

Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

Easter Newsletter

April 2019

Holy Week Services

Thursday, April 18, 6 pm

Maundy Thursday Service, Wally Barr and Karin Klouman's Home, 715513 1st Line EHS, Mono. 519-925-6114

A gentle gathering for a simple bread and soup supper to commemorate the gathering of Jesus' disciples for their passover supper, a time that reminded them of the roots of their faith. May we be reminded of ours.

Friday April 19, 10 am.

Good Friday Service hosted by Abiding Place Ministries at the Mel Lloyd Centre

Father Mark, the singing priest, will be leading the service of remembrance in the Good Friday celebration that is the tradition of Abiding Ministries. Everyone welcome.

By donation.

Friday April 19, 7 pm.

Good Friday Service at Trinity United Church.

This traditional service weaves scripture and music together in a contemplative service that allows us to reflect on the story of the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus.

Saturday April 20, 7 pm.

Holy Saturday Service at Trinity United Church for the St. John the Evangelist Parish

Father Paul will lead this traditional Catholic Service

Sunday April 21 Easter Morning Services at regular times.

9:15 am at Primrose, 11 am at Trinity.

Our Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Choir will lead us in a musical celebration of the highest holiday of our Christian year.



Easter Message from Clerk of Session, Trinity United Church

Hosanna! Happy Easter! Spring has arrived!

The spring and summer months are exciting times for our Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge. Lots of meetings, services, a concert or two, and special luncheons and dinners.

A very big and special 'Thank You ' goes to Michael Hofman for working diligently on the beautiful Small Hospitality room. It will soon be ready for Souphaus once again, or for general meeting use and rentals.

It is my pleasure to welcome two new members to Trinity Council. Darlene Morrow will be assuming the Chair of Mission and Outreach. We have several partners and groups working with our Pastoral Charge and this will result in extending our Compassionate Care to Shelburne and surrounding community. Jennifer Shaver is offering her leadership to the Worship Committee, which is a joint Pastoral Charge Committee. We're so blessed to have them on the church and Pastoral Charge councils.

There are active Visioning groups in both our congregations. We've benefitted from road trips to other churches to learn and inspire our own direction in Embracing the Spirit. We will carefully consider your contributions to our questionnaire (see next page) as we move forward together as a Pastoral Charge, nourishing The Spirit. Hallelujah! This is your church, so have your say in creating its future.

With thanks,
Ann



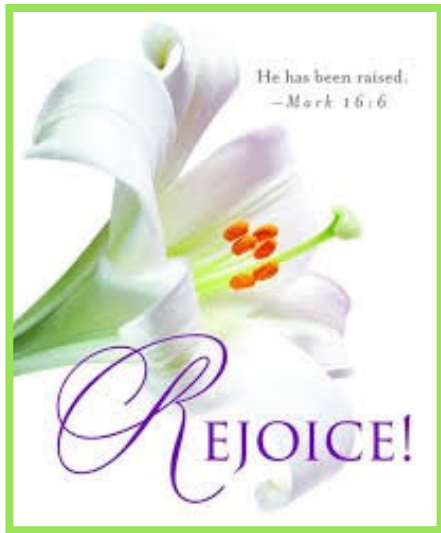
Easter Message from Clerk of Session, Primrose United Church

The warmth in the sun, the greening of the grass, the peaking of flowers through the ground, and our snow birds safely arriving home – it must be spring, and Easter is here!

Although it is a busy time of year, with meetings and celebrations in our church life, we need to take time to reflect on our lives, and embrace the change in the seasons, both in the nature around us and in our little white church. From our annual plant and bake sale, to our new talent show, and from the new silent talent auction to our annual fall concert, we continually combine the wonderful traditions of the past with the excitement of change for the future!

We are thankful to all those who work hard to make our church what it is, and we look forward to the many opportunities awaiting us. Join us for reflective Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, then for a wonderful celebration with family and friends on Easter morning! Wishing you all the best through the Easter season!

Gail Brown
Primrose United Church



Easter Message from the Minister

Hope in the face of hopelessness. That is the message of Easter. And the message of Easter is the core message of the Christian faith.

As we walk through the story of holy week - what is known as 'the passion of Christ' - it is good to remember that those who stood at the foot of the cross, broken hearted and bereft, had no idea of the enormity of the Christianity that would emerge from their sorrow and confusion.

Of the enormous cathedrals that would reach towards the sky, they knew nothing. Of the hospitals and schools and charitable organizations that would be inspired by the ethics of Jesus, they knew nothing. Of the hearts that would be lifted, the kindnesses given, and the graces extended in Christ's name, they knew nothing. And neither, as they wept tears of love mingled with disappointment, could they have imagined the atrocities perpetuated in the name of their gentle, yet bold leader.

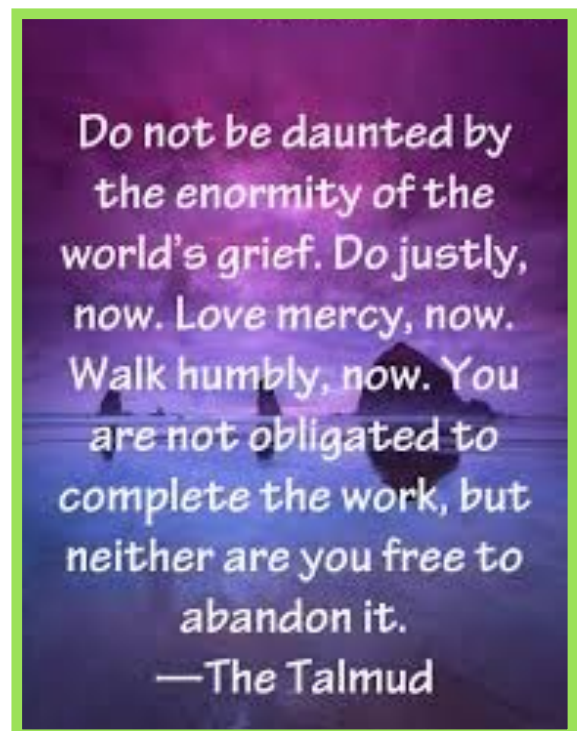
How could they? For the ways of the divine are always hidden from us. It is not within our providence to imagine futures that belong to new generations. But because we cannot imagine the wonders that are yet to come, this does not free us from the responsibility of

holding faith with all that we we do know. From the Jewish faith, which was the religious birthplace of Jesus, we are offered this deep wisdom:

"Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." (from the chapter, *Ethics of Fathers*, in *The Mishnah*, the first text of the Jewish oral law.)

May we take these thoughts to heart, as we walk with Jesus through his celebration of The Passover and all that followed. And may we keep them in our minds as we hold faith with our Jewish and Christian ancestors even as we guide our churches forward to unimagined places of compassion, grace and sanctuary.

Candice



Manifest: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front, Wendell Berry

Love the quick profit, the annual raise,
vacation with pay. Want more
of everything ready-made. Be afraid
to know your neighbours and to die.
And you will have a window in your head.
Not even your future will be a mystery
any more. Your mind will be punched in a card
and shut away in a little drawer.
When they want you to buy something
they will call you. When they want you
to die for profit they will let you know.

So, friends, every day do something
that won't compute.

Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.
Take all that you have and be poor.
Love someone who does not deserve it.
Denounce the government and embrace
the flag. Hope to live in that free
republic for which it stands.
Give your approval to all you cannot
understand. Praise ignorance, for what man has
not encountered he has not destroyed.

Ask the questions that have no answers.
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.
Say that the leaves are harvested
when they have rotted into the mold.
Call that profit. Prophecy such returns.

Put your faith in the two inches of humus
that will build under the trees
every thousand years.
Listen to carrion – put your ear
close, and hear the faint chattering

of the songs that are to come.
Expect the end of the world. Laugh.
Laughter is immeasurable. Be joyful
though you have considered all the facts.

So long as women do not go cheap
for power, please women more than men.
Ask yourself: Will this satisfy
a woman satisfied to bear a child?
Will this disturb the sleep
of a woman near to giving birth?
Go with your love to the fields.
Lie down in the shade. Rest your head
in her lap. Swear allegiance
to what is nighest your thoughts.

As soon as the generals and the politicians
can predict the motions of your mind,
lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.

Practice resurrection.



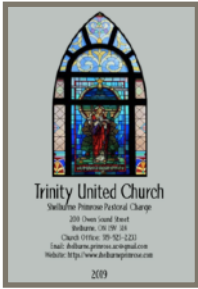
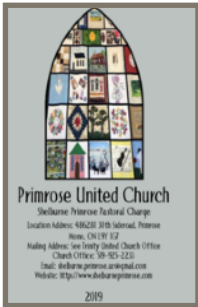


Photo Directories Are Ready!

They will be distributed between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. There is a free directory for everyone who participated in the photos, either by bringing one in, or by having their photo taken. If you did not do this, but would still like to have a directory, a small donation is required for the extra printing. We hope this will help you care for one another as a church family.



www.shelburneprimrose.com/membersadherents.html

The last part of our newsletter consists of questionnaire in response to this presentation. We are encouraging everyone to fill out this response so the visioning groups and councils know how to proceed.

Update On Small Hospitality Room at Trinity

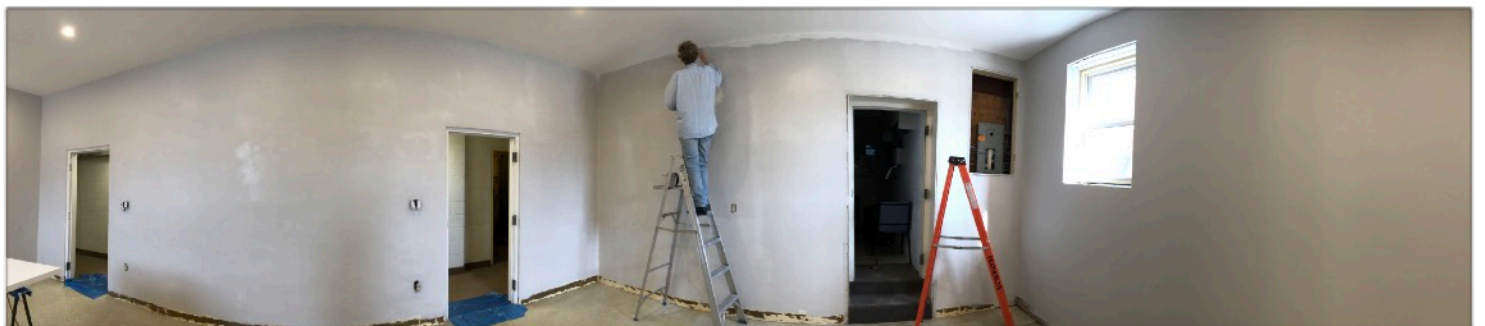
As a way of testing out some of our theories in the visioning groups, and strengthening the relationship with two of our partners - Soup Haus and St. John's Catholic Parish who both use the room on a weekly basis - Trinity, with building fund money and a small grant from Embracing the Spirit, has been upgrading their small hospitality room. Replacing the leaking windows and the florescent lighting, insulating the walls, creating proper storage room and making the room welcoming in every way we can imagine, we are creating a template for other spaces in both churches.

Update from Visioning Groups

The two visioning groups have been out and about visiting various churches and charitable organizations to see what others are doing to serve their community while maintaining their Christian presence. We have shared some of this with our two councils, and when all the visits are complete, we will have a larger presentation of our findings for the congregation. In the meantime, remember that you can see the 'Embracing the Spirit' presentation that was offered at our 2019 Annual Meetings on our website at: <https://>



The work is scheduled to be finished at the end of April, when we will turn our attention again to the south side of the building and the placement of our historic bell. When both the inside room and the bell are in place, we will plan a come and go tea to both celebrate the conclusion of this hard work and invite potential renters to our newly refurbished space. Keep an eye out for further details. See photo of work in progress below.



We are Looking for a Communications' Secretary

These days communication is more important than ever, and also, increasingly more complicated. Do you know someone who has computer and social media skills, and can represent the foundational Christian virtues of grace and compassion? For a full description of this job

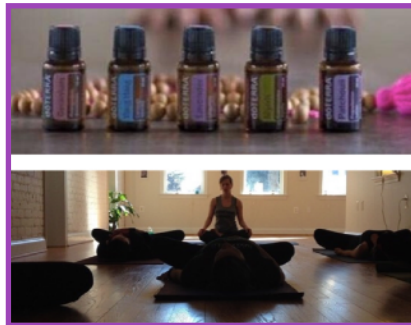


go to: <https://www.shelburneprimrose.com/communications-secretary-job-posting.html>

Aroma-Yoga Workshop Series

A four week workshop in gentle Hatha Yoga with Aromatherapy - Come to Breathe and Relax.

Wednesday April 17th - May 8th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. For full details: <https://www.shelburneprimrose.com/trinity-events.html>



Primrose Mothers' Day Plant and Bake Sale - Saturday May 11th 8 am - 11 am



Get your orders in for the wonderful flower pots and bedding plants that the girls at Primrose gather up for spring

planting - and pick up some delicious pies and tarts at the same time. This is Primrose's big fundraiser for the year, so come and spend a lovely morning visiting with friends and neighbours, and support our delightful country church. For full details: <https://www.shelburneprimrose.com/primrose-events.html>

Mother's Day! Bring Your Pictures

This Mother's Day we are asking you to bring in pictures of your mother to share with us. If you are at Primrose, you can bring them in physically and Gwynn will put them on display. Make sure you bring a note with your mother's name. At Trinity you can bring in a physical copy of a picture of your mother, or you can send along a digital copy for the overhead. Either way, we will be gathering all our mothers together to say, "Thanks, Mom."



Palestine / Isreal Unpacked - Watch for Date Early June

Rev. Lee Ann McKenna will be spending three weeks in May in Palastine exploring the situation on the ground. We have invited her to share her experiences with us on her return in early June. To find out more about Lee Ann and Partera Peacebuilders International, go to: <https://www.shelburneprimrose.com/compassionate-care-extended-519123.html>



KAIROS

KAIROS meets the third Wednesday of every month at 9:30 at Trinity United Church. KAIROS “unites Canadian churches and religious organizations in a faithful ecumenical response to the call to “do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).



Informed by biblical teaching, KAIROS deliberates on issues of common concern, striving to be a prophetic voice in the public sphere.” For more information visit <https://www.kairoscanada.org/> Local Contact: Ruth Cruikshank

Soup Haus

Soup Haus is a volunteer run, sponsor and donation funded community initiative, welcoming anyone and everyone for a complimentary supper every Tuesday evening from 6 pm - 8 pm at Trinity United Church. Delicious meals are offered to anyone who wishes one. For more information, and the weekly menu visit Soup Haus at <http://souphaus.ca/> Contact: Sohayla Smith



UCW Friendship Group

The UCW meets at Trinity United Church the second Monday of each month at 12:30 for lunch and/or dessert to enjoy a time of conversation, with various visitors and outings. “The UCW’s mission is to love God; foster Christian commitment, faithfulness, and spirituality; and promote respect and love for

all God’s creation.” For more information visit <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/being-community/united-church-women-ucw> Local Contact: Mary Hawthorne



First Line for Syria

First Line for Syria

The work of FLFS is on going, providing drives for ESL classes, shepherding refugees through paperwork and

adjusting to living in Canada. Regular gatherings take place with our new Canadians to celebrate their various milestones. Follow them on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/First-Line-for-Syria-1636412359958098/> Contact: Karin Klouman



Meditation Garden

The Primrose Meditation Garden continues to provide a quiet place for contemplation and prayer throughout the year. With its recently added serenity walk and thoughtful sign posts, it offers the community a place of welcome rest. The meditation garden is part of the international Quiet Garden Movement that “nurtures access to outdoor space for prayer, reflection and rest in a variety of settings. . creating opportunities for people to experience silence, restfulness and contemplative practices.” <https://quietgarden.org/> Contact: Beverley Parker/Sharon Holmes



Questionnaire in Response to the Visioning Presentation

The visioning groups from both churches would like to have your feedback from the 'Embracing the Spirit' presentation that was given at the time of our annual meetings in February. Please take time to consider the questions they are posing carefully, and respond with your answers.

The questions are directed at both churches, so please indicate your home church name - and your own name too - and then answer the questions as they pertain to your place of worship. Both visioning teams have come to see over time that though we worship in two different spaces, the challenges and solutions for both Trinity and Primrose are similar. Individually we offer unique spaces, but our vision to serve the community with compassion and grace, is the same.

Please answer in whatever way is easiest for you. Point form is just fine.

Thank you in particular to Jeff, Gail and Ann for your good questions.

Name:

Church:

Have you had time to review the presentation on Embracing the Spirit, which gives ideas and direction for the future of our churches and, thus, our pastoral charge?

What are your thoughts in response to what was presented?

If nothing is done to change our church, and everything were to continue exactly as it is now, where do you see our church and its congregation 5 or 10 years from now?

If we were to receive grant money to help us, would you support the hiring of professionals to review what we should or could be doing to allow us to use our church to the best of its potential, and to provide a centre that would benefit the communities and people around us? Do you have suggestions in this area of consultation?

If we were able to receive grant money to help improve our church, in what order would you prioritize the following list of changes or improvements (most urgent first, least pressing last) in order to have the most usable building possible, both for Sunday service, as well as meetings, concerts, other activities or events:

- physical external appearance
- windows/insulation
- washroom facilities
- kitchenette/community kitchen
- usable meeting space
- mould removal
- physical internal appearance
- pews/chairs
- sound system
- heating system
- electrical system
- other

If we were able to improve our building, what types of local organizations or groups do you think might benefit from use of our building?
(example: business groups, knitting groups, exercise, beekeepers, Girl Guides, etc)

Have you visited any churches that have done recent renovations to improve their building that you found impressive? Which ones? What were the features that you liked or admired?

With money provided for building improvements, can you see your church being known as a community centre that could be used and enjoyed by the surrounding people/township/community, rather than just a church?

What do you want your church to look like? What do you want it known for?

What changes need to occur to make this change?

What kind of funding do you support:

Fundraisers, ie. dinners, concerts; grants; increased offerings; other?

How could we strengthen our place as a leader in our community?

How would you like to help your church?

What kind of activities would you like to attend during the day, in the evenings, on the weekend?

In three words describe what our mission should be?

What 3 things should we focus on in the next 2 years?

What do you think are the most important issues currently facing the church?

What do you think are the most important issues currently facing the communities in which the church is located?

Do you have any specific questions for the visioning committee?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions that you would like to make?



May every Easter blessing be yours this Pascal Season.

If there is anything we can do to help in any way,
please do not hesitate to contact us.

The church office is generally open every morning from 9 - 12 pm,
Tuesday through until Friday.

Rev. Bist is generally in the office or close by on Tuesday,
through to Friday.

Sunday Service: Primrose United Church 9:10 am
Trinity United Church 11 am

Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

Shelburne Primrose United Church Office,
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<https://www.shelburneprimrose.com/>

Minister: Rev. Dr. Candice Bist

Home: 519 925 6466 Cell: 705 817 3408

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