



Trinity News

June 9, 2021

(705) 445-3901

Rev. Dr. Brian W. Goodings



At the beginning of last Sunday's service Rev. Brian read the 1998 United Church of Canada's apology offered by The Right Rev. Bill Phipps. Hope you have had the opportunity to watch last Sunday's service. It was special.

"As Moderator of The United Church of Canada, I wish to speak the words that many people have wanted to hear for a very long time. On behalf of The United Church of Canada, I apologize for the pain and suffering that our church's involvement in the Indian Residential School system has caused. We are aware of some of the damage that this cruel and ill-conceived system of assimilation has perpetrated on Canada's First Nations peoples. For this we are truly and most humbly sorry. To those individuals who were physically, sexually, and mentally abused as students of the Indian Residential Schools in which The United Church of Canada was involved, I offer you our most sincere apology. You did nothing wrong. You were and are the victims of evil acts that cannot under any circumstances be justified or excused. We know that many within our church will still not understand why each of us must bear the scar, the blame for this horrendous period in Canadian history. But the truth is, we are the bearers of many blessings from our ancestors, and therefore, we must also bear their burdens." Our burdens include dishonouring the depths of the struggles of First Nations peoples and the richness of your gifts. We seek God's forgiveness and healing grace as we take steps toward building respectful, compassionate, and loving relationships with First Nations peoples. We are in the midst of a long and painful journey as we reflect on the cries that we did not or would not hear, and how we have behaved as a church. As we travel this difficult road of repentance, reconciliation, and healing, we commit ourselves to work toward ensuring that we will never again use our power as a church to hurt others with attitudes of racial and spiritual superiority. We pray that you will hear the sincerity of our words today and that you will witness the living out of our apology in our actions in the future.

George Czerny's Response To Last Sunday's Service

Rev. Brian Goodings, minister at Trinity United Church in Collingwood, wore his orange stole as a symbol of his concern about reconciliation and what is happening to First Nations in Canada.

Brave Brian.

Bravo Brian.

Yesterday, Rev. Goodings spoke to an empty church but to a large audience thanks to the magic of streaming and You Tube.

I watched the Trinity United Church service from the comfort of my home, as I have been doing almost every Sunday morning for the past 15 months.

Brave Brian.

Bravo Brian.

If you never ever click into a church service again, do not click away until you click into yesterday's Trinity United Church service. If you care about First Nations and our fellow Canadians you will do more than take 52 minutes and 12 seconds out of your life to watch and listen to this service on You Tube.

It's that important!

Yes, it was lovely to listen to Patti Watson sing during the service. It was lovely to hear Trinity's music director, Paul Sloan play the church organ.

But the main event was the message brought to us by Rev. Brian Goodings. It was his take on reconciliation and First Nations' matters in Canada.

Brian shot from the hip.

He pulled no punches.

He told it like it is.

I thought of it a bit like a little miracle that somebody could capsulize the matters of reconciliation (a huge topic in itself) and talk about First Nations' matters in easy-to-understand language. That somebody was Rev. Goodings yesterday.

Earlier today, I posted a letter written by my friend Bob Newman from Craighleith. He wants our government to act sooner than later about reconciliation and what many of us call "Canada's shame". Bob has written to MP Terry Dowdall about how he feels about "Canada's shame".

I have been writing to federal government officials, First Nations' chiefs and with letters to the editor to newspapers about water woes at First Nations communities for at least eleven years.

Last Friday, I received a reply from a person at Indigenous Services Canada. The reply, which I shall post on Facebook in a few minutes, came to a letter I wrote to Indigenous Services Canada Minister, Marc Miller last November. You will be able to draw your own conclusions after you read my letter in my next posting.

In the meantime, please, please, please, find the time to listen to Rev. Brian Goodings sermon yesterday. You can find it on YouTube, or you can click on Trinity United Church, Collingwood and track down the service on that website.

It is far beyond time for Canadians to get riled and take action in support of the First Nations.

I implore you to share this.

My hope is that all Canadians will get off the proverbial pot and speak out in support of First Nations.

We must take action to bring justice to First Nations over "Canada's shame".

Community Dinner Pick-Up & Delivery June 16, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Delivery option will continue in April. All you need to do is email office@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca or phone the church office at 705 445-3901 to be on the list. Make sure you tell us your address and how many there are in the house. Also, if you are able to deliver meals, please contact the office at 705 445-3901. Thanks from Barb Sneyd.

With no sign-up sheets in the Banquet Hall, we have had to adjust to our "take-out dinners" and purchasing all of our ingredients and packaging. However, the congregation has really stepped up and accelerated their givings to support the ongoing Community Dinner Program.

There have also been a large number of community sponsors who have come on board as our program has moved from 80 dinners to the 120 dinners (and growing) recently.



Mike and Barb with bags of dinners ready for delivery last month.

Introducing... Trinity "Welcome Cards"!

All members are encouraged to drop by the church during office hours, to pick up your hot-off-the-press Welcome Cards! This is an initiative by the Spiritual Outreach Committee, in an effort to grow our membership at Trinity. Each member is asked to take 5 cards and keep them on-hand in your purse or wallet. Then, when a neighbour, friend, or new-to-the-area acquaintance, mentions that they are seeking a new church, or you just feel it's the right time to invite someone, you pass on the card, and be sure to follow up so that you foster the connection, and they feel very WELCOME to join us. Easy-peasy!

Happy Trails!
Linda Murphy
Direct: 705-351-1420





Food Pantry

Our popular food pantry is well funded at this time so the board asks us to hold off monetary donations to it until further notice. Instead, direct those funds to any account you may specify. Funds not specified go to the general account.

Clothing Donations

Thank you for the kindness and generosity shown by your continued support of the Warming Closet. Although it is Spring, the Warming Closet has not been shut down and will continue through the summer.

The pandemic has shut down other sources of free or inexpensive clothes and so there is a need for summer clothes.

Please look through your closets and bring any lightly used but unwanted clothes to the church for distribution to those in need.

Please call the office at 705 445-3901 or call Mike on his cell at 705 344-5757.



If anyone knows of someone who would appreciate receiving a shawl please contact Brian, the church office, anyone on the Spiritual Committee or anyone involved with the Shawl Ministry. If anyone would like yarn and instructions to knit/crochet a shawl please contact Mary Elizabeth Piercy, Beth Theis or Barbara Downey. All contacts can be reached through the church office 705-445-390.

Outreach and Social Action Committee

Report to the Board June 8, 2021

On-going Project Reports

Out of the Cold

Dinners will be provided until at least July. Decisions are made on a month to month basis.

Community Dinner

Summer will continue with take-out. It is not known when we will be able to sit down with 90 people in one room. At the moment we are delivering 76 dinners. This is reaching shut ins who cannot normally come to the dinners. It was decided to plan to continue with delivery even when we can have in-person dinners once again.

Camp Simpresca

There are still problems getting in touch with them. Ralph found out from a board member that they are planning no overnight camps this summer, just 3 day day-camps. There will therefore be no cabin maintenance this year.

Pantry Cupboard, Warming Closet, and Prayer Shawl programs are all running well.

Proposed Change to Committee Functions

There was a discussion of the draft Plan of Organization that would add a function to this committee: “Educating and encouraging commitment and participation of the congregation in the mission of the United Church and the funds needed to support this, both locally and in the wider church.” It was pointed out that some of this should be the Spiritual Committee (education), some should be the Finance Committee (funds) and some the Outreach and Social Action Committee (participation). The committee saw its role in doing things, rather than talking about them. It was advised that this function stay at the Board level in the Plan of Organization, since it involves multiple committees.

There was a longer discussion of the “Outreach in Evangelism” phrase in the draft plan of Organization. It was felt it would avoid confusion if only one committee used the Outreach designation. The distinction was made between the Outreach and Social Action committee, which provides services and help to people, with no expectation that they will come to church; and the Spiritual Committee, which invites people to be part of the church and offers education and pastoral care. Perhaps this distinction could be made clearly if the “invitation” phrase could be used instead of “outreach”. Perhaps “invitation to participation”.

Other Business

Committee members were reminded to sign confidentiality agreements. Ray will email the forms to all who have not yet signed.

Beth Theis volunteered to be the Outreach and Social Action contact with the Pew Pals group.

Next meeting: September 7, or earlier at the call of the chair.

Return To Trinity

Last night the board decided to set Sept. 12 as our target date to return to worship in the sanctuary. This is both a hope and a prayer! It would be nice to have five services with Rev. Brian before his retirement Thanksgiving Sunday.

Finance Report to Board - June 9, 2021

We have applied for and received the second CEBA loan from the Federal Government for our church. It is a \$20,000 loan of which, we must pay back \$10,000 prior to December 2022, in order to be eligible for the loan forgiveness of \$10,000.00 This loan is in addition to the previous CEBA loan of \$40,000 of which \$20,000 must also be repaid prior to December 2022, to be eligible for the \$20,000, loan forgiveness.

We were also successful in obtaining wage subsidy for the months of December, 2020, through to May 2021, thanks for the help from Al Loughery. We will continue to apply for June to September of 2021.

These financial Federal Government Covid 19 programs have been extremely helpful for our financial well being.

The month of May we were in the black \$3,669.33. June is also looking promising.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Young, Treasurer

“Indian Horse”

From the Indigenous file George Czerny alerts us of a Canadian film “Indian Horse” based on a fictional but based on fact residential school experience.

It's a fictional film, but delivers a story that's all-too real: in the 1950s, a six-year-old Ojibwe boy is torn from his family and forced into a residential school, where he is forbidden to speak his language and faces brutal punishment for the tiniest transgressions.

His only solace comes on a sheet of ice, and his love of hockey eventually carries him to stardom. But still, his past continues to haunt him.

Indian Horse is the highly-anticipated film adaptation of the novel by acclaimed Canadian author Richard Wagamese, and one that has already won multiple awards — including the People's Choice Award at the Vancouver Film Festival.

The film opens in theatres across Canada April 13, so we've gathered 10 fascinating facts — from the novel's inspiration to the elder actress who experienced the residential school system first-hand.

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/q/blog/indian-horse-10-things-about-the-groundbreaking-new-canadian-film-1.4616397>

Our Daily Bread

Our Daily Bread is a daily devotional guide with a simple scripture reading and message for each day.

The June / July / August 2021 Edition

is now available in the outer church office area.

The office is open most mornings Tues. to Fri.

Please phone ahead to arrange to pick one up.

Church Office 705-445-3901





Need assistance registering for your vaccination for Covid-19 or transportation to the vaccination centre?

Contact Marg Holroyd at 705 445-6227. Registration assistance is also available through the office. Call Lori at 705 445-3901. Some have been successful booking through MPP Jim Wilson's office at 705 446-1090.

Live Services On YouTube

As we adapt to our new streaming equipment our team of AV volunteers appreciate your patience as we work out the kinks. If you have feedback regarding online streaming please send an email to daniellekyork@gmail.com

Trinity Coffee Time Zoom Chat Following The Service



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86525215904?pwd=SIRwZHhkSWgrdk1SMUdPeFpyQXlvQT09>
Meeting ID: 865 2521 5904
Passcode: 265736

Prayer Chain Ministry

Trinity has a Prayer Chain ministry, a group of people who include in their regular prayers anyone on our "Special Prayers List".

The List is shared with members of the Spiritual Committee, and often also shared in our worship service. In the worship service only first names are read out.

Details shared with the Prayer Chain and Spiritual Committee can be Name, or first name only, or you can request prayers without a name (listed as "Anonymous")
Details (such as a named injury, illness, bereavement or other difficulty),
or
prayers can be requested without details,
or with a general statement like "health issue".

To request prayers for yourself or someone else, please get in touch with our Prayer Chain contact:

Ramona Van Slyke
705-445-3702
ramonajvs54@gmail.com

Help Wanted - No Experience Necessary!

Spiritual Committee thanks Heather Ferguson for looking after our scripture readers for several years but Heather has served notice she is ready to pass the torch. If you can help, please let me know at johnbrown5@rogers.com or 705 446-0767. If you think you might be able to help but want more details, then give me a call. If you just want to chat, that's fine too.

June 9, 2021

Trinity Musings #59

Rev Brian Goodings trinityminister@bmts.com

Serving Trinity United Church: Collingwood

I slipped out of the house on Sunday morning, before anyone else was up, wearing socks in my sandals. Andrea lets me dress like this in the house and in the backyard but she, or one of my kids, usually catches me before I can head out the front door in this get-up. I suddenly find this combination to be really comfortable and I don't care a whit about being fashionable. My long-suffering therapist (it's been 22 years of me not following her advice) told me I would know when it was time to retire and I think this is the sign. I've moved into the socks-with-sandals phase of my life. The socks I was wearing are my Toronto Maple Leaf socks. This is the name of a golf team that plays hockey for a few months every winter. They are the first on the links every spring. Very good golfers, or so I've heard.

Some might say I'm becoming increasingly curmudgeonly too. Remember the two old balcony muppets Statler and Waldorf? I'm starting to resemble them in more ways than one.

Everything around me requires my critical gaze and commentary, which I am more than happy to give.

For example, the other day I was vacuuming our house but I had to stop and interrupt Andrea, who was working, to ask her if she knew that our vacuum cleaner hose has a suction control opening. Dumbest thing I've ever seen. When would anyone who is vacuuming their home want less suction? Do I want to leave 20% of the dirt on the floor so I can do it again tomorrow?

Later that day I had to get air for my tires so I pulled up to the pump. There was a guy behind me patiently waiting. Now why (I asked him) is the size and make of tires the only thing I can find emblazoned on them? The only thing I ever need to know about my tires is how much air to put in them and you have to almost lick the entire tire to read the embossed information written in 8.0 font. And then I had to calculate kilopascals to pounds per square inch! When I was finally finished I realized the guy who was waiting had left before getting air.

In that moment, it dawned on me that nobody, except another curmudgeon, wants to spend much time listening to the rantings of a grumpy man. If I want to avoid falling too far down the rabbit-hole of a lonely future, I have to cheer up.

When I got back in my car I turned on the radio and heard a very interesting story about the Canada Warbler. It's a small greyish bird with a yellow breast that winters in the northern Andes Mountains in South America and summers right across Canada.

Sooo...here's the good news. The species have been declining in numbers for the last decade because of habitat loss in South America. The bird winters in the same place that people grow coffee and trees have been cut down to grow the coffee beans. Recently, the people in that area have stopped cutting down all the trees because they realized the coffee beans grow very well in a reduced light. Less work. More trees. More coffee. More Canada Warblers. Their numbers are increasing every year now and they are making a strong comeback.

I stopped a guy I barely know, who was walking down our street in Thornbury, to tell him this story. He was a bit weirded out with my enthusiasm but I believe the news about the bird brightened his day.

Another good story I heard was about the Purple Martin, a large swallow. They have also been in sharp decline because of habitat loss right across North America. But... here's the good news. They are making a tremendous comeback in Michigan and California because people are restoring or protecting wetlands and providing nesting boxes. Their numbers are increasing strongly...meaning it can happen here too if we decide to make it happen.

And...for the first time in many years, there are nighthawks flying over Thornbury in the evening and I have seen a lot of brown bats flitting around and catching insects over our backyard at dusk too. Does my heart good.

And finally, finally...the spring rainbow trout run in the Beaver River was reported by fishers, as have being one of the best- ever.

These are not the every-thing-is-wrecked-or-stupid stories shared by curmudgeons. We've got enough of those floating around already and none of us need more negativity in our lives.

This is the time when we need to start finding, sharing and creating better news stories. Life is too short not to bring joy where we can.

The first thing you might try is wearing socks with sandals. Will bring a smile of comfort and if others start, it will make me look a little less geekish too. I would also appreciate your company.

Banquet For Rev. Brian Fri. October 15

Mark you calendars! Rev. Brian will also appreciate your company on Oct. 15. Plans are underway to celebrate Rev. Brian's retirement and, just as important, his ten years of ministry at Trinity. We will have a catered dinner by Jim Hockley followed by presentations in the sanctuary. More details to follow.

Committee: Patti Watson, Phil Watson, Heather Ferguson, John Brown, Dawn Myers

A Survivors Prayer (by Terry Luster-indigenous man who attended and survived a Residential School in Winnipeg)

Creator help me, ease my pain Do not let my prayers be in vain Raise me gently to your clouds on high Comfort us survivors 'til the day we die. It's been no easy matter to forgive and forget Those who wronged us in their religious net Still, many of us put it behind and forgave In our quest for closure, our sanity to save. We have travelled so long, so very far Bearing the memories, healing our scars We lived with the trauma all of these years It truly is difficult to stifle these tears. We lose control, let emotions take flight Any time, any place, be it day or night No matter how resilient our people may be Only you, Creator, can set us free. So Creator, help us, ease our pain Do not allow our prayers to be in vain Raise us gently to your world on high Comfort us survivors 'til the day we die. Hiy - hiy!

Trinity United Church: Collingwood

Minister: Rev. Dr. Brian Goodings trinityminister@bmts.com

Cell Phone: 705 441-0561

Hospital Visitor: B J Hunter 705 444-7295

Ministry of Music: Paul Sloan, 705 730-3121 (cell)

Sunday School:

Handbell Director: Maryellen Burgess, 705 443-1422 (cell)

UCW President: Joy Barr, 705 445-0726

Custodian: Michael White 1 705 344-5757

Office Assistant: Lori Forsythe 705 445-3901

Church Office: office@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

140 Maple Street, Collingwood, ON L9Y 2P8

Tel: 705 445-3901

Website: www.collingwoodunitedchurch.ca

Trinity News: johnbrown5@rogers.com

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johnbrown5@rogers.com

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