorium after the service for coffee.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY - January 9th "Epiphany"
8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion
10:00 a.m. - Family Communion
Nursery in Undercroft (ages 0 – 4 yr.)
Sunday School in Auditorium (4-11 yr.)

MONDAY
Vestry Reports Due

WEDNESDAY
7:30 a.m. - Men's Breakfast at Candy Land Cafe
10:30 a.m. - Holy Communion Service

THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice in Sanctuary

FRIDAY
9:30 a.m. - Trinity Women's Meeting in Upper Rm. for "Coffee and Chatter".
Info, Mary-726-4589.

SATURDAY
- Big Church meeting in Aud.

SUNDAY - January 16th "2nd after Epiphany"
8:00 a.m. - Quiet Communion
10:00 a.m. - Family Communion
Nursery in Undercroft (ages 0 – 4 yr.)
Sunday School in Auditorium (4-11 yr.)
12:00 p.m. - Parents Group Mtg. in Upper Rm.
11:30 a.m. - Special Vestry to Elect Churchwardens

BITS AND PIECES
*Congregation attending Trinity last Week, Jan. 2nd, was: 8:00 a.m.= 28; 10:00 a.m.= 131; for a total of 159 including 4 children & teachers.

2011 CHURCH CALENDARS:
Available now in the Church Office at \$5.00 each. *This year's theme: "All are welcome in this place."*

PRAYER LIST
Please keep Mary Caldwell or Clergy updated about the progress of your loved ones, 728-2691. We update the list every 2 weeks and need to be notified if continued prayers are necessary.

HOSPITALIZED
Please notify the Clergy or Mary Caldwell if you know of anyone who is in Hospital. We are not able to see lists of patients anymore and so do not know who has been admitted. This would help us greatly with visitation.

FLU SEASON: Hand sanitizer will be available at the High Altar and the Lady Altar for those who would like to clean their hands before receiving Communion.

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you would like to put flowers on the Altars or Lectern for a special occasion or memorial, please contact Judy Craig at 737-2669 or the Church Office at 728-2691.

SHUT-INS: If you, or someone you know, needs a ride to Church, please leave a message in the Office. We will endeavour to find transportation for you. Also if you're able to drive people, please call the Office at 728-2691.

CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

The members of Trinity will have received a Parish Letter this past week indicating that I am leaving the Diocese of Toronto and that our four Churchwardens are resigning. Because the buildings and assets of Trinity belong to the Diocese this means that this will be my last Sunday in this building. We have been in a process of discussion and discernment as a parish since October when Archbishop Colin Johnson ordained a woman who is civilly married to another woman and then issued guidelines for the blessing of same sex couples. The Archbishop has unilaterally changed our Biblical understanding of marriage and the family. This is what has caused me to leave the Diocese and the Churchwardens to resign.

If this has taken you by surprise I apologize for any shock you may feel. If you are new to Trinity you may feel like you have walked into the middle of an intense family discussion. I met with Bishop Elliott before Christmas and we agreed that if I was leaving the Diocese that it would be better to do so sooner rather than later.

While it may have been said that "I am leaving Trinity" or that "this is my last Sunday" I would like to clarify who has done the leaving. My core beliefs and convictions have not changed. The beliefs and the doctrine of the worldwide Anglican Communion have not changed. We all understand Biblical marriage to be between a man and a woman. It is this Diocese which has left. It is this Diocese which has changed. I feel that someone has hijacked the church that I have grown up in. I am not leaving anything, this Diocese has left us. Our life together can continue, it just cannot continue in these buildings!

The following is a quote from an open letter to Archbishop Johnson by two clergy in this Diocese. It provides very helpful assessment:

On September 14, 2010, Archbishop Colin Johnson ordained priest in the Diocese of Toronto a woman married (by civil law) to another woman. On November 3, the College of Bishops issued "Pastoral Guidelines" for the formal and liturgical blessing of same gender commitments in the Diocese of Toronto.

These actions are problematic both in their content and in their form.

The first action contradicts the doctrine, discipline and worship of the church and disregards its marriage canon. The second does one of two things. In one case, it gives the church's formal blessing to a civilly married same-sex couple. In the other, it blesses a sexual relationship that is not a marriage. In either case it departs from the historic teaching of the church and its moral vision, both as to the nature of marriage and as to the role and limits of sex.

The bishops have described both actions as pastoral. But in fact they affect the doctrine of the church. The ordination of a person in a same-sex marriage hallows that marriage and names it the ideal, a worthy example for all to follow, properly belonging within the Christian definition of marriage. This is to challenge the marriage canon of the Anglican Church of Canada. This is an act, that is, with concrete legal and doctrinal implications.

Likewise, to bless a civil same-sex marriage in a service complete with scripture readings, hymns of the church, and (if the couple wishes) a Eucharist, is to declare this a Christian marriage. There is no distinction between a civil same-sex marriage blessed in a church and a civil heterosexual marriage blessed in a church. To be sure, the guidelines prohibit the exchange of marriage vows and rings; but the couple has already exchanged vows and rings before a magistrate. If the nuptial blessings currently printed in the prayer books cannot be used, what of that? A new blessing can be written.

If the couple is not civilly married, then we are blessing sex outside of marriage. Whatever the current social mores regarding sex, this is a formal innovation in the church's ethical teaching and practice.

These are not pastoral actions. They strike at the heart of the faith that has been handed on to us, and at the Christian moral vision regarding sex and marriage. (from Dean Mercer & Catherine Sider-Hamilton)

These are days of decision for us that require earnest prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If this is matter that you have not yet studied there are three open letters on our web site (see the Happenings page). In the tower walk there is very good booklet by Nicky Gumbel.

-- Canon Brian McVitty

SERMON NOTES

** Numbers 9:22 "Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out; but when it was taken up they set out."

- How did the Hebrews know when to journey forward and what direction to take?
- When have you felt God's leading to move from one place to another?

** Psalms 23 "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; ... for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

- What are the "still waters" or "green pastures" that God has led you to?
- What defense or protection has God given you by "thy rod and thy staff" ?

** John 21:15 "When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."

- What was Jesus asking Peter to do when he said "feed my lambs"? What was Peter to feed them?
- When Jesus asks Peter "do you love me more than these" what are the "these" that Jesus is referring to?

Parish Info and Updates

BISHOP GEORGE ELLIOTT

Bishop George has been most gracious during this process. A letter from him will be read at the services this morning. The Bishop has appointed the Rev. Elizabeth Morley as the interim Priest and she will begin her duties this coming week.

SPECIAL VESTRY MEETING -- Sunday January 16th at 11:30 a.m.

A special Vestry Meeting has been called for next Sunday to elect a People's Churchwarden. George Craig has been nominated. Only one item of business is permitted at a special vestry meeting.

** The Rev. Elizabeth Morley has appointed Bob Garrett as Rector's Churchwarden.

CHURCHWARDENS

Our sincere thanks to the four churchwardens who are stepping down: Walter Marshall, Beth Heale, Michael Tweedle and Pauline Miller. We appreciate their leadership and dedication! They have completed year end statements and have done most of the preparation on a budget for 2011. They will leave the final crafting of the 2011 budget for the new team.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING: Sun., January 30th

Anyone who has been a member of the Anglican Church and of Trinity for at least 3 months, and has attended services of worship regularly, and is of the full age of 16 years is eligible to vote.

ANNUAL REPORTS: Committee Chairs - please have your reports into the Office by Mon., Jan. 10th for inclusion in the Annual Vestry Report. Those groups who handle money within their activities are requested to submit financial information for their group. Reports may be sent as an attachment (Rich Text Format) to e-mail: churchoffice@rogers.com

SIDESPERSONS:

We have a few openings for the position of volunteer Sidespersons (Ushers) on Sunday mornings at either the 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Services. A job description may be obtained from Keith Caldwell: 705-721-0737, or maryandkeithcaldwell@yahoo.ca.

Trinity Anglican Church

24 Collier Street
P.O. Box 641
Barrie, Ontario

Phone: 705-728-2691
Fax # 705-727-0546

E-mail: churchoffice@rogers.com

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Brian McVitty



Happenings Editor: Rob Smith
trinityhappenings@gmail.com

Trinity Happenings Editor Needed

In light of recent events, all of us have been faced with a difficult decision. My wife and I have decided that our family can no longer stay with a diocese that no longer reflects our core beliefs. So it is with a heavy heart that we will also be leaving Trinity Anglican Church, and this will be my **last issue of Trinity Happenings**.



If the Happenings newsletter were to continue then someone will need to step forward to take over the position of editor. This is a position that requires strong word processing and organizational skills. If this area of ministry is right for you, you can contact myself (Rob Smith) or Mary Caldwell for more information.

TRINITY'S CHOIR CD "SEASONS" - NOW AVAILABLE!

"SEASONS" is a wonderful collection of the BEST CHOIR ANTHEMS that are sung through the whole church year, from Harvest Sunday through to Trinity Sunday.



Available for purchase after both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services.

The cost is \$20 and all profits go to support the choir and the church.



JAMAICA NIGHT IN BARRIE ! - Friday, Jan 21st



Hello everyone! A good Jamaican meal with all the fixings, social time with Christian friends, a slideshow of my adventures in Jamaica, topped off by a fun evening with a variety of interesting games. Sounds like fun? It will be, if YOU're there. Irie!

I hope to return to Jamaica to finish 2 projects that I have started with 2 different small teams within the Student Crossing Borders organization. 1) The establishment of a basic community library in a community built on top of a garbage dump to assist youth who are struggling to better themselves, to model the value of books, to motivate reading acquisition, to provide a place to do homework, and in the future include the resources and assistance to acquire computer skills. I sure do plan to establish daily Bible stories in the library while I'm there and encourage and provide for the continuation after I have gone (any donation of Christian children's books would therefore be greatly appreciated). 2) In a different community of crippled, mentally/developmentally challenged and AIDS orphans, there has been a request for a user friendly daily devotion and prayer time outline for the house mothers to use within each grouping of children. Three of us have offered to develop something for the community to use on a daily basis. I will also be involved with some of the larger group projects that our team of 35 hope to accomplish. 1) a full day leadership conference to motivate the despondent teenagers caught in a cycle of poverty. The day will involve drama, speakers and workshops focusing on self-worth, self-empowerment, job acquisition skills, etc 2) 'Teachers' of a little early childhood school we have been working with are in need of further teacher training and we have also raised enough to build a parent-child drop in centre - to gently teach and model parenting skills as well as to provide resources for young children's development.

There is a lot to be done but we have many hands on deck. Each participant has to raise \$2,000, but I need to raise more to cover the additional week that I will be there setting up the library and purchasing some of the library shelving. I personally need to raise at least \$2,000 more.

This fun Jamaican night will cost \$25 per person to help me with my fundraising. I do appreciate your support and would love to have a night of fun, perhaps two. The first will be held on Friday, January 21st starting at 6:00pm. and the next on Saturday, January 22nd. Please see Anne for tickets and/or donations. I greatly appreciate any support you can give me and I can get tax receipts for donations over \$50. Thank you so very much. *Anne*

