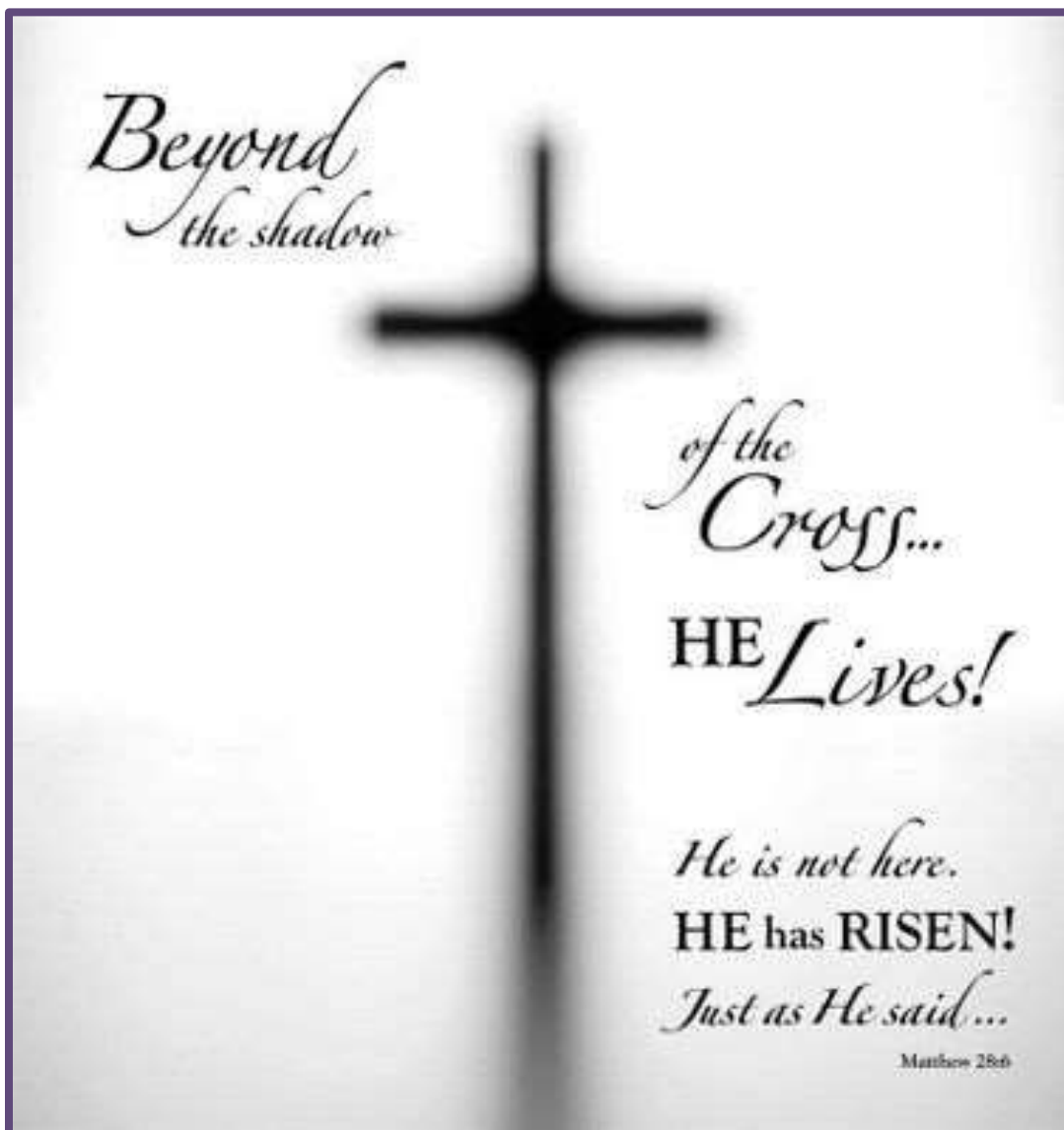


# TRINITY BRANCHES

Spring 2022



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries from coast to coast are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples



## Minister's Message

Friends, will this truly be the first Easter I spend worshiping at Trinity?

It seems strange to say but despite the fact that I have been here for a few years I have yet to spend Easter in person at the church with other people there. For the last two years, the pandemic has prevented this from occurring. As one of the high holidays (perhaps the highest, arguably) it has been a pretty large hole in these past two years, like we never truly finished what we had started, we never completed a full year of the church. Not like how I had kind of envisioned. But it seems like things are starting to take a bit of a turn and for this spring at least, I may finally get some of the vision that I had hoped for coming to fruition.

In some ways these past two years have been a little bit of storage. This is to say, I think I have been putting away ideas and tasks that didn't seem feasible or necessary but now it is starting to be the time to unpack all of these metaphorical boxes. And actual boxes. The main storage closet in my apartment has a top shelf that has a number of things on it that I do not need, but didn't want to deal with. When I initially moved in January 2020, a few months before the start of the pandemic, that shelf was basically empty. But then, if there was something I didn't want to deal with, it went up there and the door was closed. But now I've started to take down the bag of clothes I wanted to donate, rearranged my Christmas decoration storage, looked at the floor mats from my last car with consideration and decided I wasn't ready to try to find a new owner for them. Each of these things was some kind of message from the past of a person who was not in the head space to confront that particular task. Now, in this season of new life, maybe I am. Getting that bag of clothes out of my life was probably one of my biggest mental health victories of the past five years.

It isn't right for me to do a full pandemic retrospective quite yet because we are still very much in the midst of it and the exact path we are going to take in these next months and years is still uncertain. Even though things are, legally speaking, becoming a little bit more possible in general, we should stay aware that not all of us are comfortable or able to feel at peace with this sense of possibility I've described. Though I am still trying to be cautious myself, I do feel a little lighter than I have, even in previous times of loosening restrictions. This being the most hopeful spring in a while is maybe giving me a little more energy and a little more hope. Wherever you can find it in this time, even if it has reservations, I hope that you can find a little bit of hope, a little bit of renewal. Do not be afraid to take care of yourself and, if you need it, take this as a sign to take that little burdensome thing out of your life as soon as you are able to do so. You deserve it.

Take care,

*Rev. Scott*



# Youth Ministry Update



This year we plan on resuming our VBS, Camp TUC, in person and though things may be a little different than in the past, it will be a great opportunity to move forward. This year VBS will be a half day program with

the help of a couple youth volunteers from our very own Sunday School. With the theme of World Explorers, we will be revisiting the origins of what the “TUC” in Camp TUC stands for: Truth, Understanding and Caring. Registration is now open and information can be found on our website:

[www.trinityunited.com/youthministry](http://www.trinityunited.com/youthministry)

As we all try to navigate through the pandemic, we have learned to be grateful for the new skills we have learned, the gift of staying connected with technology and the incredible resilience of the human spirit. I’m grateful for the families, children and volunteers that have supported going back and forth between in-person and online Sunday School and I think it’s important to acknowledge that this constant shifting of gears has been challenging, and at times a bit tiring. I am very thankful that everyone involved, has given their time and efforts to keeping us connected with each other and with God. As Sunday School resumes in person once again, I look forward to sharing how we continue to learn and grow. Spring is finally here and we are hopeful for new beginnings!



## Trinity Tidbits

We were sorry to hear that Ron Mighton passed away on Dec 7, 2021. He will be missed and we send our condolences to his family.



Longtime member Judy Armstrong passed away on Feb 3, 2022. Judy was always there at every event, helping, cooking, selling goodies at the auction, aptly named for her late husband, Bill Armstrong. A lady we will all greatly miss. Our love goes out to her family.



## Bits and Pieces from Council

\*\*\*Jan 26, Feb 23 and Mar 23 meetings\*\*\*

1. Rev. Scott has prepared an updated Wedding Policy including charges and uses of the building.
2. Trinity will be hosting Good Friday for several Oakville United Churches. Details and logistics to follow.
3. The Stewards have a new (used) computer for their office. HOORAY!
4. The 'Markets' have been up and down over the last few months. A watch is being kept.
5. Broken eaves troughs on the main building are being addressed and we have hired a new cleaner.
6. Sunday School will continue on-line until after March Break. (In person Sunday School happened Mar 27!)
7. New Covid protocols, **to be reviewed monthly**: no more preregistration to attend services, no prescreening at the door or vaccination proof. Masks will remain mandatory. Singing allowed with masks on.
8. We are hoping to be able to hold a "Garage Sale" in the parking lot on Saturday May 28. Start collecting your junk and we'll let you know when to bring it over!
9. Trinity will be hosting St. John's and St. Paul's United Churches on Good Friday morning at 10 am for an in-person joint service. The service will also be livestreamed.



## White Gift



As we begin to gather again in person and Easter approaching, our White Gift hamper will be placed back in the Narthex.

We would appreciate, if you are able, to drop any non-perishable food items in it, in preparation for Easter.

### **Most required items are listed below:**

Peanut Butter	Canned pasta	Cereal	Baked beans
Canned veggies	Any soups	Canned tuna	Kleenex
Any canned fruit items	T.P.	Lunch box snacks	Small dish soap
Granola bars	Hand soap	Jam	Tooth paste
Side-kicks	Easter Treats		

### **Any other non-perishable food items are most welcome.**

We will be helping 14 families this Easter. Each family will receive several bags of non-perishable food items, a grocery gift card and an Easter treat for all the children.

Whatever you are able to provide will be very much appreciated. As our families rely on us throughout the year, we like to keep our pantry stocked with the basic necessities.

Thank you for your continued support.



## **THIS JUST IN!!**



Exciting news! We are thrilled to learn that Ryerson United Church Camp will be in 'full swing' this summer. This news has made one little girl very happy. Her first camp experience was 3 summers ago and she is very much looking forward to returning again this summer. She will be attending 'Gopher' camp for a week in July. We also have another 'possible' young girl attending.



An update will be available when all of this has been confirmed.

Thank you.

*~Linda and Kathy*

## Stewards

The Stewards are grateful to have a new, used computer upon which to do our offering spreadsheets.  
Thanks to Jim & Phyllis for securing the computer & the setup.

We are also grateful for your continued support even when we can't be together. On-line donations through our website ([trinityunited.com](http://trinityunited.com)) using PayPal, Credit or Debit or cheques sent to the office and PAR donations are all well received.



We are all aware of the difficult times of late, but if you are able to increase your PAR donations even by a bit, they all add up.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration.

~The Stewardship Team

.....  
A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter.  
.....

Little Ricky was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm.

After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."  
.....



## Jason's Report

### Bowling (Chargers 01)

Nov 24: 5 st, 2 sp = 298 pts; Dec 5: 7 st, 3 sp = 334 pts; Dec 8: 4 st, 1 sp = 279 pts;

Dec 15: 6 st, 3 sp = 328 pts (**Jason was Bowler of the Month for December!**); Mar 2: 7 st, 5 sp = 418 pts;

Mar 9: 3 st, 6 sp = 322 pts; Mar 16: 3 st, 6 sp = 285 pts; Mar 23: 5 st, 1 sp = 269 pts

### The Story of Beijing Olympics

The city of Beijing is next to the city of Tianjin (formerly Tientsin). Olympic Gold medal winning athlete Eric Liddell was born in Tientsin, as were his 3 daughters, including our friend at Trinity, Heather (Liddell) Ingham.

Beijing hosted the Summer Games in 2008 and this year, the Winter Games. I went to Beijing in 1987 with my Mom and we saw the Great Wall.

The Beijing Olympics are the best in the world!

*Jason McLaughlin*

Jason wanted to congratulate Canada on winning 26 medals in the XXIV Olympic Winter Games in Beijing in February. 4 Gold, 8 Silver and 14 Bronze! Well done to ALL our Canadian athletes.



And the athletes at the Paralympics brought home 8 Gold, 6 Silver and 11 Bronze. WAY TO GO!!

10 years ago I wrote my first Branches story about the Special Olympics. I wrote every story for the Special Olympics just like Harold Abrahams from the movie "Chariots of Fire."

I'm a Special Olympian just like Eric Liddell.

I've stopped writing stories since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 but I'm back writing stories about bowling.

In about 3 years from now we're going to celebrate 100 years of Eric Liddell's 400 M gold medal run in Paris.

Soon I can write stories about Basketball, Swimming, Track and Field, T-Ball and Floor Hockey.

Thanks for my 10 years of Trinity Branches.

Sincerely, Jason McLaughlin (special correspondent)

Thank YOU, Jason!

## YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH

One day, a man went to visit a church.  
He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up  
near the driver got out and said, "I always park there!  
You took my place!"



The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young  
lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You  
took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude  
welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member  
walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was  
even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing.



Later as the congregation was praying  
for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his  
appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands  
and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him  
and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his  
hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place."



When you read this, say a prayer, and maybe, just maybe,  
we can get the world to start thinking of who took our place.





The Last Laugh (and Fun and Games!)

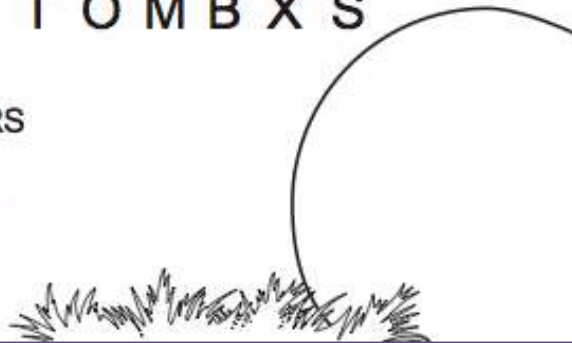
*A dog gave birth to  
puppies near the  
road and was cited  
for littering.*

*Two silk worms  
had a race. They  
ended up in a tie.*

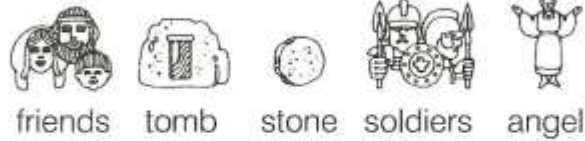
EASTER  
WORD SEARCH







S U E X I W R K Y B C  
I A C I D B X V U R S  
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D O S W T T O M B X S







RISEN	SUNDAY
CROSS	FLOWERS
TOMB	EGGS
JESUS	BASKET
SAVIOR	BUNNY









# The First Easter



When Jesus died his  were sad. They put him in a . A large  was placed in front of the .  stood nearby to see that no one rolled the  away.

For  days Jesus' body lay in the . Then in the morning of the third day, an  came and rolled the  away. When the  saw the , they were afraid.

That day Jesus'  came to the . They saw that the  had been rolled away. There was an  in the . The  said, "He is not here: for he is risen."

Jesus died so that we can all live again after we die. We have Easter to remind everyone of the day Jesus arose from the dead.

