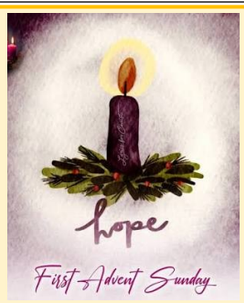
TRINITY TIMES WEEKLY NEWS

Est.2020 SIMCOE, FRIDAY 27th November 2026 No.47-26

WELCOME TO WORSHIP



SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER
Advent Sunday

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

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

2nd DECEMBER (Chapel)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist
Traditional (BCP). Said service.



Together let's help everyone have a Merry Christmas

Red Envelope Sundays
November 29 & December 6

Again this year, our "Christmas Baskets" are being distributed centrally by the Salvation Army. Their team expects to support even more families than in the past, and our Trinity team again hopes to count on our congregation's **amazingly generous** contributions to help provide delicious Christmas dinners to those in need! Please note one change this year: **cheques must be payable to Salvation Army.**

Where to get envelopes: Available at the church entrances and in the office on both dates.

How to give: Make cheques payable to the **Salvation Army.** Place your donation inside the envelope, thwrite **Christmas Baskets** on the memo line, and drop it in the collection plate or hand it in to the church office.

Tax Receipts (Very Important): Because donations are receipted directly by the Salvation Army, please be sure to fill in your contact information (**name, address, email, and amount**) on the front of the envelope to receive a receipt for donations of $20 or more.

Thanks in advance for your support!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUES 1st DECEMBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
TUES 1st DECEMBER	St. Vincent DePaul Community Lunch	11:30 am
WED 2nd DECEMBER	Contemplative Prayer	9:15am
WED 2nd DECEMBER	St. Vincent DePaul Community Lunch	11:30 am
WED 2nd DECEMBER	Lynn Valley Voices	4:00 pm
THU 3rd DECEMBER	Choir Practice	4:00 pm
THU 3rd DECEMBER	Con Brio Practice	6-7 pm
FRI 4th DECEMBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00 am



Advent, 2026

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ!!!

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ…. can you believe that this Sunday is November 29-- the first Sunday of Advent? The weather has been so wonderfully warm and unseasonal. This past Saturday was our Christmas Bazaar—a culmination of weeks of work and planning. As people lined up outside the church waiting in anticipation and expectation of the delights within, they were conscious of how different it was from some past Bazaar days of snow storms. The spring-like weather didn't seem to correspond to our activities. But Advent truly is here.

Advent…the season of waiting…waiting and praying… a season of anticipation, expectation, as we await Christ's birth… a time of preparation…waiting upon the Lord.

(Continued on next pg.)

With the secular world which ramps up from Black Friday and onwards, with the music cranked in the malls, with the hardships going on around us…with the political uncertainty across the world, with cyber attacks and climate change, and the pressure to try and provide the Hallmark perfect Christmas for ourselves and others, it may be difficult to quiet our hearts and minds, to be present to the coming of our Lord… As we wait and wonder and we wander…

We as a church choose to use the ritual around the advent wreath to help us focus in Advent. The advent wreath appears in our church (and many of our homes). The candles we light each Sunday represent Hope, Peace, Joy and Love culminating on Christmas Day with the lighting of the Christ Candle. "On the First Sunday of Advent, a purple candle is lit to celebrate Hope, the inspiring and uplifting hope that Christ among us represents. On the Second Sunday of Advent, another purple candle is lit to celebrate Peace, both the Prince of Peace himself and the promise of peace on Earth. On the third Sunday of Advent, a pink candle is lit to celebrate joy, the joy the shepherds received at hearing the news of Christ's birth, or the joy that God brings in our lives. As the coming of Christ draws near, the final purple candle is lit on the Fourth Sunday of Advent to celebrate Love, both God's boundless love for us and our love for one another. And finally on Christmas Eve we light the centre candle…the Christ Candle. The Christ Candle is white to celebrate the purity of Jesus and the joy felt on this day." The light of the candles takes back the darkness and declares God's love and Jesus' presence in a world that can seem dark. The light represents our faith.

I have been blessed to spend the past three months in ministry with you. You have made me feel welcome. I have witnessed all that you do and how you care for one another and those we serve in this community and the wider church.

On December 1, Archdeacon Rick Jones will return from a much deserved sabbatical. You with him will journey through Advent together. As we all wait for the Lord together, let us pray for one another and share Hope, Peace, Joy and Love with each other and with the world. Let it be a season when we remember how much we are loved. Let this be a season of transformation in our lives and in the lives of those with whom we have contact.

Thank you for the privilege of sharing our faith together over this past few months. I give thanks to God for you and wish you every blessing.

Yours in Christ,

Janet+

The Venerable Janet Griffith Clarke+



Kids' Christmas Event:

Carol singing, ornament-making, cookies, hot chocolate, a festive photo op, and Christmas trees for sale. Saturday, ***December 5, 4:30 PM—5:30 PM*** *at* ***St. James' Anglican Church, Paris*** *(8 Burwell Street).The event will conclude in perfect time for you to grab a spot to watch the Paris Christmas Parade at 6:00 PM, just steps away from the church.*

Questions? Contact
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or 226-600-9096

CONTACT US

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www.trinitysimcoe.ca

www.Facebook.com/Trinitysimcoe

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday
9:00am-12:00 noon

THE DIOCESE OF HURON

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

1-800-919-1115
Huron Church House
190 Queens Avenue, London,
ON N6A 6H7 www.diohuron.org

From the Woodlands with Bishop Jake Owensby

"Advent is a season of waiting. We're not killing time. We're actively expectant. Watching for God to take the initiative before we rush off to implement our own bright ideas. Since we're habitually anxious to be first, to get ahead, to push through every rapidly closing opportunity, this waiting thing is hard. So let's take some time with the practice of waiting."

Waiting

"You talk funny."

I heard that a lot before I hit my early twenties. That's when the final surgery to correct my cleft palate eliminated the speech impairment caused by the birth defect. So, it's with some hesitation that I say this: Paul talks funny. The Apostle Paul, that is.

Unlike me, Paul was not born with a cleft palate. Neither did he stutter or speak with a thick accent. Instead, it's *what* he says that's funny. Weird funny. Not haha funny. That is to say, his ideas contrast sharply with how and why most of us tend do things.

For instance, he says, "Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you." (1 Thessalonians 3:11) Did you get that? He's waiting for, even anticipating that, God will direct where he goes and what he does next. Paul is offering us a way of being that will give our lives a greater sense of meaning and vitality.

I'll explain in a minute. But first, let's face it. This stuff about waiting on a divine power beyond us is just not how lots of people talk these days. We rely upon our own individual agency. It's up to each individual to choose their next step for themselves. We admire people who take initiative: people who make their own decisions on the basis of what they want for themselves. We sometimes call that authenticity.

When we hear Paul say that he's waiting to hear from God about his next move, some of us may hear a flimsy excuse for doing nothing. We might think, "Look, Paul, if you want to see the Thessalonians so bad just get going. Grab a bus ticket. Contact a travel agent. Hop on a bike. Start walking."

Phrases like the following point to a commonly held view of the self:

Get her done!

Time is money!

Just do it!

You snooze, you lose!

Don't just sit there, do something!

Make it happen!

We make ourselves through our own choices. Who we are, and our worth, come down to what we've done with our own life. As a result, we feel relentlessly driven to achieve.

There's a significant downside to our pursuit of achievement. It entangles us in what the sociologist Hartmut Rosa calls social acceleration. Our already fast-paced culture is steadily picking up speed. This acceleration is due in large part by advances in technology, the expectation of immediate results, and the demand for ever-increasing productivity levels.

If we simply maintain our current pace, we'll fall behind. So, we try to squeeze all we can out of every moment at work, in leisure, during exercise, and with family. The pressures are intense and relentless. The result is exhaustion, anxiety, and alienation. We're too hurried and breathless to give ourselves to the deep relationships we crave and desperately need.

Paul offers a better way. A full-hearted way. He counsels us to wait. And waiting is not mere inaction. Not killing time. To wait is to be still enough to be receptive to another. Paul is echoing guidance found in Psalms and Proverbs:

"Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths." (Psalm 25:3)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Jesus teaches us to be alert. To be open and receptive: "Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (Luke 21:36)

Rosa borrows the term *resonance* from physics. I think that the term conveys Paul's idea of waiting. When you place a vibrating tuning fork near another, the second one will begin vibrating in concert with the first. By analogy, our receptivity opens us to be addressed by or to resonate with an Other. We are transformed and set in motion by the Other. This is not an achievement. We can't force it or control it. We wait for it, and we receive it as a gift.

Christian practice centers on waiting. Worship, Bible study, and personal prayer come to mind. So too does the care we give to one another and to those in our surrounding communities. None of this is aimed at achievement. It's all about deep relationship. To paraphrase Andy Root, it's about being with these specific people at this moment in time. This is how God directs us.

It used to bother me when people told me, "You talk funny." These days, it's not how I say things that sounds weird to some people. It's *what* I say. And you know, I'm okay with that.

Let's turn not to….

A Spiritual Practice

Morning:

Find a quiet, comfortable spot. Sit in silence for a few minutes. Eyes closed. Let go of any plans or to-do lists. As thoughts come to mind notice them and gently let them go. When you feel settled, open your eyes and read this passage aloud once. Then read it silently.

"Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths." (Psalm 25:3)

Closing your eyes again, repeat the phrase "show me your ways" silently, gently for five minutes.

To carry through the day:

Take a few breaks throughout the day and reflect on these questions:

What am I trying to control?

When have I felt hurried?

Where do I need to slow down and listen?

Close by repeating "show me your ways" silently.

Evening:

Here are three reflection questions inspired by Wesley's 22 questions for self-examination. Reflect on them briefly and then close with the prayer.

1. Did I insist on doing things my way?
2. Am I still carrying a frustration or an unfinished task with me into the evening?
3. Am I going to bed on time?

Holy God, it is evening. Thank you for the day that is past. What is done is done. What is undone is undone. Help me to let it be. Forgive my missteps. Renew my mind this night that I may begin anew tomorrow, trusting your grace and seeking your guidance. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ROAST CHICKEN SUPPER

at the Waterford Legion

223 Nichol St. Waterford



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

Tickets on sale at 5:00 pm

Serving at 5:30 pm

$ 14.00 a person (cash only)

Dessert is included

(Please bring your own bags if doing take-out)

FOR THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

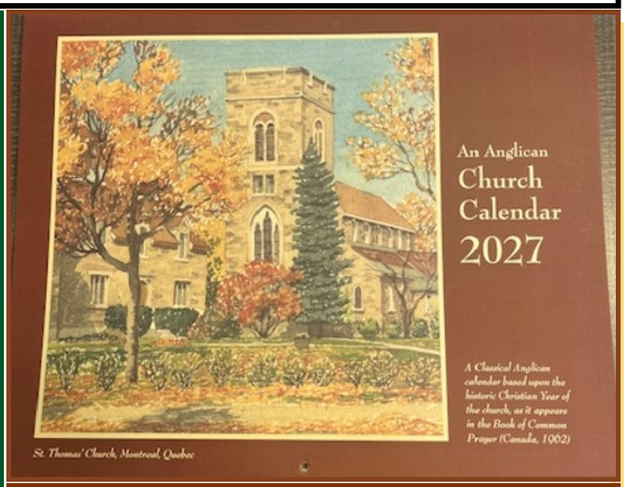


Movember is here again and with it, Bob Vankerrebroeck's upper lip again has a strange growth on it. This year he's raising funds for the Canadian Cancer Society. Their mission: "In trusted partnership with donors and volunteers, we improve the lives of all those affected by cancer through world-class research, transformative advocacy and compassionate support."

Bob is requesting that any donations/cheques be made out to Canadian Cancer Society and dropped off at the church. He will need your full name and address so that tax receipts can be mailed at a later date. For more information please call him at 519-582-2292.







***Church Calendars** are now available to purchase at the parish office. These attractive calendars feature watercolours of churches from across the country. They also include the Sundays, Holy Days, Saints' Days and seasons of the Church Year, in accordance with the calendar from the Book of Common Prayer (1962) of the Anglican Church of Canada. They are ideal as a special Christmas gift. Calendars are $14 each. Available during office hours or by request on Sundays. Limited quantity.*



SILVER BELLS

Ric Ashley has signed us up again to help with the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign 2026. Our day is Saturday 5th December. All you need to do is offer to do a 1 or 2 hour stint and maybe tinkle a bell? There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church. You only have two locations this year to chose from. Thanks.

Norfolk Haldimand Community Hospice

Volunteer With Us!



Give a little time. Share a lot of smiles.
Help us decorate **Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookies.**
Help spread the news and raise funds for the new Hospice Palliative Care Centre in our community

No experience needed, just a friendly face.

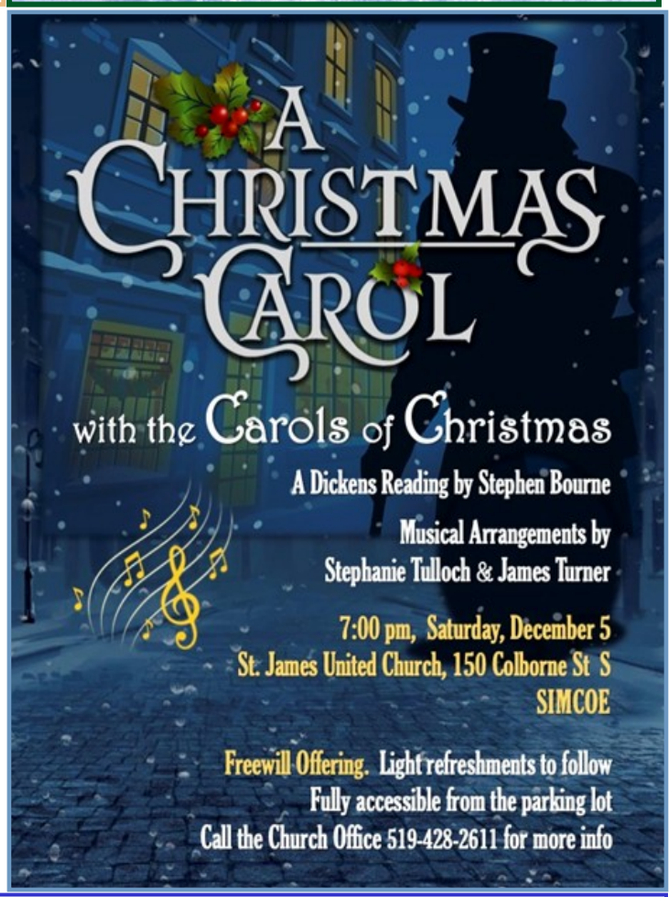
Volunteers Needed November 30 – December 6, 2026

More information and Sign Up Here
or Call 519-410-0881









Dear Pastors, Church Secretaries, and Faith Leaders,
I am writing with an opportunity.
Our Home For the Night shelter and day program has quite a need for underwear and socks for the neighbours we serve. We are blessed to be able to offer a shower to our guests, but after showering, we like to have available new undergarments for them. We are finding that we are going through a large number of both of these items, are not able to keep up with the need, and are finding that we often need to purchase underwear and socks ourselves.
With us entering the Christmas season, caring folks may be looking for opportunities to give charitably and bless the less fortunate. If you are so inclined, perhaps there are opportunities at your church or ministry to collect these items for the homeless. I have attached a poster that you may find helpful to promote this cause. Underwear items can be either boxers or briefs, and men's Large and X-Large are the most common size.
Thank you for considering to partner with us in serving our most vulnerable neighbours this Christmas.

Eric Haverkamp
Board Chair
Church Out Serving
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