

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER
Feast of God the Creator

8:00am Holy Eucharist
Traditional (BCP). Said service

10:30am Holy Eucharist
Contemporary (BAS) with Music
Refreshments & fellowship follow in the Parish Hall

9th SEPTEMBER (Chapel)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist



UPCOMING
EVENTS

TUE 8 th SEPTEMBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
WED 9 th SEPTEMBER	Contemplative Prayer	9:15am
WED 9 th SEPTEMBER	Lynn Valley Voices	4:00 pm
THU 10 th SEPTEMBER	Caring for the Core	11:30am
THU 10 th SEPTEMBER	Migrant Farm Workers Ministry	2:00-8:00 pm
THU 10 th SEPTEMBER	Choir Practice	4:00—5:30 pm
FRI 11 th SEPTEMBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
FRI 11 th SEPTEMBER	Migrant Farm Workers Ministry	2:00-8:00 pm

God the Creator

I don’t like the image of God as a parent. I know that it’s deeply meaningful for a lot of people, and I respect that. If that’s the language that someone wants to use, I’m happy to meet them there. However, a lot of people struggle a lot with Parent God, for a number of reasons, and I happen to be one of them. When I converted to the Episcopal tradition, it was a relief to feel like I had more freedom to explore different images of God. For Latter-day Saints, God and humans are not ultimately different species, and God’s fatherhood is literal. I always heard the more traditional Christian understanding of God as someone completely other described as something negative and limiting. But for me, it felt liberating to move in that direction. It made me feel like I had room to breathe, spiritually speaking.

But there were challenges with that shift, too. Thinking about God as a parent gives you a very concrete image, and it also speaks to a deep personal relationship. Losing that left me a bit muddled for a while, as I tried to find a new way to think about God that maintained that sense of connection, while also taking seriously that God is far beyond human comprehension. As I’ve navigated this challenge, I’ve found that the image that most works for me is God as Creator. And in a way, this is as traditional as you can get; God as Creator shows up in the first chapter of Genesis. I want to share some of the reasons that I find this focus particularly compelling.

1.If God is Creator, and I am God’s creation, that means that there is something inherently good about me. I don’t simply happen to exist as the person that I am; God specifically created me as this person. That might not sound like a particularly noteworthy thing to say, but it’s not something I believed for most of my life, and I find it powerful.

2. Like many theologians, I don’t think of creation as a single event, but as an ongoing process. God’s continuing creation is what holds the universe in being, moment by moment. Put another way, our very existence, every second, is grounded in God’s love. Honestly, I find that simply existing feels overwhelming at times, and the idea that I am not self-existent, but my very existence is continually held by God, gives me some peace. It reminds me that I am not God, and I am not responsible for the universe. I am also very drawn to a vision of the universe in which love literally is the ultimate reality. It’s not an

attribute of God; it’s who God is.

3. I also like how this means that humans are inherently relational. Since my existence isn’t grounded in me but in something larger, this means that I grow and develop not through autonomous willpower, but by entering more deeply into my relationship with God, and allowing that to change me. Grace isn’t a sort of add-on to my abilities; grace is the foundation of who I am. It’s at the core of everything. I wasn’t created to be as independent as possible. I was created to seek ever deeper relationship with the divine—a relationship which enhances rather than stifles freedom. That feels true to me.

4. I know that some people find the assertion that God is mystery to be annoying and I think it’s fair to complain that it can be used as a cop-out for difficult questions. But I actually find it experientially helpful. It reminds me that I don’t have to have it all figured out. It can be easy for believers (perhaps especially ones drawn to theology!) to get caught up in the quest to make tidy systems that neatly explain everything. Where I think this is most likely to go wrong is in the well-meaning attempt to make sense of human suffering; in an effort to defend God, people concoct ideas about suffering being a test, or part of God’s perfect plan. The irony is that these efforts to defend God often end up throwing God under the bus, making God into someone monstrous. There’s a lot to be said for letting God be mystery.

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At the same time, taking God as Creator seriously means that we also can't dismiss problems by saying that what God means by "good" or "love" is fundamentally different than what humans mean. I think it's fair to say that as God's creations, we have some innate connection to God's sense of those ideals, and that's something we can trust. The image of God as Creator calls for humility, because we are creatures and our perspective is so much more limited, but it also doesn't leave us untethered from any connection to God's values. And I think that ideally God as mystery is an invitation. Like the mystery of love, it calls you to enter into it more deeply, rather than being a puzzle to be solved.

5. God is Creator is non-gendered. That's a whole topic in and of itself, but I will just say, I find that immensely helpful. Among other advantages, it allows for God's image to be fully present in every human being; there aren't categories of humans that more closely reflect the divine.

6. On a less theological and more day-to-day level, I'm sure at least some of the appeal of this image for me is that I spend so much time out in the natural world. I am not surprised that so many people describe having their most profound sense of the divine when interacting with creation in that way. Don't get me wrong, I love a good church service, too. But the image of God as Creator reminds me that appreciating the world that God created is a rich way to learn about God.

7. Finally, my most personal and deepest reason for settling on this image is that it is deeply intimate. When I first consciously decided to stop thinking of God as a parent, even though I was glad to set down the baggage that went with that for me, I missed the sense of close connection. But I have found the image of God as Creator to be at least as intimate; a Creator is deeply, inextricably bound with what they create. Again, I recognize this is not the case for everyone, but the God as parent image never left me with that sense of closeness, for both theological and personal reasons. As God's creations, I think that at a deep and basic level, we recognize God, because we have that deep tie. God is familiar to us in a very fundamental way. I profoundly sense that.

People encounter God in unique and personal ways, and of course no single focus even begins to capture everything about the divine. I think that the variety of images in scripture point to a God who is revealed in all kinds of ways, meeting human beings where we are, and in the language that speaks to us. But right now, I am finding a lot of spiritual grounding in interacting with God as Creator.

From The Hour Before Sunrise on Substack
By Sheila Taylor

Nature reveals God's creative love



The author as a child by the Muskwa River in British Columbia in 1961. Photo: Contributed by Archbishop Shane Parker, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

ARCHBISHOP SHANE WRITES



I was in the diocese of the Yukon in June for the consecration of Bishop Vincent Fenga and discussions with clergy and lay ministers. The visit was nostalgic as my family had once lived in that diocese, surrounded by boreal forest near the confluence of the Muskwa, Prophet and Fort Nelson rivers.

We did not have to go far from our home in Fort Nelson to be in the bush—just

across the street and over the firebreak lay the vast expanse of the forest and its inhabitants. Early one morning my brother went out on his bike and encountered a mature lynx padding along the gravel road. Hunters in the community simply walked out their back doors to pursue game in season. Big birds like the great horned owl, bald eagle and golden eagle graced the skies, and the rivers and creeks had plenty of fish. Black bears were commonplace.

My earliest memories formed in that rich environment. To this day, certain scents in a forest, the lay of the land or the way light falls on leaves or snow will bring me back. It was there I learned to head into nature when my soul needs restoring.

As good as it is to be in wild places, nature breaks through everywhere. When we look at the sky from any location, gaze at a river, feel the wind or notice creatures in the trees on a city street, we see signs of nature.

Jesus encouraged his followers to consider nature—the birds of the air and the flowers of the field—to understand that, just as God is at work in the intricacies and interdependencies of creation, sustaining species of plants and animals, God is also at work in human lives. Jesus asks us, "Why would you think that you, alone, control your destinies? That you must look to yourselves alone to find hope and security?" Like the flow of nature, the flow of God's creative love continues around us, even when we are anxious and preoccupied with other things.

As the liturgical Season of Creation unfolds during September, I pray that nature will restore each of you with rich signs of God's abundant love, Christ's irrepressible grace and the steady fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

From the Anglican Journal August 24, 2026

2026 Bazaar Planning Meeting
Please join us in the **Mixer Room** on **Sunday, September 20th**, after the **10:30 AM service**, as we begin planning for the **2026 Bazaar**.

Everyone is welcome - we would love to hear your ideas and suggestions. Do you have a particular task at the Bazaar you would like to help with?

As the saying goes, “many hands make light work” and with your help we can make this year’s Bazaar the best one yet. We hope to see you there!



Help Keep Our Trinity Social Events Going!
We all love the fellowship and connection that comes with our church social events. To make sure these gatherings can continue, **the Trinity Social Committee needs your help!**
We are looking for new members to join our team. Our commitment is light—we hold only **one planning meeting per year** and gather helpers from the congregation to share the work for each event. If you would like to help us keep these special moments a part of our church life, please contact **Debbie Vankerrebroeck at 519-428-6474**.



Do you have a child that likes to sing?

Trinity Anglican choir & the Con Brio music program is hosting their annual Choirs & Carols event on December 13.

We are creating a choir just for this event!

INTERESTED CHILDREN AGED 5-16, MAY JOIN FOR **FREE**. COMMITMENT TO ALL REHEARSALS IS NECESSARY FOR PARTICIPATION.

REHEARSALS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM 6-7 PM STARTING **OCTOBER 8, 2026 UNTIL DECEMBER 10, 2026.** (10 REHEARSALS IN TOTAL)

CONTACT GENA AT **CONBRIOMUSICPROGRAM@GMAIL.COM** TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION.



AT 2:30 PM

13

DECEMBER

80 Colborne St. S., Simcoe



Creation

O Holy One, your Word has been from the beginning, and all things have been created through your Word. You have spoken us into being, the words of your love. We give thanks that you are not a retired creator, but still creating: galaxies still form; life emerges; varieties evolve, all by your grace. All of us, humans and mountains, whales and stars, are one in this mysterious work of Creation. We honor you by singing in this great chorus, dancing in this sacred dance, belonging in this holy Body.
By your Spirit heighten our awe; deepen our reverence; tune our harmony with your sacred work. We who are your handiwork, your art, your creating, praise you in our being; we reveal you in our beauty; and we serve you by serving this Creation, that the Body of Christ may be whole, and flourish with abundant life.
Amen.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light
www.unfoldinglight.net





Branch 79, SIMCOE

Wednesday, September 9

4:30—7pm

Fish & Chips

Coleslaw, Rolls & Butter

1 piece—\$11

2 pieces—\$14

Chicken Fingers—\$14

In the Memorial Hall



WANTED:

YOUR EMPTY EGG CARTONS!

Help us stop walking on eggshells! Mike Capper on behalf of The Caring Cupboard needs egg cartons, they have fresh bulk eggs arriving that need a safe home.

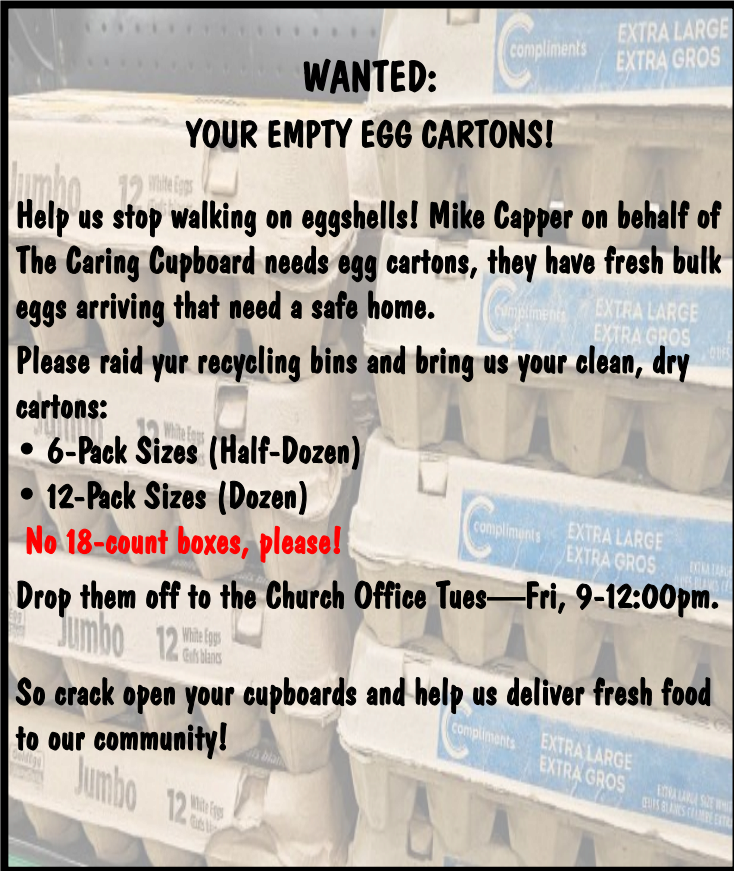
Please raid your recycling bins and bring us your clean, dry cartons:

- 6-Pack Sizes (Half-Dozen)
- 12-Pack Sizes (Dozen)

No 18-count boxes, please!

Drop them off to the Church Office Tues—Fri, 9-12:00pm.

So crack open your cupboards and help us deliver fresh food to our community!





Mark your calendars! Sunday School returns on **Welcome Back Sunday, September 13th** during our 10:30 morning service.

While our young family community may be small, our hearts are big and our doors are wide open! Whether you have grandchildren visiting for the weekend, a young neighbor looking for a church home, or children of your own, they are always welcome to join us.

Just come as you are, whether the children are returning or joining us for the very first time, we can't wait to celebrate the start of a beautiful new season together as we share God's love with the next generation, one child at a time.

Boiler Update:

The Wardens have received quotes from three contractors for the boiler replacement and are now finalizing the quotes for review. Once this is completed we will make a decision and the arrangements to start the work.

Currently our Boiler Fund is \$27, 545.00—if you wish to donate to the Boiler Fund please mark your cheques on the memo line “Boiler fund”.

Thank you for your support



Jarvis Community Christian School is looking for Supply/Spare School Bus Drivers (Part-Time) to join our team!

If you are dependable, responsible, and enjoy working with students, they would love to hear from you.

Interested? Contact Tom Smith
at transportation@jarvisccs.com

If anyone is doing any jam making or canning over the summer, please consider doing a bit extra for the bazaar. Things like pickles, chutney, jams, marmalade, salsa, pasta sauce, lemon curd, etc. We would be most grateful. For more information please talk to Deb Vankerrebroeck at church or give her a call at 519-428-6474.

We can supply the jars if needed.



CONTACT US

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✉ reception@trinitysimcoe.ca

💻 www.trinitysimcoe.ca

www.Facebook.com/Trinitysimcoe

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday
9:00am-12:00 noon
Visitors always welcome.

THE DIOCESE OF HURON

The Rt. Rev. Dr. R. Todd Townshend
Bishop of Huron

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