



Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

Advent
NEWSLETTER
2021

From Reverend Valerie's Desk

"Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10),

After one year's lapse, we are back full force in "Shop 'til you drop" or "spend more than we've got" as we get ready for Christmas. The church has another way to prepare for Christmas. It is called Advent.

Christians created Advent to ready themselves for this crucial time of the year: the birth of Christ in the world, the return of the light after the darkness. It is a time of expectant waiting and preparation. It is a time to ready ourselves to welcome Christ in our hearts again by making space for him, which wasn't granted to him at the inn.

If we pride ourselves on being self-sufficient and have locked all the doors, how can Christ enter? If we are too full of ourselves, how can we let God enter our soul? Advent grants us the space and time to look beyond the ordinariness, empty our cups, fill them again with the water of life, and water our inner spirit. Advent is a time to prepare for change and the return of light so that we can find the place of rest, hope, joy, peace, and love where God resides.

So instead of saying "yes" to everything that demands our time and attention, why don't we say no? No, to meetings that can wait; no to invitations that are not essential; no to demands that take us away from home. Then, we can try that new Christmas punch or cookie recipe or write a newsy letter to neglected friends or share Christmas stories or sing the beautiful songs of the Season with family or play with children. These will fill our souls.

Enjoy this Season with all whom you meet, share the peace and offer the love.

And May all the promises of the Christ Child fill your lives in this coming year!

Blessings from Reverend Valerie Vande Wiele



News From Your Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Council

Hi from Your Pastoral Care Group,

First thing we did was to change our name to Care Group.

We now have a combined group of Trinity and Primrose Churches.

Leaders are: Shelley Doney and Paul Sutcliffe, Linda Moore, Karen and Joe Bojin, Faye and Grant Ferguson, Jamie and Ann McAlpine, Ruth and Bill Cruikshank, Marion Webb, Mary and Glen Laverty, Susan and Paul Boon, Darlene Morrow, Al Widbur, Gail and Gord Brown, Shirley and Morley Farnell, Gwynn and Ken McGhee, Sabine & Jeff Rohner-Tensee, Diane Irwin, Geraldine Sherritt.

Together we care for 118 families.

I would like to thank this group for all their time and dedication in helping others. I am sure this means a great deal to some who are alone or shut in.

*Submitted by
Geraldine Sherritt*



WOW Region Report Fall - November 12-13, 2021



Our fall regional meeting, via zoom, opened with welcome and President Mark Laird's message based on the theme "Resurrection not Resuscitation". Following the land acknowledgement we had a worship time. An attempt at community building did not work as technology gremlins were at work! Following opening and procedural motions we honoured the retirees for our region and recognized those who had passed away since June.

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are those who have expressed an interest in leading worship for the United Church. There is a list available from Diane Blanchard and we are fortunate to have one member in our local community.

Stewardship chair Dave Jagger gave an outline of what resources are available from the United Church. We were reminded to do our homework and be prepared to discuss the land acknowledgement and the treaties that were involved in settling our areas. Friday evening's meeting closed with prayer.

WOW Region Report Fall - November 12-13, 2021 *Continued*

Saturday morning, we reconvened at 9:30 with a welcome, the territorial acknowledgements and worship. For community building our group of five discussed how our churches do the territorial acknowledgements. Because Dufferin County has a number of rivers rising, the area was very important to the Indian tribes. Dufferin is the traditional territory of the Petun, the Neutral, the Six Nations and the Anishinaabe peoples. The treaty lands were named in the Haldimand Deed of 1784 and the two Williams Treaties of 1818.

A proposal to go to General Council (highest court in the United Church) regarding the inclusion of rest and renewal for General Council and regional staff during sabbatical was discussed and forwarded to the General Council.

The Mission and Discipleship Commission liaisons with grant recipients so their celebrations and their struggles are known. M & D Commission helps with communication and amplification of programs, events and initiatives - getting the word out. Money used by this commission comes from our mission and service dollars that we give to our churches. Grants, totalling \$126,600.00, given in the fall of 21 for the fiscal year 2022 were to chaplaincies, camps, resource centres and faith development for youth and young adults. It has been a challenging year for many of the communities of faith and the commission aims to share stories and to work with the needs of the area.

Our next presentation was by United Property Resource Corporation which has been created by the United Church to bring professional real estate expertise to communities of faith providing them with the information needed to make good decisions about their real estate. Churches can access the services of UPRC in their property deliberations helping make the best use of their real estate assets to renew their mission and sustain a long-lasting legacy in their neighbourhood.

It is important to keep our profile updated yearly on church hub. After lunch the Human Resources Commission which serves as liaisons to congregations in search and selection processes and congregational meetings gave a presentation. Facilitating the United Fresh Start program, they also help with getting an intern ministry organized and act as a resource for the community of faith ending a pastoral relationship.

Gavin Williams and Young Seo were introduced and each gave a short address to the court. Their service of admittance was held in Fergus United Church on Sunday evening, November 14, 2021.

Brent Caslick presented financials for the 2021 year to date and the 2022 budget. It was agreed that PWC would continue to perform the audit for 2021. The operating budget for 2022 was discussed and carried. Courtesies were given by Mark Laird thanking all who had a part to play in the meeting. Closing worship included a humorous skit.

During our breakout sessions for community building, I renewed acquaintances with two ladies that I had served with in Northern Waters Presbytery and met a granddaughter of Harold and Gladys McGhee, former members of Trinity United Church, Shelburne. With an average of 135 attending each session breakout rooms are a great way to meet people from around the regions and find out about their churches and how they are serving their communities. Hopefully our next gathering in the spring of 2022 can be a face-to-face event.

Respectfully Submitted by

Mary Hawthorne, WOW Rep for Trinity UC

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

We've had a wonderful Fall, welcoming Rev. Valerie to the pulpit, and Irene into the office. We are blessed by caring staff who wish to lead worship and begin visiting those who have been on their own for a long period of time throughout COVID. Terry is willing and able to work at whatever needs tending. For many, tidying & cleaning our vacant church, returning it to its clean & shiny presence, has been a priority. The damage to the side door is being repaired and will take a while yet. Like many things during COVID, materials and labour can be difficult to obtain. Fortunately, the gentleman involved in the car crash is fine.

On Sunday, Nov.14, a special memorial service honoured 17 Trinity members, adherents and friends who passed away during COVID. It was a huge list of names to see, to reflect upon and reminisce, but lovely to think of these very special friends. We remember: Marjory Stone, Jim Montgomery, Jim Foster, Muriel Mountford, Lois Hills, Howard Smith, Robert Anderson, Ruth Kidd, Don Stewart, Judy Taggart, Bob Webb, Mae Burnside, Wilena Flear, Mark Besley, Isla Besley, Gary Shaver and Kathy Tudhope.

Bruce Ley and Leisa Way and their friends entertained us for an afternoon in early October. It was such an exceptional afternoon of music raising \$900. The Beef on a Bun was an enormous success raising \$1800; far less work than the full-on Beef supper for those in the kitchen, and more delicious pies. Gary Heaslip is ready to sing Seasonal Songs with his musical friends Dec. 5 @3 p.m., Capacity 100. Proof of vaccination will be checked at the door. There are a few tickets remaining, please call Al Widbur 519-925-6343 if interested.

Please bring in a jug or two of shampoo to place in the boxes at the church doors, as this is our SPPC commitment to the 150 Shelburne Community Hampers this Christmas.

Finally going forward, Trinity Church Council requires your leadership. Several key players are needed to help govern the church and keep us going together. Vacancies are: Chair, Vice or Co-chair, Treasurer, Worship, and Property. Please let Rev.Valerie know of your interest to help. We look forward to seeing you on Christmas Eve at 7 p.m.- remember to wear your mask! May this season of Advent be overflowing with the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Christmas Blessings,
Ann McAlpine
Past Chair of Council

Sadly, our church side entrance was damaged in an unfortunate accident this Fall!

Thankfully, the gentleman involved in the crash is fine!



Care Group News

The Trinity Care Group Leaders met in October and discussed various items on the agenda. We have 12 active groups, and if you're uncertain as to who your leader is, please call me, 519-943-5612. We love to have the Care Group leaders making connections with all our members and adherents. They easily reach out by phone or email, and often arrange a personal visit. Reaching out to others with compassion provides information, and a feeling of belonging to our wonderful church family. Each Group leader enjoys getting in touch with their group members and can inform our Minister if a Pastoral Care visit is needed. One of the advantages of the Care Groups is that communication works both ways! So, call your group leader if you need to chat or would like to request a visit from Rev. Valerie. Building community is an essential part of the work of our church.

Submitted by Geraldine Sherritt



Thank you to Darlene Morrow for preparing our Urns at the front of the Trinity!

Thank you to Intisar for an amazing job of cleaning the kitchens at Trinity!



Beef on a Bun Fundraiser At Trinity!



News from Primrose United Church

We are very pleased to have Rev. Valerie in the pulpit every Sunday and to be seeing each other in person every week.

We celebrated our 146th Anniversary on Sunday, October 27th. Andrew Buck showed us some artifacts that he had obtained from the property with a metal detector.

We celebrated Remembrance Day on November 7th and several of us spoke about their family members who were in the service.

On November 14th, we remembered two people who passed away during the COVID lockdown. Loretta Foster and Bob Anderson.

Many elves are busy preparing crafts and goodies for the upcoming Christmas Market on Saturday, November 27th from 1 to 3 pm.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Service on Sunday, December 19th at 9 am.

Blessings to all and hopefully we can celebrate Christmas in a more normal fashion this year with our church family and at home.

Prayerfully Submitted by
Shirley Farnell, Co-Chair of Primrose Council



Artifacts recovered by Andrew Buck
from the Primrose Church Property!



Christmas in the Country



A little Christmas Market
In the historic Primrose United Church
Saturday, November 27th, 1-3 pm.
You are invited!

Homemade gifts for special people.
Preserves*Sweets*Seasonal Arrangements
New this year Local Guest Artists!

Cash, cheques, e-transfer or debit.

We support
Have a ❤️ for our Food Bank
and Rotary Quilt Raffle.

Don't forget your Market basket!

All current health requirements in effect.

Primrose United Church, Mono
486281 30th Sideroad at Hwy 10.

The Incredible Primrose Gnomes!



News About the People in Our Congregations!

Before you read any further, I am begging forgiveness for any special occasions or people that I may have missed compiling these lists. For our next newsletter, please let Reverend Valerie, your Care Group Leader, or Irene in the church office know the details of your special day or event!

communications@shelburneprimrose.com

Thank you in advance!

Warmly, Linda

Happy Anniversary to

Murray & Ruth Irwin – 8 Years

Thank you to

Joy Bell and Mary Runciman for filling in on the piano during the services at both churches!

Happy Birthday to

Joe Bojin – 70 years
Geraldine Sherritt – 74 years
Helen Lloyd - 😊

*Don't forget your donation in honour of your special event for our little white churches.
The contributions go to the
Mission & Service Fund!*

Our Prayers and Sympathies to the Family of

Yuli Escoffery's in the loss of her dad.

For your Loss.



Grandbaby Congratulations to

Bruce Ley and Rev. Candice Bist –
Baby Theodora

Edward & Wendy Crewson –
Baby Morgan

Baby Congratulations to

Jennifer Crewson & Scott Poynter –
a son Morgan



Congratulations First Line for Syria



First Line for Syria Report

First Line for Syria wishes to share the wonderful news that our sponsored refugee family has now finally made it here. After an extremely long, (and very stressful), day of travelling, they arrived safely in Canada on October 21. The feeling of relief to have them finally "home" cannot be overstated. Let's just say many tears were shed that day!

The family has completed their mandatory two-week quarantine period and First Line for Syria and local relatives have been very busy making arrangements to ensure that the transition to Canadian society goes as smoothly as possible.

Educational assessments were arranged for the first day the children were out of quarantine. We're happy to report that all the children have now started school in Alliston and are adjusting very well! These children have not had any form of schooling for the past eight years, but they are all eager to learn. Thankfully they also have seven cousins in Alliston, who are eager to help them learn English! We're so proud of them and are looking forward to supporting them on this journey.

The family have already hosted a gathering of gratitude at their new home to celebrate their arrival. First Line for Syria members spent the day enjoying the company of our new friends and eating delicious Syrian food.

We also learned more about their lives in the refugee camp, which can best be described as a prison. The more we learn about their experiences to date, the more we are horrified, and the more we are impressed by our family's resilience. There is no doubt that this is a family with immense personal strength.

When asked how they are adjusting to their new lives in Canada, the father responded, *"If the refugee camp is the ground, then Canada is the moon."*

We are extremely grateful that we have finally managed to get this family out of these horrendous living conditions in the refugee camp. Our hope is to eventually also be able to bring out the remaining family members, as 2 brothers/sisters-in-law and their children are still stuck there. The videos of our family saying goodbye to these close relatives (who our family had shared intimate lives within the past 8 years) were just beyond heartbreaking.

First Line for Syria wishes to thank Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge for all their support over these past 4 years. Our prayer is that it will not take as long to get the next batch of family members here. Stay tuned for more announcements in this regard!

Thank you!
Karin Klouman



Shepherds Cupboard Foodbank

The Shepherds Cupboard Foodbank is experiencing a dramatic increase in clients over the last months. We continue to work hard to provide emergency food for those in need in many ways. We send out deliveries once a month to those who are too infirm to get to the foodbank and we also host senior markets once a month where we take fresh fruits, produce, eggs, milk, cereal, soups, etc. to four senior complexes in town to assist seniors in being able to access fresh food.

All this is done with the help of 50 wonderful volunteers! Because we all volunteer, 100% of all donations go directly to those in need. If anyone would like to make a financial donation, this can be done through a cheque to Trinity United and writing Shepherds Cupboard Foodbank in the memo line. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from Trinity and Primrose and are THRILLED that Rev Valerie is sitting on the board of our foodbank!

There are other ways too you can support the foodbank and we have attached another way you can help during the holiday season!

May no one know hunger this Christmas!
Submitted by Ardith Dunlop



The 12 Days of Christmas Giving!!

A great idea for individuals or families to do for others this holiday season! Grab a box and each day put in one of our most needed items in it. At the end of the 12 days, bring your box to the foodbank as your holiday donation!

- Day 1- Box of Cereal
- Day 2- Peanut Butter
- Day 3- Canned Fruit
- Day 4- Pasta Sauce
- Day 5- Personal Care Item
- Day 6- Canned Pasta
- Day 7- Canned Vegetables
- Day 8- Coffee - instant or perc
- Day 9- Kids Snacks
- Day10- Cookies
- Day11- Laundry or Dish Detergent
- Day12- Pancake Mix and/or Pancake Syrup

Boxes can be dropped off at the foodbank at the Mel Lloyd Centre 167 Centre St. Shelburne Door A downstairs on Wednesday's 10am- 12:30 pm and Thursday's 6 - 7:30pm. (last day for drop off Wed Dec 22nd)





The Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge has been invited to contribute to the **Community Christmas Hamper Programme** once again. The organizing groups are asking for 150 bottles of **shampoo**. Please bring them to either church and we will get them to the 'Hamper Elves' when they are needed by December 12th.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



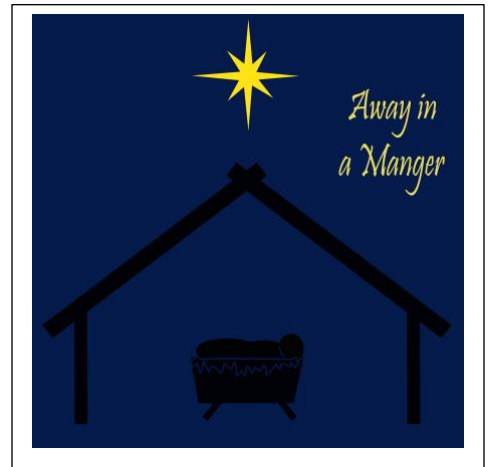
Be a Santa to a Senior at Dufferin Oaks.

Donation of \$25 or any amount from November 4th – December 15th, 2021.

Contact Angie Matthews at
(519) 925-2140 Ext. 5242



Wishing you Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
From Your
Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge!



Shelburne Hamper Assistance Program



Our Hamper families need a bit of help. COVID-19 has affected so many things and the Hamper Program is no exception. Many of those who would normally donate or collect non-perishable food items are not in a position to do so this year leaving us in a position where we have a growing number of families needing help and limited resources to fill our Hampers. If you are able to help please see below for some ideas and how we can make our program a success in 2021.

\$20 Stocking Stuffers	\$40 Turkey, Ham or Favourite	\$50 Toy for child under 12	\$50 Gift for a Teen
\$75 Senior Hamper	\$100 Family Food Hamper	\$150 Large Family Food Hamper	

Here is how you can help the over 150 local families have a great Holiday season. Please send your donation in the amounts listed above (or another amount) by **e-transfer** to: shelburnerotary@gmail.com (please indicate in notes "Hamper Program") or mail **cheques** to:
Rotary Club of Shelburne (indicate in memo "Hamper Program")
Box 27, Stn Main, Shelburne, ON L9V 3L8
To pay with **cash** please visit the Giving Trees inside selected businesses in Shelburne, Thank you to these Shelburne businesses for their support.

Please let us know if you wish a charitable receipt. You must provide your full name and address to receive a receipt.

The Hamper Program is managed by the service clubs of Shelburne in partnership with the Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank, local churches and organizations.

Contact: shelburnechristmashampers@gmail.com Visit: ShelburneChristmasHampers.com

Thank you!

Pastoral Charge Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 27th, 1 – 3 pm., *Christmas in the Country*, A little Christmas Market in the Historic Primrose United Church.

Saturday, November 27th, 9 – 10:30 am., *Ladies Breakfast* at Main Street Café

Sunday, November 28th, *First Sunday of Advent* – Celebrating Hope!

Saturday, December 4th, *Mens' Breakfast* at the Country Cabin at 8:30 am.

Sunday, December 5th, *Second Sunday of Advent* – Celebrating PEACE!

Sunday, December 5th, 3 - 4:15 pm., Trinity will be hosting a Concert with **Gary Heaslip and Friends**. \$30 / tickets in advance only. Call Al Widbur (519) 925-6343 if interested. *Mask and Social distancing will be required. Proof of vaccination is necessary to enter.*



Thursday, December 9th, 2 pm., *Primrose Council Meeting* at the Primrose Church.

Sunday, December 12th, *Third Sunday of Advent* – Celebrating JOY!

Monday, December 13th, 12:30 – 2 pm., *United Church Women Fellowship* at Trinity Church Basement. Please bring your lunch and a drink. Collection is optional, but if participating, please write your church membership number on an envelope to receive a tax deduction.

Tuesday, December 14th, *Trinity United Church Council Meeting* 7 – 9 pm. Agenda - Trinity Council Vacancies include: Chair, Vice or Co-Chair, Treasure, Property, and Worship. Contact Rev. Valerie at (519) 939-3286

Sunday, December 19th, *Fourth Sunday of Advent* – Celebrating LOVE!

Sunday, December 19th, 9:15 am., *Christmas Service at Primrose United Church.*

Friday, December 24th, 7 – 8:15 pm., *Christmas Eve Service at Trinity United Church.*

Hope



Joy



wishing you and your family a
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Shelburne Primrose
Pastoral Charge
200 Owen Sound
Street,
Shelburne,
Ontario
L9V 3L4

Church Office

Rev. Valerie Vande Wiele

Minister

minister@shelburneprimrose.com

Call or Text (519) 939-3286

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, &
Friday 9:30 am. – 12:30 pm.

Irene Chinyenze

Communications Tech Coordinator

communications@shelburneprimrose.com

Phone (during Irene's hours): (519) 925-2233

Office Hours:

November 23 & 26 – 9:30 am. – 12:30 pm.

November 30 – 3 – 5 pm.

December 7, 10, 31 – 9 am. – 12:30pm.

December 3, 14, 17, 21 – 2:30 to 5:30 pm.

December 24 & 28 - OFF

Trinity United
Church
200 Owen Sound
Street,
Shelburne,
Ontario
L9V 3L4

Primrose United
Church
486281 30th
Sideroad at Hwy 10
Mono,
Ontario