

## Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

# Easter Newsletter 2022



### News from the Minister

Spring is right around the corner. At least, this is what it feels to me. I can smell the earth waking and look impatiently for the new sprouts of green to show their heads to the warming sun.

Easter and its promise of new life are also just a couple of weeks away.

The story begins "*Early in the morning, while it was still dark...*" That's where Easter begins. It begins in darkness. It starts with fear, bewilderment, pain, and a profound loss of certainty. The creeds and clarifications we cherish nowadays came later.

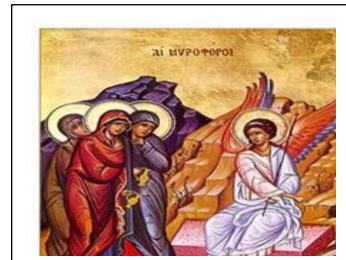
What came first were many variations on the same theme: hope amid struggle. As in: here's what happens when ordinary people brush up against an extraordinary God. Here's what it looks like when broken, hungry humanity encounters a bizarre and inexplicable Love in the half-light of dawn.

When I was growing up, the key Easter fact to proclaim was that Jesus rose — physically, bodily, literally — from the dead. As long as I believed it, I was safe. Later, as an adult, I encountered other versions of the Easter narrative. The resurrection was a metaphor in these versions — not a literal, historical fact, but a potent symbol of transformation, renewal, and rebirth. Whether or not Jesus physically rose again didn't matter — his friends and followers experienced his continued presence, and that was enough. The fact is, the resurrection happened in total darkness. Sometime in the predawn hours of that Sunday morning, a great mystery transpired in secret. No sunlight illuminated the event. No human being witnessed it. And even now, two thousand years later, no human narrative can contain it. It exceeds all of our attempts to pin it down because it's a mystery known only to God. Whatever the resurrection was, its fullness lies in holy darkness, shielded from our eyes. All we can know is that somehow, in an ancient tomb on a starry night, God worked in secret to bring life out of death. Somehow, God enacted transformation and new life from the heart of loss and misery.

That is the promise we live with and for, every day. Amen.

Blessing!

Rev. Valerie Vande Wiele



**Due to increased COVID concerns, there will be no church services at either Trinity or Primrose on Palm Sunday, Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.**

# Highlights from Trinity United Church

## Pastoral Care

Dear Friends;

Spring is here!

Some of our church members have moved to new locations. Mary Hardick and Pat Irwin are in Shelburne Residence. Beth Firth is in Dufferin Oaks. All of them are enjoying their new homes and hopefully we will soon be able to visit them.

The renovations of the church washrooms are moving along well.

Our first fundraiser of pancakes and sausage was well received. Thanks goes to Wayne, Debbie, Geoff, Ardith, Jamie, Ann, Al, and Rev. Valerie. The next fundraiser is April 30<sup>th</sup>, just in time for spring cleaning.

Many Thanks also to the members of the Pastoral Care Group who continue to help Rev. Valerie with phone calls, visits and treats to our many church members in their care.

Blessing,  
Geraldine Sherritt

## Save the Date for a Spring Concert

Gary Heaslip has just confirmed that he will be hosting a concert at *Trinity United Church* On **Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** Watch for more details to come!

On Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, a **Congregational Meeting** was held. Votes were cast to remove the dividers to open our church up so ***all pews can be used***. A second set of voting was held to decide that it would be the members ***choice to wear a mask or not if you wish***. Please remember to respect each other's comforts levels as we move forward! Thank you!

## Offering Envelopes

This is just a reminder to all of Trinity members to please ensure that your envelope is clearly marked with your current number and that your old number is crossed out or removed. This will help us to make sure that you receive credit for your support of our church.



Please share your donated treasures to contribute to our yard and basement sale. Bring items to the church Sunday April 24, or Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>, and Friday 29<sup>th</sup>, from 3-5 p.m. We'd love to accept your donation of delicious pies on Friday afternoon 3-5 p.m. or early Saturday a.m. **We open at 8 a.m.**

We look forward to receiving the following items in clean & good repair:

*Books, toys, Housewares, Trinkets & Knick Knacks  
Sports equipment, Artwork, Craft supplies and small appliances in good working order.*

No clothing or footwear will be accepted.

Be sure to drop by for 'buck a cup' coffee and purchase a homemade pie.

Help spread the word and see you at the sale!



Dear Friends,

Each one of us can do different things, some people can sing, others can listen. A few can think about important things, work hard. Each one of us is important.

We are Christ's body; we are all needed. Living in God's way means working together as the church.

Our first fund raiser of the year was a pancake and sausage dinner; it was well received with over \$1000 raised. Special thanks to Ardith and Geoff Dunlop for the supplies and flipping the pancakes as only Geoff can do. Ardith and her organization skills, time shopping at Costco, etc. Jamie and Ann for delivering to those who couldn't get out, etc. Al for phone calls, putting up posters and other information. Rev. Valerie for serving, welcoming, and thanking the patrons for supporting the church. Grant and Faye Ferguson for supplying the maple syrup. Hopefully I didn't miss anyone for their help.

The next fundraiser is a yard sale on April 30th.

Sincerely,

Debbie McComb Ferrier & Wayne Ferrier



Hofman General Contracting is well underway with the renovations of our 3 washrooms! Thank you Michael and Rick!

(519) 938-6944



The partitions are still to come!



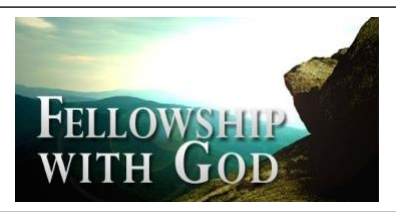


**Social  
Time  
At  
Trinity!**

**All are Welcome!**



First Saturday of the Month  
at the Country Cabin at 8am.  
Next Date May 7<sup>th</sup>.



UCW Fellowship Time  
Tuesday, April 12th at 12:30 pm.  
Bring your own brown bag lunch



Ladies' Breakfast Last  
Saturday of the Month at  
Main Street Café at 9 am.  
Next Date April 30<sup>th</sup>.



# Highlights from Primrose United Church

## Chair Report for Primrose Spring Newsletter

Primrose Church has been 'hunkered down' over the winter months; to basically wait for COVID to subside and winter to slow down with our backroads being safer to travel. We are eagerly looking forward to opening our little church for in person services again starting up in time for Easter. Palm Sunday (April 10<sup>th</sup>) will be our first service. Stay tuned for more news regarding our planned Easter services.

We are, however, still enjoying high quality Sunday Zoom services, starting at 9 15 AM, (doors "opening" at 9 AM), led by Rev Valerie and music provided by Bruce and generally a soloist from one of our two SPPC congregations. We are appreciative of being able to worship together in this manner.

We had a wonderful general meeting in February, and I am happy to report that all positioned on our streamlined council were easily filled and we received many commitments from members towards continuing to sit on various committees and taking on tasks. I am so very grateful to everybody who has stepped up to the plate!

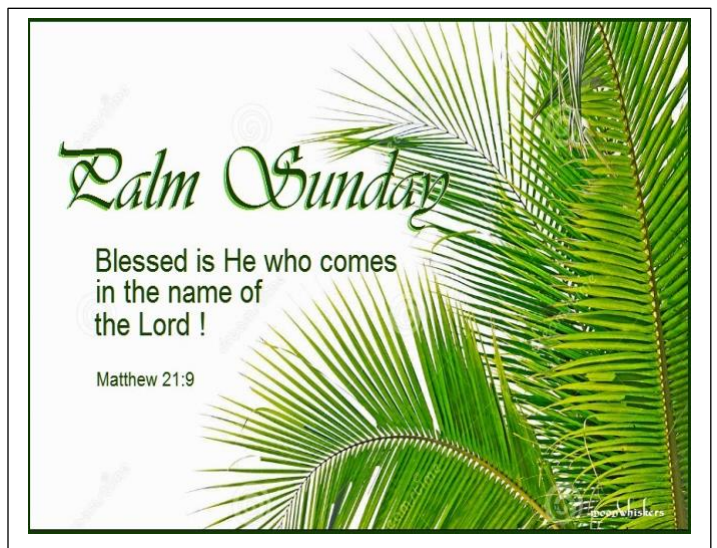
As we enter Spring, we ask you to set aside time for our Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale, which is always a rip-roaring success and one of our main fundraisers for our little church. Many thanks to Gail, Shirley and Sabine for arranging this event. Everybody; please come out!

On a personal note may I say I have been so very grateful for the kind support I have received from our little congregation as a neophyte co-chair (thankfully a job shared with the very experienced Shirley Farnell). I am just so appreciative of our little church and the good we all do. Whether it is by supporting the outreach work of First Line for Syria - or looking out for each other on the quiet, through our highly functioning care groups – or organizing working bees to help with renovations – or having fundraisers in support of our church and the local foodbank.

We are a close-knit community and I truly see how we strive to practice Christianity in our daily lives by following the bible verse "Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God" (Mica 6:8).

Blessings and Peace to you all.  
Karin Klouman (co-chair)

**Palm Sunday**  
**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
Will be our first in person  
service at Primrose United  
Church.  
9:15 am  
See you there!  
**Sorry! Cancelled!**



## Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale

Sat., May 7<sup>th</sup> 8-11am

Primrose United Church

Primrose invites you to order hanging baskets, urns, flowers, tomato plants, everbearing strawberries, herbs... either as gifts for Mother's Day, or for your own home and gardens. Order forms are available from any Primrose members, or email [primroseuc@gmail.com](mailto:primroseuc@gmail.com), or call 519-925-2397.

Orders are due by Sun., May 1<sup>st</sup> and can be picked up at the sale on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Bring family, friends and neighbours to grab your favourite home baking and perennials, as well. Free delivery is available upon request. Look forward to seeing you there!



Another Special Event – Mark your Calendar!

Pack your shopping basket or garden wagon, and bring family, friends, and neighbours to the

## “Primrose Market Garden”, Sat., June 11<sup>th</sup>, 8am to 11am at Primrose United Church.

Everything you need for the garden – and more!

Gadgets and gizmos!

Tools and treasures!

Crafts and one of a kinds!

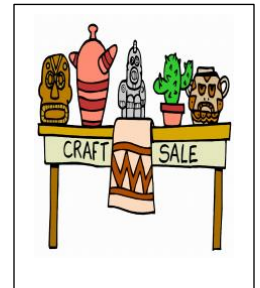
We welcome vendors to join us by the garden.

Details are presently in the making so stay tuned for future updates!

Any crafters, non-profit organizations, and vendors interested in hosting a table please email

[primroseus@gmail.com](mailto:primroseus@gmail.com)

or call (519) 925-2397.



Join us for this great community event!

## First Line for Syria Report Spring 2022

First Line for Syria has had a very busy few months, making sure our new family has all the support they need while adjusting to life in Canada. The father has passed his G1 drivers test and is now learning to drive, an important step towards finding work and becoming fully self-sufficient.

The parents are quickly learning to speak English. FLFS members are tutoring them twice weekly, and another retired ESL volunteer teacher is coming in once weekly. (There is still no local and official ESL program available “in person”).

We also have now arranged for dental care for our family, some of the adults and children needing very urgent attention. The children are now enrolled in the healthy smiles program. We have also managed to locate and enroll them with their own family doctor.

The children are adjusting well to school, and all are learning English very quickly. Sadly, the high-school children have been exposed to some very serious bullying as of late. We have been trying to work with the school administration, councilors and the parents as well as the children to support our newcomers as best we can - through a very difficult time.

We are also enjoying our social time with our family. During March break we arranged a maple sugar fest tour- complete with pancakes and syrup- plus taffy, followed by a gathering at the Barr-Klouman household where we celebrated birthdays, had cupcakes with hot chocolate, played games and interacted with puppies. A great time was had by all! Otherwise, our refugee family has hosted us for several deliciously home-cooked Syrian meals at their house.

Our fundraising effort to bring in the next two brothers and their families is steadily ongoing. We are happy to report that through various donations we now have enough funding to immediately welcome the first family; any time the final paperwork has been completed by the IRCC. The generosity of charitable foundations, friends, family-members and our two congregations has simply been amazing! Recently we were the most grateful recipient of a substantial donation from the Lawrence Schafer foundation, which is bringing us even closer to our final goal.

The “caring with Coffee” campaign was also a huge success. Thanks to all the SPPC members who supported this! Our next fundraiser will be samosa sales – starting this May hopefully. Stay tuned for updates in this regard- it will be posted in our weekly SPPC newsletter! We are also planning to hold a silent auction event this summer. If you have any services and/or particularly interesting items to donate, please contact either Karin or Sabine.

We continue to be grateful to Shelburne Primrose Pastoral charge for all your support.

Submitted on behalf of First Line for Syria.

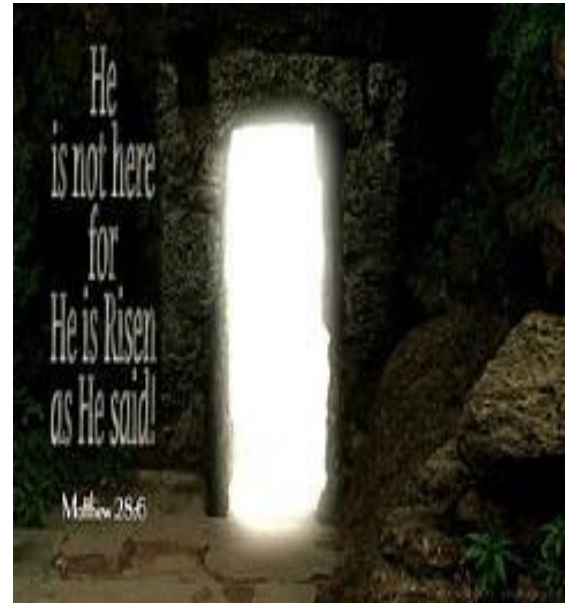
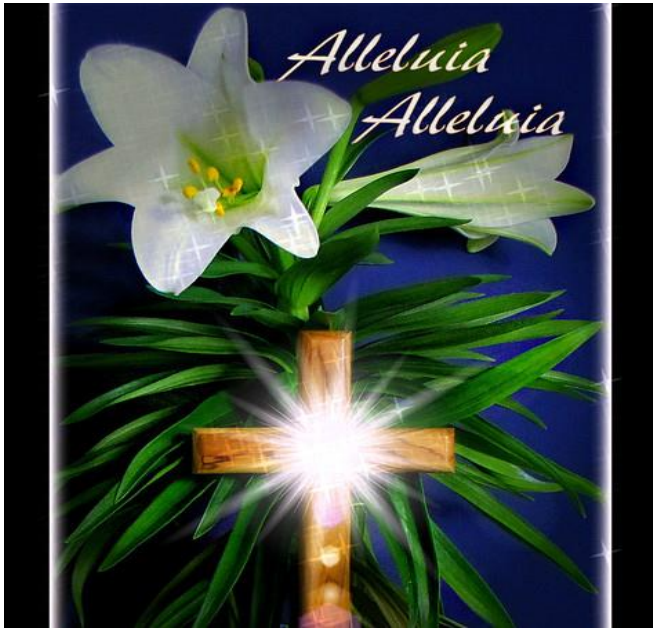


## First Line For Syria Spring in Canada Fun!



### Rev. Valerie Moves to Town

It's time to settle in again for Rev. Valerie. Tuesday, March 29 was moving day for Dave, Jamie, Brian, and Ralph to drive to Iroquois load up and return to Shelburne. Thanks guys! Thanks also to Trinity and Primrose folks who helped unload on the Wed. Now the fun begins as Rev. Valerie unpacks and finds places for her belongings. She's excited to have this place to call home, surrounded by her own things.





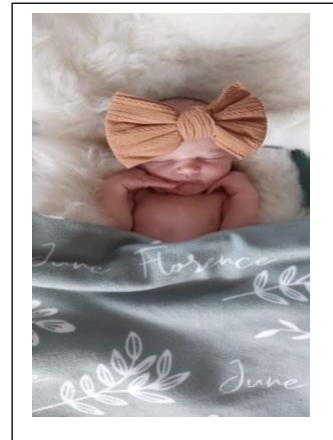
## News About the People in Our Congregations!

*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](mailto:communications@shelburneprimrose.com)*

*Thank you in advance!  
Warmly, Linda*

### **Grandbaby Congratulations to**

George & Janet Shannon whose son Jay and Jess, had their first child June Florence Shannon born on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. George and Janet were active members in our church before their move to Azilda on Whitewater Lake near Sudbury in 2012.



### **Happy Birthday to**

Al Armstrong – 95 years young  
Evelyn Wallace – 39 years young (Oooops!)  
Rose Lemcke – 86 years young  
Marie Gray – 80 years young

*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 Families of**

Ruth McIntyre  
Deborah Ellis

### **For your Loss.**



### **Our Prayers for a Speedy Recovery to**

Bernice Cunningham after her recent surgery.

## Prayers for the People of Ukraine

Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine these past weeks, as we watch with horror the pain and destruction that has been caused in their country.

We hold the leaders and people of Ukraine in our prayers and will continue to do so even after peace is found and the rebuilding begins.

Loving God,

The burden of war is a heavy burden to carry;  
we pray for those weighed down by warfare.

We pray for those caught up in the turmoil,  
in the fear, in the danger, and in the stress.

We pray for parents and children sheltering.

We pray for people in the heat of combat.

We pray for the vulnerable and marginalized.

We pray for those without the medication essential to their health  
and for those denied food.

We pray for all who, exposed to the horrors of war, suffer in mind and body.

The burden of war is a heavy burden to carry.

We pray for those weighed down by warfare;  
we pray for those who must leave home and family  
to escape the conflict.

We pray for those who travel to family or friends abroad.

We pray for those who find a welcoming place to stay for a while.

We pray for refugees, for those who will never be able to return to their home,  
in all the loss, in all the pain, in all the heartache.

We pray for those separated from their loved ones, and for those  
who do not know where their loved ones are.

The burden of war is a heavy burden to carry;  
we pray for those weighed down by warfare.

We pray for those who search for peace.

We pray for national leaders in whose hands are life and death,  
that the loss suffered by so many may be  
measured against any powerful gains.

We pray for the peacemakers as they struggle to get parties  
to the conflict to listen to one another and to talk to each other.

We acknowledge that by contacting power persons,  
by demonstrating, and by prayer, we may hasten the way of peace.

The burden of war is a heavy burden to carry.

Loving God,

In your strength we face the reality of war with courage,  
with your patience we help the war-torn compassionately,  
through your peace we witness old conflicts ended  
and new beginnings bud and bloom,

through your peace we envision an end to all wars. Amen

—David Sparks



## Pastoral Charge Upcoming Events

**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday, 9:15 am** - *Service Back in Primrose United Church*

**11 am** - *Service at Trinity United Church. BOTH SERVICES ARE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID CONCERNS.*

**Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 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, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm** - *Trinity Council Meeting* at the Trinity United Church

**Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday, 11 am** – *Service at Trinity United Church*

**Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday, 9:15am** – *Service at Primrose United Church*

**11 am** – *Service at Trinity United Church*

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 11 am** - *Restarting of a Formal Sunday School* – at Trinity United Church

Bring your children or grandchildren!

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 9 am** - *Ladies Breakfast hosted by Trinity* – at Main Street Café

All are welcome!

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 8 am** – *Trinity Treasures and Pie Sale* – Sidewalk and Basement of Trinity

United Church – Coffee \$1 and Homemade Pies \$20.

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** – *Orders due for Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale* –

email [primroseuc@gmail.com](mailto:primroseuc@gmail.com) or call (519) 925-2397

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 8 – 11 am** – *Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale* – Primrose United Church

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 8 am** – *Men's Breakfast hosted by Trinity* – at Country Cabin

All are welcome!

**Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 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.

## Pastoral Charge Upcoming Events – Continued

**Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**, *Mother's Day*

**Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**, *Save the Date Trinity* will be hosting a Concert with *Gary Heaslip and Friends*.  
More information to come!

**Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 9 am** - *Ladies Breakfast hosted by Trinity* – at Main Street Café  
All are welcome!

**Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 am** – *Men's Breakfast hosted by Trinity* – at Country Cabin  
All are welcome!

**Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 8 – 11 am**, *Primrose Market Garden* – at Primrose United Church

## Church Office

Rev. Valerie Vande Wiele

*Minister*

[minister@shelburneprimrose.com](mailto:minister@shelburneprimrose.com)

Call or Text: (519) 939-3286

Office Hours: Week of March 28, I am packing and moving, so my presence at the church will be spotty. To talk to me, call 519-939-3286.

Irene Chinyenze

*Communications Tech Coordinator*

Office Hours:

April 12, 9:30am -12:30pm

April 5,7,14,19,21,26,28 - 2:40 - 5pm

Email: [communications@shelburneprimrose.com](mailto:communications@shelburneprimrose.com)



Sending you  
Blessings this Easter!