



TRINITY
UNITED CHURCH
Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada

Twenty- Fifth Sunday of Pentecost - A
19 November, 2023

“I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent
in the ground. Here you have what is yours.”

Matthew 25:25

Welcome and announcements

Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.

– Trinity is an Affirming Congregation

We continue to pray for those who were impacted by the
legacy of Residential Schools.

Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday
through Thursday (Stat holidays on Mondays, the office
is closed).

In person Sunday School is the 2nd and last Sunday of
each month

September/October – Services will be held in the
Church Hall until the repairs are completed in
the Sanctuary.

Smiths Falls Community Food Bank appreciates
donations.

16 Days of Activism 2023 – November 25 to December

10th - The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based
violence is an annual international campaign that kicks
off on November 25th, the International Day for the
elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until
December 10th, Human Rights Day. Calendars are
included with your bulletin, which also includes ways

you can get involved. You can also go to the following link at Lanark County Interval House

<https://lcih.org/16-days/16-days-of-activism-what-you-can-do-to-end-vaw/>

Sounds of Christmas - Annual Family Concert to be held on Sunday, **November 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** at Bethel Pentecostal Church, 301 Highway 29. Please bring an offering for the Hamper Drive. Also, finger foods or Christmas baking are welcome for the fellowship afterwards. This is a Smiths Falls Ministerial Presentation.

Advent Devotional Time – Starting on **Wednesday, November 29th, 9:30 a.m.**, the Spiritual Leadership Team will be sponsoring an Advent Devotional every Wednesday. Please plan to join us!

Advent Walk – Sunday, December 1st, 4:30 p.m.

Join in this Advent Tradition where we journey from church to church hearing the Advent Scriptures. We start at St. Francis de Sales and make our way to Trinity United, Westminster Presbyterian and end at St. John's Anglican, with cider and Christmas cookies. A gentle way to begin this rich season.

Christmas in Merrickville - Saturday, December 2nd –

Choir Concert at the Merrickville United Church at 2 p.m. located at the main corner in town, across the road from the Blockhouse. Trinity's choir is participating, as well as choirs from Merrickville and Kemptville. Grant Birtch will be playing for the Christmas carols and songs. Admission to the concert is a monetary donation for the food bank. In addition, there will be free hot dogs and

hot chocolate along St. Lawrence Street and many other festivities throughout the day.

Carols from the Barrel – A Seasonal Celebration with **The Barrel Boys** presented by Trinity United Church (fund-raiser) to be held on **Saturday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m.** It will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 11 Church St. West. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, \$10 under 13 years of age. Tickets will be for sale following Sunday services until the event, at the office Monday to Thursday 9am to 1pm, or purchase on the Barrel Boys website at www.thebarrelboys.com/shows

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women – December 6th – 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall at Trinity United Church. It has been over 30 years since the murder of 14 young women at Polytechnique Montréal (December 6, 1989). This act of violent misogyny shook our country and led Parliament to designate December 6 as The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Please join us as we mourn their loss and remember their lives, and we reaffirm our commitment to fight the hatred that led to this tragedy, and the misogyny that still exists today. In addition, there is also a Vigil at **6 p.m.** in the park outside of Crystal Palace in Perth sponsored by the Lanark County Interval House.

White Gift Sunday – December 10th – In keeping with our inclusive dedication, please “wrap” your gift and on the tag simply state the “item” and what age group the gift is suitable for. Let’s keep gender out of it.

Christmas Cards are set up in the Fellowship Hall for signing. There are also packages of cards for sale.

Lanark Interval House – We continue to pack a parcel for Interval House for Christmas. Unopened personal items, small gifts for women and children would be appreciated. Please consider regular and fragrance-free items. Donations may be left in the box provided at the entrance to the Church. Last day for donations is **December 11th**. Contact Diane Combdon or Joanne Hunter for any questions.

Food Insecurity in Leeds, Grenville & Lanark – There are copies of posters and a report on Food Insecurity available on the side table. There are a number of things that we can do to help address food insecurity such as educating ourselves, advocating, supporting and sharing.

Healing Pathway – Held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at Trinity United and the 3rd Wednesday of each month at St. Paul's United in Perth. Practitioners meet at 1 p.m. Recipient appointments are 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Please contact the Church Secretary at 613-283-4444 for a specific appointment and/or additional information.

Gifts with Vision – In thinking about the upcoming Christmas season, Gifts with Vision is an excellent way to support those less fortunate such as providing a secure supply of food, fresh and clean water, reliable power, a social support network, clean laundry, and much more. Please visit www.giftswithvision.ca to view the many initiatives that Gifts with Vision is involved with.

Social Time After Church – Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Individuals or groups are invited to sign-up.

Future Events

Peter Woods & Friends Concert – (Postponed to Spring 2024)

Introit: VU 237 “Let Us Praise the God of Truth”

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of reconciliation.

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Hymn: VU 395 “Come In, Come In, and Sit Down”

Prayer of Confession:

Trusting God,

**You placed your mission in our hands
and gave us gifts to accomplish amazing things
in Jesus’ name.**

**We confess sometimes we take credit for what
your love has done.**

Sometimes we call our desires your will.

**Sometimes we step back and let others
carry responsibilities.
Forgive us when we fail to honour your trust in
us.**

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

Scripture: Psalm 90:1-8, [9-11], 12 (VU805)
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-29

Meditation: VU 377 “Holy Spirit, Hear Us”

Reflection: Budget Time

Hymn: VU 533 “When in Our Music, God is Glorified”
(vs. 1,2,5) (tune VU 705)

Offertory:

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer

Offering Options

- On the table by the entrance to Church Hall
- E-transfers to secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca
- Delivery to church office
- Through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

EOORC Prayer Cycle

North Gower Pastoral
Charge
Carsonby United Church
North Gower United Church

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

East Timor, Indonesia,
Philippines

We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love

Time for the Young

Hymn: VU 424 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: VU 636 “Give to the Winds Your Fears”

Recurring Events and Activities at Trinity	
Every Monday, 11:00am	Chair Exercise
Every Monday, 1:00pm	Book Group
First Monday, 9:30am	UCW
Fourth Monday, 9:30am	Property Team / Church Hall
Last Monday, 7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Every Tuesday, All Day	Pastoral Visitation
First Tuesday, 2:00pm	Van Horne Retirement Residence
First Tuesday, 7:00pm	Outreach and Social Justice
Third Tuesday, 9:30am	Stewardship & Finance Team / Upper Room
Third Tuesday, 6:00pm	Potluck and Praise
Every Wednesday, 9:30am	Bible Study / Seasonal Study
First Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Second Wednesday, 7:00pm	Spiritual Leadership Meeting
Second Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.	Christian Community Meeting
Third Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Last Wednesday, 7:00pm	Council
Second Friday, 6:00pm	Rainbow 101
Every Sunday, 8:30am (Except Second Sunday)	Choir Practice
Every Sunday, 11:30am	Soaking Prayer
Second Sunday, 9:00am	Choir Practice
Second Sunday, 8:30am	Early Communion
Second and Last Sunday, 10:30am	Sunday School
Last Sunday, 1:00pm	Lanark Drum Circle