

TRINITY-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

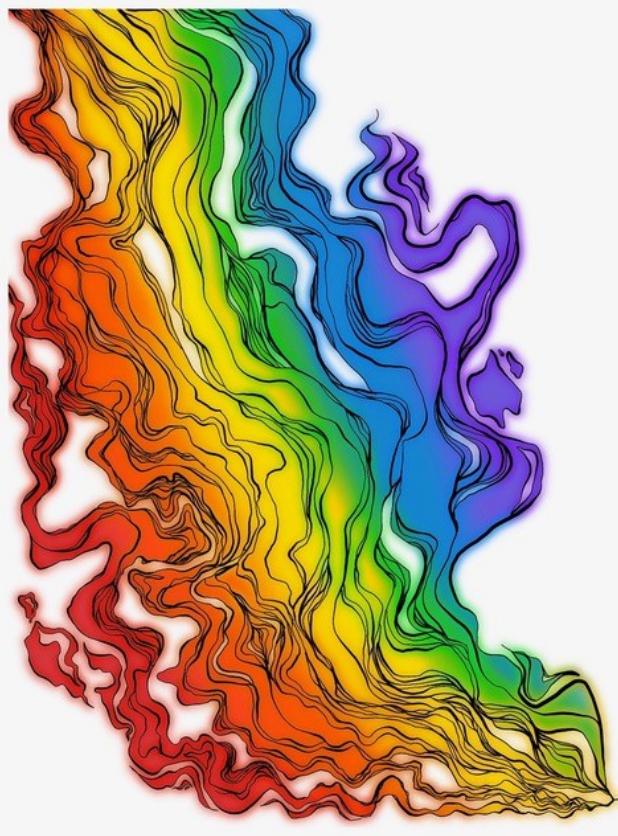
June 2022 News



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A note from Rev. Wanda



A note from Rev. Wanda

Dear family in Christ,

I greet you in the name of Christ, the One who promises us peace beyond our understanding, peace that settles us, grounds us, guides us, in a way that is different from anything we can gain from the world.

That is what Jesus offered his disciples when he first appeared to them after Easter morning.

In this time of global violence, human conflict and natural disasters, it can be hard to remember that we worship a God who calls us to love one another. I believe that now, more than ever, we must answer that call. We must remind this world, every single person we encounter, that they are beloved, that they have value, that they are interesting and funny and quirky and .. well you get the idea. When there is so much heartache in this world let's try to be agents of God's love every day.

In that spirit, June is pride month in the world around us, and here at Trinity St Andrew's we

are celebrating 10 years of being an affirming congregation! That is 10 years of promising to be bringers of peace and invitation to people who have not felt welcome by the wider world. For people who struggle inwardly around our place in the world, we have promised in Christ's name to include them, honour and celebrate them (us) as beloved children of God.

I hope you will join us this Sunday in Memorial Park as we sing and praise the God who created a spectrum of loving, gifted and faithful people. If you're up for it, we will be holding a rainbow walk at 10am, starting at the top of the rainbow steps by our church, heading to the newly painted rainbow crosswalk, back to the bench in front of Sobeys, then to Memorial Park where we will be greeted by music, cupcakes and drumming!

I feel so blessed to be part of this caring, loving community. Keep reading this newsletter and you will see why. On a national level, I am part of General Council this year, so we have our moderator's final message to the church before we elect a new moderator this summer.

June 12 we will be celebrating the birth of the United Church of Canada with cake - and guess who is making the cake? Olena, newly arrived from Ukraine and living in Brighton, supported by her host family with help from HUGS in Brighton, she is a gifted artist and chef. Please note the article in this newsletter about the work of HUGS and ACT alliance, our global partner on the ground in Ukraine since the 2014 conflict.

And a note, I will be wearing an orange shirt on Sunday June 12 , 19 and 26 as we honour Nation Indigenous month, and remind ourselves of our commitment to walk in a good way on this earth, with the First Peoples of this land.

In other news... Did you catch Jean Green's "testimony" last Sunday? She is challenging the church to a "Church-cation" donation spree... with the hope of paying off the mortgage and helping the church get out of its deficit position. If you missed it, I'm sure Jean would be happy to share her written copy with you! We will follow up on her challenge throughout the coming months. Jean, you are an inspiration!

Even though we are still struggling with the possibility of infection by Covid 19, it feels like our society is more and more confident gathering in groups and attending events. Not everyone is there yet, and we are committed to holding most events, especially worship, online as well as in person. As you know that is not without unpredictable issues! But we feel strongly about giving people the options to worship safely.

For those who are comfortable gathering, tickets for the pie social on June 18 are available now.

Vacation Bible School is accepting registration now.

Coffee and conversation starts in July, every Wednesday...

We are God's people, gathered in love and communion, celebrating diversity, living discipleship in faith of the risen Christ.

May you continue to feel the blessings of the one who calls us to peace!

Rev Wanda

stillspeaking
DAILY DEVOTIONAL



War No More

by [Molly Baskette](#) | published on May 30, 2022

The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." – Genesis 4:6-7 (NRSV)

These were the words God said to Cain right before Cain killed his brother Abel. God punished Cain for Abel's murder by sentencing him to be "a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth," fundamentally alone. Cain said to God, "My punishment is greater than I can bear!"

Since that mythical moment, we have been at continual war with one another, including the horror unfolding in Ukraine. One of the most chilling photos I've seen of that war is not streets strewn with bodies or weeping refugees at border checkpoints, but rather a photo of Putin isolated at one end of a comically long table, his "closest advisors" miles away at the other end. I

googled him. It doesn't appear that he has any friends, no one he really loves, and no one to hold him accountable. That is a man with nothing to lose.

Envy, greed, shame, fear, and loss of reputation precipitated Cain's murderous act. Perhaps Putin's war plan as well. We may not be a brother-killer or a world leader with a nuclear arsenal, but we all know shame and fear, and how they have made us do real harm.

I don't know how to end the war in Ukraine or reform Putin. But I know I can work on the Cain within: honestly face my worst impulses, and seek to master my feelings before they explode into violence. I can normalize confessing wrongdoing, and calling in those who wrong me rather than sending them into exile.

Prayer

Lord, we've studied war since Cain killed Abel. Set us to studying our own frightened hearts instead, and end this warring madness.

About the Author

Rev. Molly Baskette is the lead pastor of First Church Berkeley UCC and the author of a number of books about church renewal, parenting, spiritual growth and more. For her author newsletter and book information, visit mollybaskette.com.



Bible Study/Coffee & Conversation

Bible Study is finished for the summer and will resume in the fall.

Starting July 6th, for the month of July, come out on Wednesday mornings at 10am for coffee, conversation and some fellowship.

We will enjoy our visit and treats outside, when weather permits.

TSA Choir

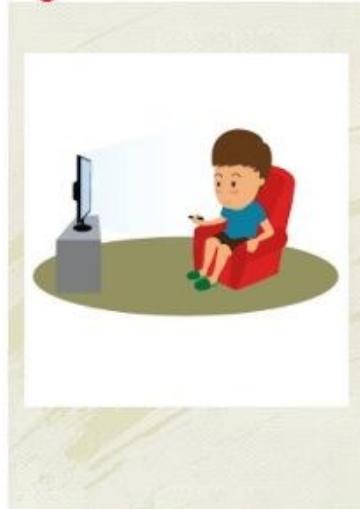
Choir practise is now done for the summer. We will resume in the fall. Sandra will conduct a survey, prior, to assess the best day and time. Stay tuned.



Remember going on
Vacation



Then we had to go on
Stay-cations

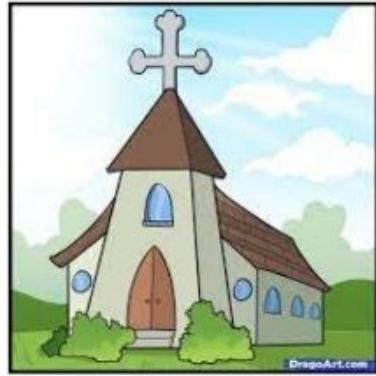


&

Now it's time to enjoy your first *Church-cation*

There's no better
way to celebrate
the 10th
anniversary of our
Community Hall!

to pay off the mortgage
(and aid with our ministries in Brighton)



Email your
pledges to
TSASTewardship@gmail.com
Send e-transfers to
admin@trinitystandrews.ca
Deliver cheques or
cash to the office

Action by Churches Together

What a great name! And did you know that we are part of a group by that name: Action by Churches Together or (ACT) Alliance? ACT is the world's largest network of Protestant and Orthodox churches and agencies involved in humanitarian relief, transformative development and advocacy work. With over 135 members working in over 125 countries, ACT members have been working in Ukraine for decades, not only since this recent assault by Russia began. ACT has been supporting those impacted by the Ukraine/Russia conflict since 2014. When the current war began, ACT members immediately mobilized to ramp up response and have launched a \$21.5M USD appeal. We in the United Church of Canada have donated close to \$1,000,000.00. That's amazing!

We are a giving church, a giving community, sharing of our time, talents, and treasures. The Helping Ukrainians Get Settled in Brighton (HUGS) committee has many volunteers from our faith community, as well as numerous volunteers from the wider community offering their time and talents. In the last month, our local church community, with help from our friends, raised over \$10,000.00 for our local HUGS group.

What we need now is host families, people who can find room in their homes and hearts for a few Ukrainian refugees to share their home for a few months. How many months will vary with each case. Are you called to help with your time, talents, and treasures?

Thank you to everyone for your amazing, generous help.



**Helping Ukrainians Get Settled
in BRIGHTON**

The HUGS fundraising committee is hard at work planning various events, including an auction of hand painted planters. The launch is June 25 from 12pm to 4pm at Special Effects in Brighton where you can watch the artists create the planters.

TSA members are also encouraged to purchase grocery and gas cards from Fundscrip to donate to HUGS, who will then distribute these cards to families who settle here from Ukraine. Did you know our pierogi dinner in May raised \$7,500 for HUGS? Wow!



June 2022 National Indigenous History Month

A Message from Indigenous Ministries and Justice

As we come to June, we are in Indigenous History Month, with celebrations of National Indigenous Peoples Day and ceremony to mark the Summer Solstice. It is a time to celebrate the many Indigenous Peoples and Nations of this land.

We also remember the time beginning May 2021 that brought “Truth” to the forefront in the path of reconciliation. Let us remember the children and loved ones lost to Residential Institutions. The children of the unmarked graves across Canada, the children who went through that system, the ongoing impact on all our generations to date. Let us remember our loss as a people of many Nations and beliefs.

But let us also sing songs of honor for our lost loved ones, our lost identities and languages that we are so desperately trying to hold onto. With our songs and prayers and dances, our spirits will rise once again.

For we can carry on in our many ways as many Nations on this land gifted from our Creator. We can share in a good way our stories of our rich heritage, culture, survival and way of life. And with our vision, our stories, our past and present, the good and the bad, we can be proud to be human, to be loving people, in our own ways.

We can then welcome others to live together once again, with hope for generations to come, as people of the land. We are real, we are proud, we are who Creator made us to be.

Respect.

The Rev. Murray Pruden
Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries and Justice

TSA Newsletter

Our Newsletter will be taking a break after this issue and will resume in the fall. If you have any ideas or submissions for the fall issue, send them to admin@trinitystandrews.ca.

Broadview

This is the last call to let the office know if you would like your **Broadview** subscription renewed.

Please let Pamela know as soon as possible at admin@trinitystandrews.ca. The price has remained the same, \$25.

Supper's Ready



Supper's ready will be finished as of the last Wednesday in June.
It will resume in the fall.

A dinner to thank all the dedicated volunteers is in the works.
Thank you everyone for your support.

Notes of Hope

VENEZUELA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS FACE CRIMINALIZATION

On 16 May 2022, recognised Venezuelan human rights defenders Marino Alvarado and Alfredo Infante received notification of a defamation lawsuit filed against them by the governor of Carabobo state, Rafael Lacava. The lawsuit comes as a response to a report published in March by the NGOs Alvarado and Infante belong to, Provea and Centro Gumilla respectively, which exposes possible extrajudicial executions in Carabobo state and the lack of accountability enforced by the governor. This attack from the governor against Marino Alvarado and Alfredo Infante must end immediately, dropping the lawsuit and ensuring a safe working environment for human rights defenders. To target human rights defenders with criminal action for exercising their right to defend human rights is against international human rights law, as well as repeated recommendations by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN special procedures, and other human rights bodies. Human rights defenders should be protected, not attacked, specially when bravely facing threats to their integrity, work and life for exposing grave human rights violations and demanding the highest standards of justice for victims.

Write to the Governor urging him to:

- drop the lawsuit against Marino Alvarado and Alfredo Infante
- refrain from blocking efforts to achieve chain of command accountability for grave human rights violations committed in your state
- protect human rights defenders

Write to: Governor of Carabobo state

Rafael Lacava

Calle Colombia c/c Montes De Oca, Casa Alvarado,
Capitolio de Valencia, Valencia, Carabobo

Venezuela Email: sgeneralcarabobo@gmail.com

Twitter handle: [@rafaellacava10](#)

Salutation: Dear Governor Rafael Lacava:

TRINITY-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
FEATURING THE
BRIGHTON ALL STAR CONCERT BAND

Pie Social and Band Concert

JUNE 18, 2022 | 6:30 TO 8:00PM
TICKETS \$10
RAIN OR SHINE
BRING A LAWN CHAIR

WWW.TRINITYSTANDREWS.CA

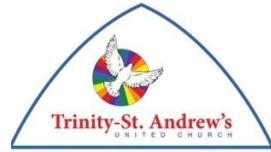
613-475-1311

56 PRINCE EDWARD ST., BRIGHTON

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church

VBS ROCKY RAILWAY

rock your way with our ukulele band



**JULY
11-15**

9:30 to noon, Ages 5-12

Register at

www.trinitystandrews.ca/vbs

613-475-1311

56 Prince Edward St., Brighton, ON