



# Trinity News

Dec. 11, 2020

(705) 445-3901

Rev. Dr. Brian W. Goodings



Merry Christmas - Our thanks to the decorating committee.



Jessica Owen of Collingwood Today recently interviewed Rev. Brian. The interview appeared in the online publication last Saturday along with the photo.

Rev. Brian Goodings will be retiring as minister at Trinity United Church as of April. While he got his start in biology, philosophy intrigued a local man of faith. Fast forward to now, and he's making plans for his last sermon before retirement.

For this week's edition of People of Collingwood we sat down with Rev. Brian Goodings, 65, minister at Trinity United Church.

Q: For how long have you lived in Collingwood?

A: (My wife and I) lived in Thornbury for 23 years. We used to live in Chatsworth. We've lived in this area for more than 30 years.

Q: What led you to your calling as a reverend?

A: Well, it's funny.

I started as a scientist. I'm officially a biologist. It was my first trade.

But, I was really interested in the big questions; the questions of life.

I found theology to give me an even larger question, so, not only 'How do ecosystems work?' but to also consider the philosophical and spiritual element to life. I got quite intrigued by theology and the practice of faith.

Q: What brought you to Collingwood?

A: We lived in Thornbury for quite a few years and appreciated the area. I was minister at the Thornbury church for almost 14 years.

I knew that at one point in my life I would probably need to make a change in churches and Collingwood was open. I used to worship at the Collingwood church on my Sundays off, and I quite liked the feel of it.

Q: How has COVID-19 changed how people worship? A: Our building is still effectively closed to congregants gathering, so we're continuing to broadcast on YouTube.

It's working quite well, actually.

The congregation numbers have stayed strong, and even grown. We have viewers from Nova Scotia now, and I received a note from someone in Ireland who picked up a service, so that was pretty cool.

We've adapted to it.

Q: How does your method of service stand out from other faiths or ministers?

A: We're quite inclusive.

We were the first church to ordain women and people regardless of sexual orientation.

We have an inclusive theology and Christology.

It looks like an old-style church in that it's traditional, but the style and verbiage in hymns and so on are quite inclusive, as are my sermons. They endeavour to open us, not close us to the outside world.

We used to have a mantra that came from the U.S. that was: 'Open hearts, open doors, open minds.'

That's what we've tried to practise through my whole experience with this church.

Q: You've announced you'll be retiring at of April 2021. Do you have any stories or wisdom you'd like to share from your time as a reverend? A: The heart of most people is a pretty good heart.

People stay away from religion because they may think it's dogmatic or dictatorial, or it asks people not to think in specific ways.

I think... faith really is a portal into quantum physics. It's another way of thinking about reality.

I've discovered how resonant it is with so many other questions in the world. I hear about 10 times a week: "I'm spiritual, but not religious."

I think we're all talking about the same thing, as far as I'm concerned.

Q: Do you have hobbies outside the church?

A: I'm a kayak instructor. I like cross-country skiing. We do huge marathons. I'm a very avid motorcycle rider. We cycle.

Hockey, hockey, hockey. I play hockey maybe three or four times a week.

Q: Now that you're retiring, how will you spend your time?

A: People ask me how I'll be able to tell the difference. (laughs)

It's going to be different.

I love the church. I know I'm going to miss that. Over the years, there's a fatigue. I've been through so many tragic events with people like deaths. There are happy events too. I certainly haven't stopped caring... but there's a desire in me to be quiet for a while.

That's what I'm leaning toward.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like people in Collingwood to know about you?

A: I'm an avid Leafs fan.

You've gotta be a person of faith to be a Leafs fan. (laughs)

## Steps in Calling A New Minister To Replace Rev. Brian

- 1 Request a change in pastoral relations (Minister or Board ask regional council)
- 2 Select and Train a Search Committee (regional council will provide training)
- 3 Write a Community of Faith Profile
  - 1 Living Faith Story (description of church community, e.g. Narrative Budget)
  - 2 Financial Statement
  - 3 Demographics (number of: members, baptisms, givers, attendance, etc.)
  - 4 Real Property
  - 5 Financial Viability Review
- 4 Write a Position Description
- 5 Get the profile and description approved by the region
- 6 Input both to Church HUB, (a web site linked to a data base)
- 7 Find Potential Matches (using Church HUB)
- 8 First Interviews, Reference Checks, Second Interviews
- 9 Negotiating terms
- 10 Approval by Congregation

The process to find a new minister has begun. As you can see from the above there are several steps. If you are interested in being on the Search Team please contact Danielle York [danielleyork@gmail.com](mailto:danielleyork@gmail.com) or Ray Piercy [piercy.ray@gmail.com](mailto:piercy.ray@gmail.com)

### December Community Dinner - Dec. 16, 4:30 - 6 p.m. Pick-up & Delivery

With the poorer weather for getting out combined with a lot of limitations and concern for leaving the house, we have decided to deliver our winter meals to those who feel that they can't come to get them. All you need to do is e-mail [office@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca) or phone the church office 705 445-3901 to be put on the list. Make sure to tell us your address and how many people there are in the house. Stay safe and Merry Christmas to all.

Your Traveling Elves



### Trinity & Family Connexions (Formerly CAS)

Thanks to you, Barb Sneyd of Outreach reports that five Christmas Bags and \$3,910 will be delivered this month to Family Connexions to assist local families.

To the Trinity Congregation,

I would like to thank you for the many phone calls, messages, cards, donations and flowers that I received following the death of my mother Isobel McKinnon. I was particularly touched to receive a prayer shawl crocheted by Mary Elizabeth Piercy. My Trinity family has been an important part of my life for many years, especially the adult and bell choirs, but I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and thoughtfulness of the whole congregation during this difficult time.

Mom enjoyed coming to Trinity on Sunday mornings, it was a nice change to her routine. Everyone always made her feel welcome. She appreciated it when you took the time to wish her good morning or just said hello. Those little gestures really do mean a lot.

You may have thought that Mom and Harold sat in the front corner so she could better hear Brian, the organ and the choir, but truthfully, it was so they could get to the chocolate cookies before Brian got there.

Blessings to all and stay safe.

Heather Ferguson

## Christmas Messages 2020



### “In Memory Of”

Evan Butchers  
Bill Sneyd  
Dear husband Calvin Hough  
Loved Ones  
Luisa Almarza and Honorato Almarza  
Reverend William Harrison and Mary Elizabeth Harrison  
Peter Lamy  
Our Parents  
Arnold White, Lloyd & Jean Dorsey  
Parents and brother Glen  
Ina  
Roger Udell

### Donor(s)

John & Christine Brown  
Ralph Sneyd  
Lois Hough  
Doug & Maria Mitchell  
Doug & Loren Harrison  
  
Airlie & Ray Suutari  
Bob & Bev Mayberry  
Mike White, Cathy Dorsey  
Joy & Don Barr  
Ry Picot  
Rose Hughes

### ‘In Celebration Of’

Grandchildren Dafne, Ryder, Audrey, and Ariel  
Jake, Hailey, Taylor and Mya  
Our children and grandson  
Our Family  
Loving family, good friends and the joy a smile can give!  
Our kids and their families

### Donor(s)

Ruth & Gary Crittenden  
John & Christine Brown  
Bob & Bev Mayberry  
Harold & Heather Ferguson  
Ramona Van Slyke & Shirley Manuel  
Joy & Don Barr

*Certificate of Thanksgiving • Témoignage de reconnaissance envers*

**The United Church Women/aux membres de l'Association des femmes de L'Église Unie**  
of/du

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

*are recognized for giving/pour leur don de*

**\$129,049**

*in 2019 for the Mission & Service of  
The United Church of Canada*

*We sing of a church seeking to continue the story of Jesus  
by embodying Christ's presence in the world.*

*(A Song of Faith)*



*en 2019 à Mission & Service  
de l'Église Unie du Canada*

*Aussi chantons-nous une Église qui cherche à poursuivre l'histoire de  
Jésus, en donnant corps à la présence du Christ dans le monde.*

*(Notre foi chante)*

*Richard Bott*

*The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, Moderator • Le pasteur Richard Bott, modérateur*

*September/septembre 2020*

*God's Mission, Our Gifts • La mission de Dieu, pour nous, par nous*

## New Piano



Our new piano is a Kawai 5 foot grand piano, model RX-1, manufactured in Japan in the year 2000. It has been well and lovingly maintained.

The donor, the late Frances Wardlaw (died on Monday, Nov 23) of Toronto, was a friend of Doris and I for many years.

She specifically requested that this piano be bequeathed to Trinity United, after I assured her that it would be placed in a position of prominence in the building and would be well used and appreciated. She did not want it to be relegated to "storage" or some such location and not be enjoyed for its contributions to the life of the congregation.

I have invited her former partner, Douglas Hay, to attend an upcoming service, when in person services resume, to participate and speak at a dedication of the piano to the church in her memory.

We will also be making arrangements for a engraved dedication inscription to put on the instrument.

Paul Sloan

# Winter Is Coming

Trinity's Winter Warming Closet needs:

Warm coats / jackets • Mittens / gloves • Toques / hats • Boots

Clean and in good condition  
and  
New warm socks

Please phone the church office to arrange drop-off time 705 445-3901



Throughout the pandemic Trinity's bells continue to be rung on Sunday mornings thanks to Beth Theis.

Mary Elizabeth Piercy informs us the Prayer Shawl Ministry is active. If you know of a possible recipient, contact the office at (705) 445-3901.

Mary Elizabeth Piercy, Barbara Downie, Beth Theis



Prayer Shawl  
Ministry



Our Daily Bread is a daily devotional guide with a simple scripture reading and message for each day. These are normally available in the narthex of the Church but in order to provide access, Mary Elizabeth has them at home. She would be happy to safely deliver them to all who are interested. Please contact her at home 705-445-4740 or her e-mail [maryelizabethpiercy@gmail.com](mailto:maryelizabethpiercy@gmail.com) or through the Church office, 705-445-3901

The Spiritual Committee is urgently searching for two new members to join our Committee immediately. The two positions are as follows;

- Committee Secretary. The description of the position is as follows: “Records and circulates minutes of meetings, posts copies of approved minutes as appropriate, collects and reports on correspondence; prints materials for meetings as needed”.
- Worship Service and Sanctuary Liaison Member. This is a new position. The description of the position is as follows: “Liaison (with Minister, Choir Director and Others) for all activities that support services in the sanctuary, including communion, scripture reader, ushers, decorating, hearing aids, sound, taping and internet posting of services”.

Please contact Doug Harrison at [wdougharrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdougharrison@gmail.com) if you are interested.

#### 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  
[sewjoyce@hotmail.com](mailto:sewjoyce@hotmail.com)

#### Some Important Dates

January 10 - Treasurer Al Loughery requests expenses for 2020. Please deliver to Lori.

January 24 - Items for Annual General Report to Ray Piercy [piercy.ray@gmail.com](mailto:piercy.ray@gmail.com)

January 27 - 7 p.m. Spiritual Meeting

January 31 - Distribution of AGM Report

February 3 - 7 p.m. Board Meeting

February 7 - Zoom AGM at 12 noon

**Blue Christmas** (also called **the Longest Night**) in the **Western Christian** tradition, is a day in the **Advent** season marking the **longest night of the year**.<sup>[1][2]</sup> On this day, some churches in Western Christian denominations hold a **church service** that honours people that have lost love ones and are experiencing grief. (Wikipedia)

UCC Moderator Richard Bott's Blue Christmas service can be found on YouTube.



#### Introducing Our New Treasurer

As we know, Al and Julie Loughery have now moved to Halifax but Al will carry out his treasurer duties for 2020 ably assisted by past treasurer Doug Mitchell. Al even participated in this week's Zoom board meeting from his new home.

We welcome Jennifer Young to the board as our new treasurer to commence in 2021. Jennifer also joined us at the recent board meeting. We look forward to working with the past chair of the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital Foundation.

#### Donating To Trinity

With our services on line, Trinity's revenue is experiencing the expected impact but there are ways we can continue our support.

One way we are continuing to support Trinity during this critical time is through PAR or pre-authorized remittance. It is a monthly contribution.

Our thanks to Secretary Ruth Crittenden who passes on the information below:

*When determining the amount for your monthly contribution, you need to decide how much you want to give to the church per year and then divide by twelve. Don't go by the amount you would give in a four week period as that amount would give the church less than dividing the total per year by twelve....and thus less than you would normally give.*

*You can give to three categories if desired: General, Mission and Service, and Stewardship.*

*If you wish to top up your givings at any time or give to any other funds, this can be done with a special PAR envelope or an envelope of your own, but not your current boxed envelopes as your number will change.*

*PAR comes out of your bank account around the 20th of each month.*

*Mail the original void cheque and form to:*

*Ruth Crittenden*

*32 Carmichael Cres.*

*Collingwood ON L9Y 4R7*

Note: The PAR form is attached in Word in this mailing for your convenience. **Our number of PAR contributors continues to grow.**

## E-transfers

E-transfers have been made easier for you. You can simply send your e-transfer to [trinityadmin@bmts.com](mailto:trinityadmin@bmts.com) and your funds will automatically be deposited to the church bank account. No longer a need for a fact finding question. You will receive an e-mail back from your bank that your funds have been deposited. Please indicated in the message line where you would like your funds allocated. Remember you may also give your donation in the way of PAR, PayPal, or by dropping off your church envelope in our new locked mail box located on the side of the church beside the door facing north on Maple.

## Church Envelopes for 2021

There will be a change this year as to how we deal with our boxes of envelopes.

We ask that if you have envelopes from 2020, you continue to use the 2020 envelopes in 2021. Normally we ask the opposite! Many are giving monthly, rather than weekly now, so hopefully there will be some extra envelopes remaining in your current 2020 supply. Just change the date and continue to send them in as you have been doing during this Covid-time. I will not be rearranging any of the numbers for next year or assigning them to someone else. Your number will remain the same.

Some newly ordered envelopes, with no date and no assigned numbers, will be available early in the new year, should you run out of envelopes. Of course, you can donate using any envelope, at any time, using your name and/or your number (if using just your number, be sure it is the correct number.)

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at:

[ruth.crittenden2978@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.crittenden2978@gmail.com)

Thank you!

Ruth Crittenden

### Another Saunders Book!

Ava Saunders entered the fourth annual Kid Food Nation Recipe Contest on a whim back in March, and her Watermelon Summer Salad recipe has been chosen as one of 26 winning recipes to be featured in the Kid Food Nation Cookbook Vol. 4, which is now available nationwide for purchase.

For the complete story go to [CollingwoodToday.ca](http://CollingwoodToday.ca) Ava Saunders



In today's issue of [CollingwoodToday.ca](http://CollingwoodToday.ca) Bill Nicholson is featured for his lavish Christmas decorations. Actually Sue is a very keen participant. I can say that because Christine and I live next door. Their decorations lift our spirits too.

In the true spirit of Christmas the children, and families, of Dorothy & Ed Nicholson, have made a generous donation to Trinity's Community Dinner Outreach program in memory of Ed and Dorothy. This Christmas gesture is replacing their gifts to each other this year.

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## Trinity United Church: Collingwood

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Minister: Rev. Dr. Brian Goodings [trinityminister@bmts.com](mailto: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](mailto:office@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca)

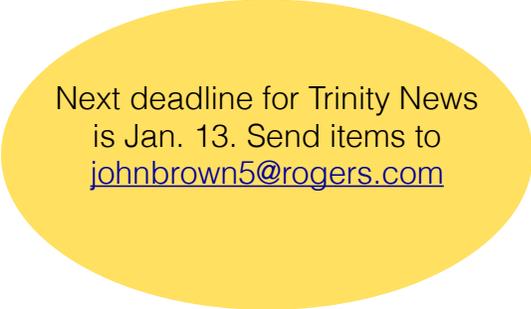
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

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*Trinity News:* [johnbrown5@rogers.com](mailto:johnbrown5@rogers.com)



Next deadline for Trinity News  
is Jan. 13. Send items to  
[johnbrown5@rogers.com](mailto:johnbrown5@rogers.com)