



March 2023

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.

Cemetery Restoration Project Nears Completion!

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

– *Ecc. 3:11*

For 180 years, the people of Trinity and the surrounding area have entrusted the remains of more than 450 loved ones to the Trinity Streetsville cemetery. Unfortunately, weather, vegetation overgrowth, fire and more have taken their toll on this community jewel over the generations.



Artist's concept of prayer garden

In response, our Cemetery Committee, a dedicated group of Trinity volunteers led by parishioner Heather Smith, has taken on the mammoth task of restoring, upgrading, and beautifying our cemetery. They aim to create a beautiful, healthy cemetery that magnifies God and honours our saints.

Since 2021, the group has been working hard to achieve its vision. The Restoration Project has many facets, and the committee has dramatically advanced the work. Their activity has included:

- Creating an up-to-date map of the cemetery
- Uncovering overgrown grave markers
- Creating a historic cemetery tour
- Cleaning monuments
- Removing undergrowth surrounding the cemetery
- Acquiring software to support cemetery management and enable people to conduct online searches of the cemetery records
- Securing the designation of the cemetery as a War of 1812 Historic Site
- Working with Camp Trinity leaders to implement ways the kids could use the cemetery appropriately and respectfully. (Many thanks to the Camp Trinity attendees who painted the cemetery fence!)

Of course, a project like this requires financial support. The committee's fundraising efforts have secured almost all of the \$148,000 needed to complete the project. The broader community has widely embraced the

restoration project. More than 80 per cent of the funds raised to date have come from external sources with the remainder coming from columbarium sales and gifts from congregation members. Our community recognizes the importance of the Trinity cemetery!

The next few months will see the creation of level pathways throughout the cemetery to improve access to graves, the columbarium, and historical monuments. As well, new trees will be installed and flowers planted, including a garden along the Ontario Street cemetery perimeter.

The highlight of the restoration project is the creation of the Sam and Hazel McCallion Memorial Prayer Garden in the cemetery's southeast corner. Work on this began last fall and is nearing completion. Block pavers, raised flower beds, and comfortable benches have already been installed. This spring will see much planting! The prayer garden also now has its own entrance. When finished it will provide a beautiful and comfortable community space for contemplation, prayer, and gatherings. Mark your calendar for the official ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, June 1 at 4 p.m.!

The Cemetery Committee is also looking for new volunteers to join its vital and ongoing work. There are many different ways to get involved! To learn more or volunteer, click below:

<https://trinitystreetsville.churchcenter.com/people/forms/437300>

Putting love into every stitch

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. - Heb. 13:16

For more than 25 years, Trinity's "Knitting for Others" group members have met weekly to create beautiful knitted and crocheted items for people of all ages. The only interruption to their sessions occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Started by the late parishioner Irene Gray, the group — informally known as *Chicks with Sticks* — has made more than 10,000 items for free distribution to individuals and organizations locally and abroad. Their creations have included hats, scarves, blankets, mittens, sweaters, slippers, toy bears, and baby items.



The group has also responded to unique needs. During the Australian bushfires in late 2019 and early 2020, Chicks with Sticks knitted pouches for baby kangaroos who had lost their mothers in the catastrophic fires that killed over 3 billion koalas, kangaroos, and other native Australian animals.



Items have been donated for distribution to organizations such as the Salvation Army, Credit Valley Hospital, the Open Door, Armagh House, Heart House Hospice, Eden Food for Change, Vita Centre, the Christie Refugee Welcome Centre, and the Streetsville Care Community. Parishioners and missionaries travelling to other countries have also distributed the group's knitted and crocheted goods internationally.

Now Chicks with Sticks, coordinated by Denise Manning, is back in action and meeting to knit, crochet, and chat together every Wednesday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. downstairs at Trinity. New members are welcome, and no experience is required! Group members will happily teach you how to knit or crochet. Yarn, needles and hooks can be provided. So why not check it out? It's a great chance to learn a new skill or re-ignite a former hobby while creating beautiful and comforting items for those in need.