

**One in Christ Newsletter News In and Around Trinity Lutheran Church, Hamilton ON** 

# **Trinity Lutheran Church**

A Christian community, open to all, transforming lives through worship, learning and service.

### Pastor's Message

#### by Pastor Daniela Mertz

"No man/woman is an island," John Donne, a 15th century poet, wrote in one of his poems. None of us live in isolation. We all are part of a bigger unit. We all are interconnected with others through families, neighbourhoods, workplaces, church, or school and in a million other ways. Ultimately each of us belongs to the greater whole that is humanity itself.

It is true that some have a more intensive social life than others, but we all need other people. A few days ago, someone shared with me how much she enjoyed a church gathering she attended. She enjoyed the company of the other church members and the singing in worship and the conversations after the service. "I am glad we are back to in person services," she said.

Life without community is missing something. To many of us the isolation of the Covid pandemic had felt like a form of death. Interaction and communication can be life-giving. The Bible even says: "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and God was the word." God created the world through communication, through the word.

From the very beginning, God is in relation with creation and communicates with it. The Bible is one long account of how God does everything to stay connected. He sent visions and dreams to his people, and he spoke to prophets and sent them as messengers. In Jesus Christ he became one of us, a human being to live with us and talk to us. Jesus shows us how much God cares and how much he wants to be part of our lives and be in communication with us.

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## June 2023

Volume 4, Issue 5

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# Trinity Milestones

# Happy Birthday

To our Trinity members turning 90 +.

## **Congratulations!**

June 6

**Alexander Wegner** 

June 7

**Marie Sattler** 

June 22

Wilma Koester

June 23

Monika Arth

June 29

Anneliese Rudolph

## Pastor's message continued By Pastor Daniela Mertz

In prayer we can come to God anytime and with whatever is in our hearts, knowing that we are heard and seen and valued. If we don't have words of our own, Jesus taught us how to pray in the Lord's Prayer.

I am wishing you all a wonderful June with many happy get-togethers and meaningful conversations with family and friends. I hope to see you in church, too.

As always there is much going on at Trinity that will bring us together in worship, learning and serving our neighbourhood.

I am particularly grateful for one of our new projects, the weekly "People's Café," which welcomes folks from the wider community for refreshments and fellowship every Tuesday morning.

God bless,

Daniela Mertz

# Lutheran Ladies United (LLU)

# **Strawberry Fest**

Come and enjoy the sweet taste of fresh Ontario strawberries.

Everyone is welcome.

Please join us on:

Tuesday June 20 at 1:30 p.m.

232 Fennell Avenue East



## Congregation Communication - Cathy Calvin, Chairperson Trinity Board of Directors

On Friday May 26th we met with Emblem, the company that is building the three towers adjacent to our church. Emblem gave us notice that construction will begin around July 1, 2023. As of July 1st, we will no longer have use of the parking lot for Sunday mornings and events taking place during the week.

We do have a parking plan in place, however. The parking lot (at Hooper Law) has been severed and now belongs to the Spice Factory. The Spice Factory parking lot is located across the street from their building. We have approached the Spice Factory and they have given us permission to park in their lot on Sunday mornings and Thursday nights for choir. They are giving this to us free of charge which we appreciate very much! If there is an instance where we cannot use this lot on either day, they will give us plenty of notice so we can notify the congregation. You can use this lot right away and many have been using it all along!

Additionally, we can set up a list and be charged monthly from IMPARK, who manages the lot across Wilson Street at the corner of Hughson Street. This would be for Sunday mornings only. If you wish to park in this lot, you will need to call the office (905) 974-9878 and give your name, make and model of your vehicle, and your license plate number to Carol-Ann. This needs to be done by June 23, 2023 so we can get the list to IMPARK. You will then be able to park there beginning Sunday, July 2nd, without paying. Your license plate will be on file with IMPARK so you will not be ticketed by the bylaw officer.

Of course we still have three accessible parking spaces on Hughson Street which are available until they start the building construction on that side of Hughson. At that point the sidewalk will be closed. Please note that we anticipate only having to do this until January or February 2024 as we

are hoping that our own renovations will be starting. We will move up to the Fennell site while our renovations are being done.

Please remember to join us in person on **Sunday, June 4th** to say goodbye and Godspeed to Pastor Loretta.

This will be Pastor Loretta's last service with us before her retirement.



Hope to see many of you there! Cathy Calvin

# Let's Go Hiking!

## Saturday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m.

## Felker's Falls

Join us for a hike along the escarpment to Felker's Falls. It's best to park at Glen Castle Drive by Mount Albion Road. We will meet at the turnaround at the base of Mount Albion Road, (right beside the golf course). The turnaround is a bus area with no parking allowed.



From there we will walk up old Mount Albion Road. The old section of Mount Albion road is now abandoned and used by hikers. We will walk around the edge of the escarpment to Felker's Falls. For more information, please contact Pastor Dani <u>daniela.mertz@elkb.de</u>.

# **Celtic Spirituality**

### Thursday June 15 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom

Learn about Christian Celtic Spirituality and get to know others who also have an interest.

These 45-60 minute online sessions include great music, learning, poetry, discussion, and astronomy.

This group is open to Trinity members and anyone in the community who is interested in joining.



For more information please email Pastor Loretta at ljaunzarins@gmail.com.

# Happy Retirement and Farewell to Pastor Loretta

On Sunday June 4 we say farewell to Pastor Loretta.

Everyone is invited to a farewell reception for Pastor Loretta following the 10: 00 a.m. service.

There will be no German service on June 4.



## **Communication** Interview with Carol-Ann Koevoets

#### **By Emma Begert**

Communication... essential to human society. We communicate in many ways with spoken language, with the written word, with sign language, with devices, with visuals and with non-verbal signals and gestures.

Effective communication is an integral part of a good relationship be it at work, within our families, in organizations or with the outside world. So naturally it follows that this effective communication is essential within the fellowship of a church as well.

Carol-Ann Koevoets, our church Office Administrator, is at the heart of Trinity's communication hub. I asked her to share some of her thoughts and experience about this important topic with the following questions:

**Emma**: As someone who is communicating in various ways all day long in your job, can you describe what effective communication looks like?

**Carol-Ann**: It is important to be clear and specific. Say what you mean in a courteous way. Consider the individual you are communicating with and what their unique needs might be as that can affect how you might respond to them.

**Emma**: What are some ways that we can improve our communication skills here at Trinity Lutheran Church?

**Carol-Ann**: Trinity is a very busy church. We have dedicated volunteers serving on many different committees. As the Office-Administrator it is my job to know what activities are going on, when and where. That way, when anyone asks me, I can give them an accurate answer. Having up to date information also helps to prevent double booking and inevitably any disappointments. I can be more efficient in my role if each committee has one person who follows up consistently with me. A quick email at the end of all committee meetings to notify me of any upcoming events, including details, would help me greatly.

To the congregation at large, I would encourage members to communicate with me if they need support, whether it is a prayer request or a need for pastoral care or an important family announcement. Your personal calls are always kept confidential. We want to support you but we cannot be there for you unless you let us know when there is a need.

## Continued on next page

#### Interview with Carol-Ann Koevoets continued

#### **By Emma Begert**

**Emma**: In what way do you think we have done a good job communicating effectively?

**Carol-Ann**: Our Board of Directors has done an exemplary job of communicating throughout the amalgamation and redevelopment process. We can all feel that we were a part of the decision-making process because we have been kept well informed of what is happening during this challenging journey.

Our newsletter is also a vital tool for sharing information about ongoing events at Trinity. It is a great medium for sharing interesting information on topics such as aging, history, nature and more. The interview articles introduce us to new members and help us to get to know them better. We should be proud of our newsletter.



We thank you Carol-Ann for sharing and for all your work as a leading communicator at Trinity Lutheran Church!

Emma Begert

# Strawberry Social- Fundraiser

#### Sunday June 11 after Worship service

The confirmation class is hosting this fundraising event. Donations will go to support summer camp in August. Free will offering.

We hope to see you there!



## **By Kathy Davidson**

A successful church website consists of a blend of effective design along with relevant, interesting, and engaging content to attract visitors. Accessibility and a responsive design are equally important aspects of any website.

Last year the decision was made to update Trinity's website. Trinity's goal is to maximize their website's potential to support their mission and ministry while creating an engaging visitor experience. It is important to capture the spirit of Trinity along with providing compelling content and information. Often new and potential members form their opinions of an organization based on their experience using their website. Not only is relevant content important but emotions and experience play a big part in the success of a website. Trinity's goal is to make the website user experience a great one for everyone using it. Radiating the essence of what Trinity is all about will inspire newcomers to want to be a part of Trinity as well as improving the experience for current members.

The website is being redesigned to include content and images about Trinity's groups, social ministry, events, worship, publications, team members, and Trinity's vision, mission, and core values. The goal is to have the content easily accessible and informative. The redesign not only includes a new look and new navigation, but it is also web accessible with a responsive design.

Many people have heard about web accessibility and responsive design but aren't really sure how that impacts a website. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is a law that sets out accessibility standards for businesses and organizations in Ontario. The aim of AODA is to make Ontario more accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities. Web accessibility is included in AODA along with several other standards. These standards apply in varying ways to organizations depending on the number of employees they have. While Trinity is a small organization and is not required by law to meet the web accessibility standards, creating an accessible website is always the right thing to do. Web accessibility promotes inclusion and awareness and improves the experience for everyone.

Web accessibility means that websites, tools, and technologies are designed and developed so that people with disabilities can use them. The truth is that web accessibility benefits everyone, not just those with disabilities. A few examples of accessibility features are large font sizes, optimal contrast, clear navigation, and the website is operable with the use of a keyboard only.

Responsive design displays differently to accommodate various screen sizes, reflowing to fit nicely onto your desktop computer, laptop, tablet, and mobile phone.

The finishing touching are being completed on the website. An announcement will be made once it is up and running this summer. At that time we will ask for any questions and feedback that you may have to share.

Kathy Davidson

## **Social Ministry Committee**

## **Trinity Refugee Fund**

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to the Trinity Refugee Fund. We have reached our goal of \$40,000 which is our contribution towards the support of the two Liberian refugee families. CLWR is completing the applications for Canadian Immigration. The families appreciate your support and prayers.

#### **Community Fridge**

Trinity continues to support Community Fridges as a way to address food insecurity. Soon children will be out of school and the support they receive to address food insecurity during the school year will not be available. Please consider making a donation. Food items can be left in the box marked for Community Fridge. If you leave anything in the refrigerator, please mark it for the Community Fridge and let someone from the Social Ministry Committee know that it is there.

Financial donations can be made to support Trinity Refugee Ministry or Community Fridges:

- In your Sunday offering
- An e-transfer to tlchamilton2020@gmail.com
- Cheque made out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mailed to 104 Hughson St. N. Hamilton, ON, L8R 1G6

Please include a note indicating which program you wish to donate to.

#### **Little Library**

The Little Library beside our church on Hughson Street is always more popular in the warm weather. Please consider donating used (English) books for adults, youth and children. Members of Trinity and the community are welcome to enjoy any of the books. Take an opportunity to check it out!

#### **Knitted and Crocheted Items**

Knitted and Crocheted items such as baby blankets, sweaters, hats and booties are welcome. If you need wool or have donations contact Dianne Busser 905-389-4008. All items are shared within our community.

#### Good Food Box (GFB)

The GFB had operated out of Faith and Grace prior to our amalgamation. Trinity identified this program as important in addressing food insecurity and continued it after amalgamation. Thank you to Gail Bennie, who coordinated the King Street site, and to Pastor Loretta, who coordinated the Hughson Street and Fennell sites. Gail retired in June 2022. Pastor Loretta and volunteers have been filling approximately 140 boxes a month. 80 of the boxes are for people supported by the Hamilton Social Work Action Group. We thank both Gail and Pastor Loretta, as well as all the many volunteers for their support and dedication.

We are looking for a new coordinator in hopes to continue the program once Pastor Loretta retires in June. The program runs from September to June, on the second Thursday of each month. The position requires 15 hours of time per month. This includes committing to the full day on the GFB pick-up day, as well as preparation time during the month. An honorarium is being offered for the role of coordinator. If you're interested, please speak with either Barbara Alken (<u>barbalken@gmail.com</u>), Cathy Calvin (<u>dccalvin1980@gmail.com</u>) or call the Trinity office at 905 974-9878 and leave your name with Carol-Ann. It would be great to have someone in place for June 8th, the final Good Food Box before the summer.

# **Trinity Lutheran Church** Pastors

Pastor Daniela Mertz Pastor Loretta Jaunzarins Pastor Thomas Mertz

**ONE IN CHRIST** is published ten times per year under the auspices of Trinity Lutheran Church. The Editorial Board is comprised of members of the congregation and the pastors. Submissions will be edited for clarity, positivity, adherence to our mission, constitution and the love of Christ as revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

The Editorial Team is: Emma Begert erbegert@gmail.com

Cathy Calvin dccalvin1980@gmail.com

Kathy Davidson kedavid42@gmail.com

Debbie Lindeman deborahlindeman3@gmail.com

Pastor Thomas Mertz tfrm58@gmail.com

Pastor Daniela Mertz daniela.mertz@elkb.de

Please email all newsletter submissions to Kathy Davidson before the 20th of each month.

# **Trinity Good Food Box Program**

The Good Food Box (GFB) program offers quality healthy foods for less money, while encouraging everyone to eat nutritiously. A Good Food Box includes 11 to 13 different fruits and vegetables.

The cost is \$22.

#### Subsidies are available.

For information or to order a good food box, contact Pastor Loretta at 905 536-2785 or email <u>ljaunzarins@gmail.com</u>. This is the last Good Food Box pick up until September. If possible, please bring your own bags.

#### Locations and Pick Up Times for June

June 8- 232 Fennell Ave. E. Pick up times: 11 am - 5 pm June 8- 104 Hughson St. N. Pick up times: 12 pm—2:30 pm



# **Trinity Lutheran Church - Contact Information**

104 Hughson St N. Hamilton, ON L8R 1G6 905-974-9878 tlchamilton2020@gmail.com www.trinity-hamilton.com

# June Events Calendar

For Zoom links, please contact the office at 905-974-9878 during the week.

Thursday June 1	<b>Choir</b> - 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information <u>heide.lang@gmail.com</u> or 905-616-2575. This is the last choir practice until September 14, 2023.
Sunday June 4	Worship Service -(in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
	Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Tuesday June 6	Newsletter Committee Meeting-7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
Wednesday June 7	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
Thursday June 8	Good Food Box - 11:00 a.m5:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
	Good Food Box -12:00 - 2:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Sunday June 11	Worship Service - (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
	Strawberry Social Fundraiser - Following Worship Service.
Wednesday June 14	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
Thursday June 15	<b>Celtic Spirituality Meet-up</b> - 4:30 p.m. Contact Pastor Loretta for more information and Zoom link. <u>liaunzarins@gmail.com</u> .



# June Events Calendar continued

Saturday June 17	Let's Go Hiking–9:30 a.m. at Felker's Falls. See page 4 for details.
Sunday June 18	Worship Service - (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Tuesday June 20	Lutheran Ladies United- 1:30 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E. See page 2 for details.
	Creation Care Group- 7:00 p.m. 104 Hughson St. N.
Wednesday June 21	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
	Social Ministry Committee Meeting-7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
Saturday June 24	Bibles & Bagels - (in-person & Zoom) 9:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Sunday June 25	Sunday Worship (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
	Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Monday June 26	Trinity Board of Directors Meeting- 7:00 p.m. TBD.
Wednesday June 28	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.

