



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

February 14 is an interesting day this year as we celebrate both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day on the same day.

These two days, initially, don't seem to have much in common as they honour quite different aspects of life. Valentine's Day stands for love, romantic dinners and chocolate hearts. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent and is a more somber day. We are reminded of our need for forgiveness and our mortality. However, the two days do have a lot in common. Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday are both all about unconditional and unending love.

On Valentine's Day couples go for dinner and take time to enjoy each other's presence. They talk about their feelings, their dreams, and maybe their disappointments. They communicate and open their hearts to each other.

During Lent we are called to pray, spend time in God's presence, and share what is on our hearts and minds. We give God our thanks, but also share our laments. We listen to God, seeking to know his will for us and can understand our lives more clearly so that we can follow him faithfully.

As our relationships with our partner need tolerance and at times sacrifices, Lent is a time of good works. Perhaps we give some extra money to charity, visit someone who is ill, or welcome a new family into our neighbourhood. We may seek reconciliation with a former friend or family member from whom we've been alienated for a long time. Our works of charity allow us to share our blessings with others and keep us attuned to the pressing needs of our brothers and sisters at home and around the world.

If we take a closer look, Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday have a lot in common. The goal of both is to renew our passion for the one we love. Amen. Pastor Daniela

February 2024

Volume 5, Issue 1

Inside this issue

| | |
|---|----|
| Pastor's Message | 1 |
| Milestones | 2 |
| Update-Call Committee | 2 |
| Congregation Communication | 3 |
| Pancake Tuesday | 3 |
| Creation Care Article | 4 |
| Friendship Circle | 4 |
| Aging and Community Events | 4 |
| The People's Café | 5 |
| Lutheran Ladies United | 5 |
| Ash Wednesday Soup Supper | 6 |
| Ash Wednesday Service | 6 |
| Bird Watching Outing | 6 |
| Social Ministry Committee | 7 |
| Good Food Box | 8 |
| Trinity Contact Information | 8 |
| Events Calendar | 9 |
| Events Calendar cont. | 10 |



Trinity Milestones

Happy Birthday

To our Trinity members
turning 90 +.

Congratulations!

February 7

Benita Badke

February 7

Ingrid Fritz

February 10

Matilda Kraus

Update from the Call Committee

Greetings from the Call Committee! We want to introduce ourselves and update the members of Trinity on steps we have taken in the process to find our new pastor. While it is a confidential process, until a recommendation is made to the Board and the congregation votes, it is important that the members of Trinity are aware of the work going on “behind the scenes”.

Our dedicated committee includes Barbara Alken (Chair), Cathy Calvin, Janet Weingartner, Jim Ridge, and Stanley Moyo. Pastor Dani is also taking part as she will be working closely with our new pastor.

The Call Committee has met multiple times and we have met twice with Pastor Doug Reble, Assistant to the Bishop. A small working group from the Board prepared the Congregational Mission Profile. This extensive document gives potential candidates an overview of who we are and what our mission in Hamilton is all about.

The pastor position at Trinity has been listed in the *Eastern Synod Weekly* magazine since the fall of 2023. This prompted interested pastors to contact the Synod office to enquire about the opening. In the end, we asked four pastors to submit their Availability for Call (AFC) forms to us. This gives us comparable information about who they are, where they have been, and what is important to them in their ministry. One pastor declined and we ended up receiving five AFC forms in total.

We carefully reviewed all five forms and, after a lot of discussion, have decided to interview two excellent candidates. We created a list of interview questions designed to find out if the pastors share our vision and mission and if they will be a good match for Trinity. The interviews will be taking place shortly, which will give us more information to consider and discuss.

The Call Committee is very grateful for the support of the Synod office and their availability to answer all questions. We ask our fellow members of Trinity to include this work in their prayers as we continue the process.

Barbara Alken, on behalf of the Call Committee

In January, our bishop Rev. Dr. Michael Pryse visited us in Hamilton and led the service of Leave Taking from Trinity's church building at King Street. While the building will no longer be used by Trinity Lutheran, it is currently still filled with mementos. If you are a member of the previous Faith Lutheran congregation and would like to take a memento, please contact Pastor Daniela or Pastor Thomas to make arrangements.

Just a reminder of our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** to take place after service on Sunday, February 25. A bulletin of reports will be emailed in the second week of February and hardcopies will be available in the narthex for those without email. If an agenda can be finalized before then it will be included, otherwise it will be sent to you separately. If unable to pickup a copy of the report please contact the office. The meeting will be in-person and via Zoom. There is some exciting news to share so please plan to attend.

If you are interested in joining the Trinity Board, contact Angela Doyle at angeladoyle159@gmail.com.

Come out and support the Lutheran Ladies United and eat Pancakes! The **pancake breakfast** will take place on February 13th (Shrove Tuesday) from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in conjunction with the People's Café.

Ash Wednesday service will be a Bay Area service and will be held at the Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church (formerly Holy Cross Lutheran) on February 14th at 7:00 pm. The service is in person and via Zoom. A link will be sent out for those who want to join online.

Lenten Devotions begin February 21st at the Mid-Week services. These will be held each Wednesday at the Fennell Site at 11:30 am. Bring a bag lunch for fellowship time after the service. Lenten devotions will also be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Hughson location on Thursday February 22 and 29, with a Soup Supper at 6:00 pm. Choir will start at 7:30 pm those weeks.

Our Tech Team works tirelessly every week to provide us with an excellent worship experience for both those of us who attend Sunday Service in person or via Zoom. Ever wonder what they are doing up there in the loft? The Tech Team is offering to do an Open House one Sunday in March after service (date to be determined). It is for anyone who is interested in seeing what it is they do to make our experience seamless. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Pancake Breakfast (Shrove Tuesday) and the People's Café

Tuesday February 13

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Please join us for a delicious pancake breakfast at the Hughson location at Trinity. It is in combination with the People's Café.

We hope to see you there. Everyone is welcome!



In 2021 we embarked on a virtual walk around the world to raise awareness about climate change and the environment. Our hope in doing this grand project is to stimulate discussion about environmental problems and to demonstrate that individuals are not helpless and can do something about the deterioration. We estimate that our virtual walk will take at least 12 years.

The graphic shows that we have walked 6,974 kms after two years of walking, from July 2021 to December 2023. We have completed 17% of the distance around the Earth. We are proud of this achievement especially when it stimulates conversations about climate change.

An unexpected benefit of the walk is that we are healthier than we would have otherwise been. Mother Earth truly gives back to us when we play our role in making it a better place to live. We are feeling much stronger now than we were before we embarked on this project. We all can play our part and together we can make a change.



The Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle ladies meet on Mondays at the Fennell location from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. to enjoy fellowship and creativity. They are looking for cotton material for quilting, lightweight towels to make washcloths, and flannel (sheets) to make diapers. If you're interested in joining them, more information, or if you have donations, please contact Marie Stanat 289-919-0603.

Aging and Community Events

Please view the [events calendar on the Trinity website](#) to view a series of events offered in the community. These events provide information and support for people with dementia, caregivers, and those wanting to learn more about healthy aging.

The People's Café is a community outreach program that provides warm beverages, snacks, and fellowship. The intention of the Café is to create a sense of community in a welcoming environment for those who may not have this experience in their life.

The People's Café is a wonderful opportunity to learn about others in our community. It is a great way to not only provide a meal for them but to also have sincere discussions about their lives and experiences. Connecting with those that visit the café is a special part of volunteering as you really get to know the regulars. It is so worthwhile to provide a service that people can really benefit from and enjoy participating in.

This has been a very rewarding experience. Being part of a program that provides such a valuable service to the members of our community makes the People's Café an initiative that is truly enjoyable and special.

The People's Café is open every Tuesday, at the Hughson Street location, from 10:00 a.m. to noon.



Lutheran Ladies United (LLU)

Meeting- Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 1:30pm, 232 Fennell Ave. E.

The LLU is collecting milk bags (the outer bag) that will be donated to a group that uses them to make mats. This is an ongoing project. The organizer, Hanna Klimek, will be at this meeting to talk about this outreach project. All are welcome to join us.

Denninger's Receipts

Thank you to everyone who has been collecting Denninger receipts during the past year. Please keep collecting! A drop off box marked "Denninger" is located in the parish hall. You may also pass them on to any LLU member.

World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 1, 2024 at St. Michael's Anglican Church. 1188 Fennell Ave. E. Time to be announced.

LLU Chairperson

Waltraut Weingartner has resigned as chair of the LLU. The new chairperson is Mary Storbeck.

Ash Wednesday Service and Soup Supper

Wednesday February 14

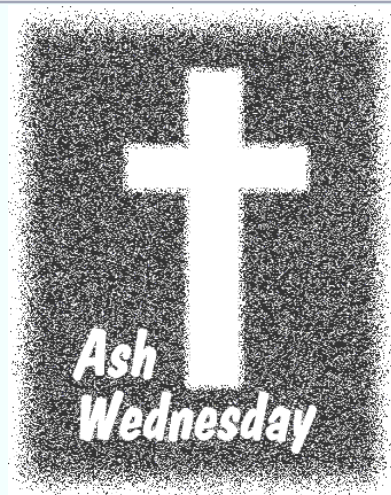
The Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church, formerly Holy Cross, is hosting a hybrid Bay Area Ash Wednesday service. A link will be send out the week prior to the service.

For those who plan to attend the Ash Wednesday service in person, you are invited to a soup supper and fellowship at 6:00 pm.

The Ash Wednesday service will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Please [register for the soup supper online](#) or call the Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church at 905-637-2741.

Soup donations are welcome.



Bird Watching Outing

By Debbie Lindeman

Saturday, February 3rd, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Desjardins Recreation Trail, Hamilton

Whether you are an experienced birder or a novice, join Debbie Lindeman and Dennis Price at 10:00 a.m. for a morning of birding and nature appreciation. Please bring binoculars if you have them.

Since forest trails can be snow-covered and icy during this time of year, let's do a birding outing on the Desjardins Recreation Trail that is flat and plowed.

The flowing water of the Desjardins Canal tends to keep the water ice-free there, attracting a variety of waterfowl. If we're lucky, one of our resident bald eagles will fly by.

We will park at the Princess Point parking lot. The RBG charges for parking and it \$3/hour (free if you have a displayed RBG pass). Carpooling can be arranged.

Please email Debbie at deborahlindeman3@gmail.com or call at (905) 389-0224 if you would like to participate. More detailed information will be given to you.



Social Ministry Committee

Trinity's Winter Apparel Drive

The Out of the Cold program is in need of sweatpants, sweatshirts, and shoes. They also need waterproof or water resistant winter coats, gloves, hats, socks, boots, new underwear, toiletries and sleeping bags. Items for people of all ages are required and should be clean and in good repair. Items can be dropped off at 104 Hughson St. N. on Sundays and on alternate days. Contact Carol-Ann at 905-974-9878 to arrange drop-off or Dianne Busser 905-389-4008 to arrange pick-up.

Knitting and Crocheting

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

Community Fridges, Hamilton

Our support of Community Fridges is ongoing. They are open to everyone and help to address food insecurity. Non-perishable food can be left in the bin at Hughson. Perishable food, labeled for the 'Community Fridge', can be left in the refrigerator at Hughson. Please check that the dates on all food items have not expired.

Financial donations in support of Community Fridges, Hamilton can be made:

- In your Sunday offering
- As an e-transfer to tlchamilton2020@gmail.com
- A cheque made out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mailed to 104 Hughson St. N. Hamilton, L8R 1G6. Include a note directing which program you wish to donate to.

Thank you for your donations

Trinity members are generous with their support to our community! Since September, \$2558 along with food items have been donated for Community Fridges Hamilton.

Thanks to the knitting and crocheting volunteers for all of their contributions. The Out of the Cold program has taken items that they require; 1 large bag was donated to the Venture Centre; baby items were donated to Public Health, Nurse-Family Partnership; 58 mittens/ gloves, 8 scarves, 4 pairs of socks and 10 hats were donated to Cathy Weaver, Dr. Davey, and Parkdale schools.

Winter Apparel Drive items are being given to people attending the Out of the Cold and our People's Cafe. Prior to Christmas, \$1035 in Gift Cards were donated to Liberty for Youth and Living Rock.

Through our Good Food Box (GFB) program we provide produce to the Native Women's Centre, Neighbour to Neighbour and St. Mathew's House. We support the Hamilton Social Work Action Committee in their goal to address food insecurity for low income single people in our community. The Social Work Action Committee purchased 85 boxes. Trinity volunteers fill about 130 boxes each month. Subsidies for GFB are also available through Trinity. Any GFB not picked up are donated to Living Rock for their food bank. Thank you to the Lutheran Ladies United who provide soup to people picking up their GFB at Hughson St.

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.

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

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.

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

Thursday February 8

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Pick up times: 11 am - 5 pm

Thursday February 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

February 2024 Events Calendar

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

- Thursday Feb. 1** **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 Feb. 3** **Bird Watching Outing**-10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Desjardins Recreation Trail, Hamilton. See page 6 for details.
- Sunday Feb. 4** **Worship Service** (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.
German Worship— 11:15 a.m. at 104 Hughson St. N.
- Tuesday Feb. 6** **People's Café**— 10:00 a.m-12:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N.
Newsletter Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Wednesday Feb. 7** **Mid Week Service**- 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Congregational Life Committee Meeting— 7:00 –8:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Thursday Feb. 8** **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.
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.
- Sunday Feb. 11** **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.
- Tuesday Feb. 13** **Pancake Breakfast/Shrove Tuesday**-9 a.m-12:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N.
People's Café— 10:00 a.m-12:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N.
- Wednesday Feb. 14** **Ash Wednesday Soup Supper**- 6:00 p.m. Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church. See page 6 for details.
Ash Wednesday-7:00p.m. Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church. See page 6 for details.
- Thursday Feb. 15** **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.

February 2024 Events Calendar

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

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sunday Feb. 18 | Worship Service - (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. |
| Tuesday Feb. 20 | People's Café -10:00 a.m-12:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N. Lutheran Ladies United – 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at 232 Fennell Ave. E. |
| Wednesday Feb. 21 | Mid Week Service- Lenten Devotions - 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. |
| Thursday Feb.22 | Lenten Evening Devotions and Soup Supper – 6:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N., followed by devotions at 7:00 p.m. Choir - 7:30 -9:00 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575. |
| Saturday Feb. 24 | 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 Feb. 25 | Worship Service - (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Sunday School -10:00 a.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Annual Congregation Meeting - 11:00 a.m. 104 Hughson St. N. |
| Monday Feb. 26 | Trinity Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Location TBD. |
| Tuesday Feb. 27 | People's Café – 10:00 a.m-12:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N. Creation Care Group -(in-person and Zoom) 7:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Pastor Dani for Zoom link. Topic– Garbage and Recycling. |
| Wednesday Feb. 28 | Mid Week Service- Lenten Devotions - 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. |
| Thursday Feb. 29 | Lenten Evening Devotions and Soup Supper – 6:00 p.m. at 104 Hughson St. N., followed by devotions at 7:00 p.m. Choir - 7:30 –9:00 p.m., 104 Hughson St. N. Contact Heide Lang for more information heide.lang@gmail.com or 905-616-2575. |