



January 2024

Welcome to *Generosity in Action*! This regular update celebrates the many ways people at Trinity share their time, abilities, talents, and finances to enable us to spread God's love and grace together. Have a suggestion for a future issue? Please send your ideas to liz@trinitystreetsville.org

Christmas generosity overflows!

What a difference your generosity made this Advent and Christmas! The people of Trinity volunteered their time and talents and offered their financial resources to spread God's love in our community and beyond. Your generosity helped people in need, fostered community and connections, and comforted people experiencing difficult challenges.

In addition to their regular financial giving throughout the season, Trinity parishioners donated an astounding \$42,054 in Christmas gifts to Trinity and to support our special initiatives: World Vision Canada, the Trinity Care Fund (previously known as Christmas Wish), and The Open Door.

Your 2023 Christmas Giving!	
Trinity Care Fund	\$16,662
The Open Door	\$ 6,617
Nueva Frontera Project	\$ 6,195
Christmas Gifts to Trinity	\$12,580
TOTAL	\$42,054

Your gifts to World Vision will support women's entrepreneurship in our partner community of Nueva Frontera in Honduras. Your gifts to long-time Trinity partner, The Open Door, enabled them to provide food, Christmas meals, and small gifts to individuals and families in the greatest need and alone at Christmas. As well, the people of Trinity shared winter warmth by donating warm coats, boots, hats, scarves and mittens. Your support of the Care Fund enabled us to help Trinity families who are struggling financially. We hand-delivered funds before Christmas to allow recipients to provide gifts, meals, and other necessities for their loved ones. We now plan to keep this vital program running year around.

Some highlights from the season

We love Christmas gatherings! At the *Christmas in the Village* event, over 50 Trinity volunteers handed out 1,200 cups of hot chocolate and 500 information/ Christmas treat bags. They also assisted hundreds of local children and families to complete 1,500 Christmas craft projects! We're thrilled that some individuals and families we met have subsequently come to Trinity to explore other opportunities to make connections for themselves and their children.





More than 100 people of all ages joined us for our first Community Caroling event. Over 85 children from the community and camp had a blast at the Kids Christmas party. More than 35 families from the community joined us for the gingerbread house decorating event.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make these activities such a success!

Meal Train delivers practical help

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. --Galatians 6:2

After a pandemic-related hiatus, Trinity's Meal Train ministry is back in action and offering much-needed support to parishioners going through stressful or difficult times.

For decades, Meal Train volunteers have provided meals to families in or closely connected to Trinity in various circumstances. These situations may include their own illness or that of a loved one, the sudden loss of a family member, a new baby, planned surgery, an unwelcome diagnosis, a move, or mental health challenges.

Even though Ali Bradshaw coordinated the Meal Train volunteers for several years before the pandemic, it wasn't until recently that she and her family needed their help.

"When Rik and I were in the UK for two weeks for his father's funeral, Meal Train volunteers provided dinners for our two boys and my elderly parents, who were looking after them while we were away," says Ali. "It was a tremendous blessing and a huge relief that my mom and dad didn't need to worry about meals."

Last fall, the role of Meal Train coordinator passed to Adriane Franklin, who began attending Trinity with her husband Andrew and daughters Hannah and Clara in spring 2023.

"I took on the Meal Train ministry because food is a necessity that takes a lot of energy: planning, shopping, preparing, and cooking," says Adriane. "Taking that stress out of someone's life during a difficult time is a great way to show love and support!"

When a parishioner requests Meal Train support, Adriane contacts them to find out what's required and details such as address, dates, dietary restrictions, and the number of people in the household. She then emails the Meal Train volunteers, who sign up to deliver a meal on one of the required dates.

There are currently 17 members, but more are needed! The average Meal Train recipient receives seven meals over the course of one to three weeks, which requires seven volunteers to fulfill. The need for meals often arises unexpectedly, requiring flexibility and a quick turnaround time for the volunteers. Meals are fully cooked (if needed) and provided in containers that don't need to be returned. Delivery is contactless. Volunteers can also provide a take-out meal, arrange for food delivery, or keep a meal in their freezer that they can prepare quickly.

If you are interested in volunteering on the Meal Train team or learning more, please email Adriane at franklin.adriane@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know need meals, you can fill out an online form at <https://trinitystreetsville.churchcenter.com/people/forms/625195> or connect with someone on the Care Ministry team.

