



Trinity Lutheran Church

One in Christ Newsletter

News In and Around

Trinity Lutheran Church, Hamilton ON

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

Pastor's Message

by Pastor Daniela Mertz

Time flies! It is already November and several of Trinity's committees have been busy planning for the Advent and Christmas seasons. November is the last month in our church calendar. It is a good time to take a minute and look back at all the things that happened in and around Trinity over the last twelve months.

As a symbol of our growing unity, we now have our first Trinity photo directory. We can start to learn all the names of the folks we have met many times. The Board has been busy planning and preparing for the transition of both the King Street and Fennell sites. The architects have finished their feasibility study, and the results will be presented soon. Earlier in the year we faced change together as we said good-bye to Pastor Loretta. We celebrated, shared delicious food, learned together, and served the people of Hamilton together. Together we also mourned the loved ones that passed away this year.

As I sit at my desk in the church office, I can see the former parking lot behind the church that now is a construction site. It is busy every day with lots of workers, cranes, and drills. There is always hammering and beeping going on. It is a long process to build three high-rise buildings. It is still hard to imagine that one day, hopefully three years from now, I will be looking at 900 apartments.

Just as the workers construct the buildings step by step, we too will work and plan, step by step, for 2024. We will make decisions about the renovation of our Hughson site. We will say good-bye to Thomas when he retires in the spring, and we call a new pastor. We will rejoice together when good things happen and support and strengthen each other when one of us suffers. We will keep praising God for his goodness and mercy, and for his patience and love for us.

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Trinity Milestones

Happy Birthday

To our Trinity members
turning 90 +.

Congratulations!

November 18
Gerda Baxmeier

November 22
Josephine Marcinko

Pastor's message continued

The church year ends with Christ the King Sunday. The day when we remember that God is the one who holds not only us, but also our planet and even the universe in his hands. God is the beginning and the end. More often than not, God's reign is not obvious to us. So, when we look at our world, we may wonder, "who is in charge?" Faith is always an act of defiance. We believe in a God who chooses to rule not through power and might but through love and service. God didn't send a powerful king but a carpenter's son. He lived, suffered, and rejoiced with his people so that we may know that God is and always will be at our side.

Amen,
Paster Dani

Happy Anniversary

A warm congratulations to John and Hannelore Parti, who will celebrate their 60th anniversary on November 16.



Denninger's Receipts

The Lutheran Ladies United (LLU) are collecting Denninger's receipts. If you shop at any of their stores please save the receipts for us.

There is a drop off box in the parish hall or you can give them to a LLU member. Thank you in advance.

It has been a year of changes for the Trinity Congregation. We said goodbye to Pastor Loretta Jaunzarins in June of 2023, when she retired from Trinity. A couple of weeks ago, Pastor Thomas announced his intention to retire in the spring of 2024. We are still working on our redevelopment of the Hughson site and a buyer for the King Street site. We certainly have many irons in our fire.

The board consequently has decided to form a Call Committee to handle the retirements of the pastors. I am pleased to announce that the Call Committee has been formalized. Thank you to everyone who allowed their names to stand for this committee. All were excellent choices, and the decision was a hard one.

The Call Committee will consist of myself (Cathy Calvin), Barb Alken, Janet Weingartner, Stanley Moyo and Jim Ridge. The Congregational Mission Profile has been filled out and submitted to Pastor Doug Reble at the Synod Office. He will be the liaison for the committee. Though it is not traditional, Pastor Dani will be on the committee in an advisory capacity as she will be working closely with the new hire. This was recommended by the Synod. Pastor Thomas cannot be part of the work of the Call Committee as he is the one being replaced.

An initial meeting of the Trinity Board (without Pastor Thomas) plus the Call Committee will take place Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00 pm at the Hughson St. location. We will begin our work with the guidance of Pastor Reble.

As for the redevelopment of the Hughson site, we will be meeting with the architects on October 30th and will hopefully have something to bring to the congregation for consideration in the coming weeks. The work on the King Street site is continuing with the buyers doing their due diligence before formalizing an offer.

People's Cafe

Everyone is welcome at the People's Cafe on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Refreshments and fellowship are offered. Come and make new friends or sit quietly by yourself. Our neighbours are also welcome to enjoy coffee and toast while sheltering from the weather.

People wishing to volunteer to help with the program can contact Pastor Dani.



It's been a long time coming. Thank you for your patience! I am pleased to provide you with a brief update on the two refugee families sponsored by Trinity in partnership with a group of Eastern Synod congregations.



For safety reasons I will not disclose the refugees' names and whereabouts. I will refer to them only as "refugee families." Both families currently live in a third country under precarious circumstances. The host country experiences frequent outbreaks of violence. Due to this, the families have withdrawn from the community out of fear for their safety. The children do not attend school, also out of concern for their safety. One of the families has received death threats adding to the urgency of their application for resettlement to Canada.

Jennifer Ardon and Muna Al-Nidawi of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), as well as Lois Kunkel of the coalition of sponsor congregations, were extremely helpful in assisting both families to complete their application forms. This work is complete and the documents will soon be submitted to Canada Immigration.

I am delighted to tell you that as of today the sponsoring Eastern Synod congregations, including Trinity, managed to raise \$130,000 in support of the two families. On their behalf, I thank all donors who so generously support the resettlement of the refugee families with their gifts.

Thank you for your patience. We will keep you informed as updates become available. Please keep both families in your prayers.

Kindly, Pastor Thomas Mertz

Ushers Needed

Ushers play an important role in our services. They are the friendly face that greets members and visitors alike as they enter the building. They provide assistance and answer questions for anyone in need.

During the service, they assist with Communion, collect the offering, and count the number of attendees.

Lastly, at the end of the service they check the pews and clean the Communion cups.

As you can see, Ushers are an integral part of our worship services!

We are in need of more usher volunteers to add to our list. Please contact Debbie Lindeman at deborahlindeman3@gmail.com or (905) 389-0224 if you have any questions or would like to give ushering a try. Instruction and training will be provided.

In Roman mythology, the god Janus is depicted bearded with two heads. This meant that he could see forwards and backwards and inside and outside simultaneously without turning around. Janus held a staff in his right hand, to guide travelers along the correct route, and a key in his left to open gates. He is known as the god of beginnings and endings as well.

At this point in the short history of Trinity, we too can look forwards and backwards, just like Janus. We too can have that unique perspective of looking both ways simultaneously without turning our heads. As we look back, we can see how the decisions made during the amalgamation process are guiding our thoughts and actions now and into the future.

For example, we spent considerable time working on our Vision & Mission Statements as well as our Values. As a congregation, we felt all of these were important enough to guide us through the amalgamation process and beyond. Our Vision is “A Christian community, open to all, transforming lives through worship, learning and service.” We have welcomed new members of all walks of life to our Trinity family in the last three years. Our worship style and method has changed considerably, especially with the addition of hybrid (Zoom) worship on most Sundays and holidays. We have developed a very dedicated Tech Team who, through trial and error, has enhanced our worship experience tremendously. Vibrant musical offerings of various kinds, both vocal and instrumental, have also enriched our worship life as well.

The Mission Statement we chose is “As an expression of our faith in Christ, the people of Trinity nurture those who are hungry in body and spirit. We do this in partnership with our community by responding to the needs of our neighbors and by caring for God’s creation.” We as a congregation chose the Hughson Street site as the main site to live out Trinity’s mission. The continuation and beginning of new Social Ministry programs are a good example of how Trinity is living out its Mission Statement. Food insecurity is addressed by the Good Food Box – which was carried over from Grace and Faith congregations. The beginning of the weekly “Peoples Café” has invited people from the neighbourhood for a cup of coffee, a snack and conversation. It has enriched the lives not only of our neighbours, but our volunteers as well.

Community Partnerships are so important to Trinity as well, and we are pleased to work with the Out of the Cold program, Community Fridges, Neighbour to Neighbour, Mission Services, Good Shepard, and many other social outlets in the city. We have encouraged conversation in our neighbourhood by holding Community Roundtable Discussions, which have opened new possibilities to collaborate with our community both downtown and around the city.

Continued on next page

Looking towards the future, our Vision and Mission Statements are helping to guide us to enhance our church as a whole. The Redevelopment Working Group is working with Invizij Architects to bring about changes in the physical building at 104 Hughson Street. We are getting close to presenting the feasibility study designed by the architects. You will get a chance to vote on the design and changes to the exterior and interior of the building that are presented. All changes have been designed with our Vision and Mission Statements in mind.

We will also be looking to welcome a new Pastor to help lead the team here at Trinity as Pastor Thomas is retiring next Spring. A Call Committee has been formed and will begin the work shortly to call a new Pastor. The new call will be very mission-focused, as that is what the board and you as a congregation have decided for the future of Trinity.

We will finally be starting to make decisions about our two remaining properties. Talks are in the works for the sale of the King Street property in order to create affordable housing. This ticks off one item from our mission's "bucket list". We realize we are not able to create the affordable housing ourselves but would like to partner with another organization who does this. In this way, we will still leave a legacy from the congregation and allow some much-needed affordable units to be built with our help. It is hoped that we will have an offer to bring to the congregation by the end of the year or shortly thereafter.

So, like the two-headed Janus we can see our past, present, and future sitting right before our eyes. We can see the exciting things that have been carried over, started, and will be beginning in the future. The past has been challenging, our present is demanding, and our future is bright and filled with exciting opportunities. I cannot wait to see it all unfold!



Let's Go Hiking

Saturday November 4, at 9:30 a.m.

Kerncliff Park

2198 Kerncliff Road Burlington, ON

The hiking group will explore the wonderful trails of Kerncliff Park.

Kerncliff park is located between Waterdown and Burlington, just off of Highway 5.

It's an easy hike, please come and join us!



Lutheran Ladies United Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 18 from 10:00 to 2:00

232 Fennell Ave. E. -Parking available

Everyone is invited to attend our first Christmas Bazaar. We are very excited preparing for this event and hope you will attend.

There will be baked goods, crafts, a white elephant table, a café, and potato salad and sauerkraut with sausage on a bun for lunch.



The LLU will be busy baking and making delicious goodies for the bake table. However, we are a small group and would greatly appreciate any additional bake good donations. We also appreciate any items for the craft table as well as pristine items for the white elephant table.

Donation items can be dropped off on Friday November 17 at the Hughson St. location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or at the Fennell location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

We will also accept items on the day of the bazaar.

Daylight Saving Time

Please remember that daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 2:00 a.m.

Please remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour.

The Friendship Circle

Mondays at Trinity at 232 Fennell Ave. E.

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Friendship Circle ladies meet on Mondays to enjoy fellowship and creativity. We are quilting again and have some other projects in the works. No experience is necessary.

The Friendship Circle is also looking for cotton material for quilting, lightweight towels to make washcloths, and flannel (sheets) to make diapers.

If you're interested in joining, donating or you want more information, please contact Marie Stanat at 289-919-0603.



Yard Work Tips to Help the Environment

By Creation Care

“The earth is God’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” (Psalm 24,1). The psalm verse reminds us that the whole world, all plants and creatures belong to God and are loved by him.

Our Creation Care Group tries to put this thought into action by learning more about how to not waste resources and energy and how to help plants and animals to survive. We are trying to do our part to be good stewards. We will share one little idea every month in the newsletter, in hopes you will participate in our efforts.



Why don't you consider saving yourself some work with this autumn's yard clean-up and leave those leaves, stems, and seedheads for the birds and the bees?

By piling leaves around your plants, shrubs, and trees, you provide overwintering areas for insects and their pupae and eggs. This in turn provides food for birds and the layer of leaf cover gives insulation for the roots of your perennials and brings nutrients to the soil when they decompose in the spring. Many pollinating insects also spend the winter in the stalks of your plants, so don't cut the stems until the spring when the temperatures are consistently above 10 degrees Celsius. Finches, juncos, sparrows, and other birds will feast on the seedheads that remain on the plants.

Social Ministry Committee

Winter Apparel Drive

Trinity's Winter Apparel Drive is underway. We are asking for waterproof or water resistant winter coats, as well as gloves, hats, socks, boots, shoes, new underwear, toiletries, and sleeping bags. Items for people of all ages are required and should be clean and in good repair. We support people attending ***Out of the Cold program*** and our ***People's Cafe***, as well as others in our community. One of the elementary schools in our area has made a special request for "dollar store" gloves for children.

Items can be dropped off at Trinity at the Hughson St. N. location on Sundays. For drop-off on a day other than Sunday, please contact Carol-Ann at 905-974-9878 to arrange. To arrange for pick-up, please contact Dianne Busser 905-389-4008. Winter will be here soon, and the need is great!

Knitting and Crocheting

If you have knitted or crocheted hats, scarves, gloves, socks, baby sweaters and blankets to donate, or need wool, or have wool to donate, please contact Dianne Busser at 905-389-4008.

Community Fridges, Hamilton

Food donated helps to address food insecurity in our community. Non-perishable food can be left in the bin at the Hughson location. Perishable food, labeled for the "Community Fridge", can be left in the refrigerator at the Hughson location. Please check that the dates on all food items have not expired.

Financial donations can be made to support Community Fridges:

- In your Sunday offering
- As an e-transfer to tlchamilton2020@gmail.com
- By cheque made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Please mail to 104 Hughson St. N., Hamilton, ON, L8R 1G6. Please include a note indicating which program you wish to donate to.

Thank you from Dr. J. Edgar Davey School

We received a thank you note that we wanted to share from Dr. J. Edgar Davey School. They are one of the schools that we supported with our ***Back-to School Supply Collection***:

Dear Friend of Dr. Davey School,

It is with much gratitude that we thank you for your generous donation. As you know, many of our families depend on people like you.

We appreciate you taking the time out of your busy schedule to think of us. Thank you so much!

Sincerely, Terri Trimble, Principal, staff and students of Dr. J. Edgar Davey School

Trinity members truly make a difference!

Trinity Lutheran Church Pastors

Pastor Daniela Mertz

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.

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

Trinity Good Food Box Program

Trinity's Good Food Box program is back again every second Thursday of the month from September to June.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who help with the packing and delivery of the Good Food Box (GFB).

For \$22 you will receive 11 to 13 different fruits and vegetables. Subsidies are available. If possible, please bring your own bags.

The deadline to order is **November 2**.

To order a good food box, contact Pastor Thomas at 289-680-7387 or email tfrm58@gmail.com.

You can also access the Trinity [online Good Food Box Sign up form](#) to order online.

Locations and Pick Up Times

November 9

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Pick up times: 11 am - 5 pm

November 9

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

November Events Calendar

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

Wednesday Nov. 1	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
Thursday Nov. 2	Choir - 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575.
Saturday Nov. 4	Hiking Group -9:30 a.m. at Kerncliff Park. See page 7 for details.
Sunday Nov. 5	Worship Service -All Saints (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m. 104 Hughson St. N. Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Confirmation Class - Following Sunday worship at 104 Hughson St. N.
Monday Nov. 6	Social Ministry Committee Meeting -7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
Tuesday Nov. 7	Newsletter Committee Meeting -7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
Wednesday Nov. 8	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
Thursday Nov. 9	Good Food Box - 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Good Food Box -12:00 - 2:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Choir - 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575.
Saturday Nov. 11	German Afternoon –2:00 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Sunday Nov. 12	Worship Service - (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Confirmation Class - Following Sunday worship at 104 Hughson St. N.
Wednesday Nov.15	Mid Week Worship - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
Thursday Nov. 16	Choir - 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575.

Please note, there is no German service on the first Sunday in November so our community may worship on All Saints together.

November Events Calendar continued

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

- Saturday Nov. 18** **LLU- Christmas Bazaar**– 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
See page 7 for details.
- Sunday Nov. 19** **Worship Service** - (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Confirmation Class- Following Sunday worship at 104 Hughson St. N.
- Wednesday Nov. 22** **Mid Week Worship** - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
- Thursday Nov. 23** **Choir**- 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more
information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575.
- Saturday Nov. 25** **Bibles & Bagels** (in-person & Zoom) 9:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Men's Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. 104 Hughson St. N.
- Sunday Nov. 26** **Worship Service -Christ the King** - (in-person & Zoom) 10 a.m.,
104 Hughson St. N.
Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N.
Confirmation Class- Following Sunday worship at 104 Hughson St. N.
- Monday Nov. 27** **Trinity Board of Directors Meeting**- 7:00 p.m. Location TBD.
- Tuesday Nov. 28** **Creation Care Group**– 7:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N.
- Wednesday Nov. 29** **Mid Week Worship** - 11:30 a.m., 1907 King Street E.
- Thursday Nov. 30** **Choir**- 7:00 -8:30 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more
information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575.

