



Trinity Lutheran Church

One in Christ Newsletter News In and Around

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

Pastor's Message

by Pastor Jordan Smith

Dwelling in this Place

“Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.” (1 Corinthians 1:26-27, NRSVUE)

It was an odd standoff that took place in January of 1957. On one side of the debate ring stood Pastor J.D. Datars. His opposition? Mayor Lloyd D. Jackson leading the Board of Control. The issue at hand? Whether the property at the corner of Upper Wellington and Fennell was appropriate for a church site. The mayor argued that the site struggled with being a “peculiar shape on which to build a church” and that there was too much traffic nearby. The pastor countered that the location offered “convenience for adherents and fuller use of the building.” (Spectator articles from January 23 and 27, 1957).

During this time of renovation, it has been interesting to dig into the history of Lutherans in Hamilton, and these articles I uncovered showed to me how in Hamilton there was a history of political power trying to tell the church what decisions to make. The mayor at that time used his opinions to see peculiarities, rather than opportunities for the location of Transfiguration Lutheran, and our current worshiping location. Thankfully, the congregation persisted, purchased the land, and have been a presence in this neighbourhood for nearly seventy years. **Continued next page.**

March 2026

Volume 7 Issue 2

Inside this issue

[Pastor's Message 1](#)

[Pastor's Message cont. 2](#)

[Milestones 2](#)

[Lutheran Ladies United 2](#)

[Congregational Comm. 3](#)

[Chili Lunch 3](#)

[Building Renewal Update 4](#)

[History of St. Patrick 5](#)

[History of St. Patrick 6](#)

[Holy Week 7](#)

[Good Food Box 7](#)

[Past Events 8](#)

[Social Ministry 9](#)

[Trinity Contact 10](#)

[March Events Calendar 11](#)

[March Events Calendar 12](#)

Trinity Milestones



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Trinity members turning 90+.

Annie Kareckas - March 6

Philipp Arth - March 13

Willibald Ziesmann - March 19

Herbert Fischer - March 31

Pastor's message continued

As Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians, God chooses that which doesn't make sense to the world. God chose the weakness of human form to show the strong that God can defeat their power. During this Lenten season, as we reflect on how God has chosen us, let us be reminded that it is not because of how wise we are, how powerful we appear, or what societal status we were born into. God chooses us out of love, to be His, and to demonstrate that those who are held on the outside of society are worthy of this love.

Looking out from the sidewalk in front of our peculiar property, let us see where God is present in this place, continuing to call new people to sing, pray, read, hear, and serve in the community. While we look to historical records to understand why we are here, let us remember that this place is not just a location for the church of the past, but one where God is still at work.

Lutheran Ladies United (LLU)

Meeting

Tuesday March 17 at 1:30 p.m.
232 Fennell Ave. E.

The topic this month is on **MAID** - Medical assistance in dying. Come and be part of the conversation on this important and complex issue. We invite anyone interested on this topic to attend.

Collections

We have ongoing collections for Denninger receipts, milk bags, eyeglasses and stamps.

World Day of Prayer

Friday March 6 - Time and place to be announced.

Congregational Communication - Cathy Calvin, Chair, Trinity Board of Directors

Our annual meeting took place Sunday, February 22, 2026. Four members of the Trinity Board said farewell at that meeting - Emma Begert, Cosmo Leon, Judy Lindemann and Michael Schuster. We thank them for their hard work and diligence for the past 3 years since they were elected. We are pleased to announce that we have four new directors to take their place. They are Sonya A., Gail Bennie, William Koevoets, and Sylvia Zwick. We thank these individuals for allowing their names to stand and for being willing to lend their time and talents to the Board.

We also had a quick update on the renovation/addition project at Hughson. The "Building Renewal Fundraising Campaign" was officially kicked off at the meeting. A copy of the fundraising letter will be received by email or mail and we urge all our members to participate in some way, big or small. The campaign will be active for at least 2 years or until the money is raised. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Chili Lunch Youth Fundraiser

Sunday March 22, after Worship

It's already a tradition... We invite you all for a chili lunch after worship on March 22. This lunch will be prepared and served by our youth with some help from the families.

Please come and support the youth as they prepare to attend the summer camp in Kintail at Lake Huron.



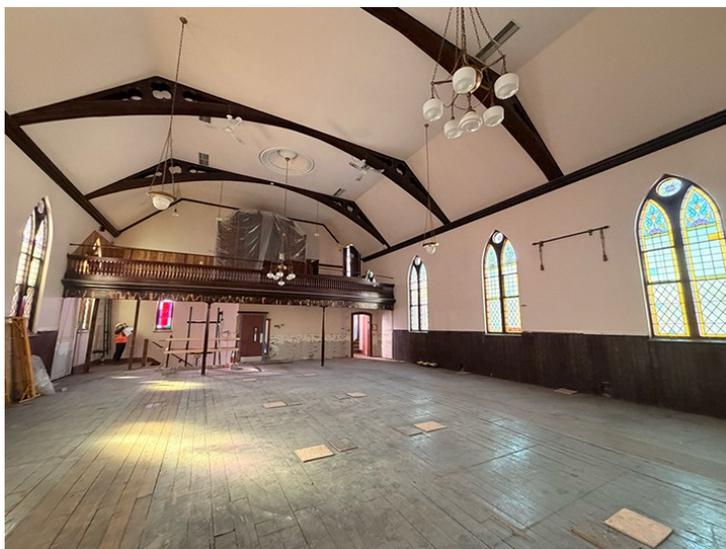
Building Renewal Update

by Pastor Jordan Smith

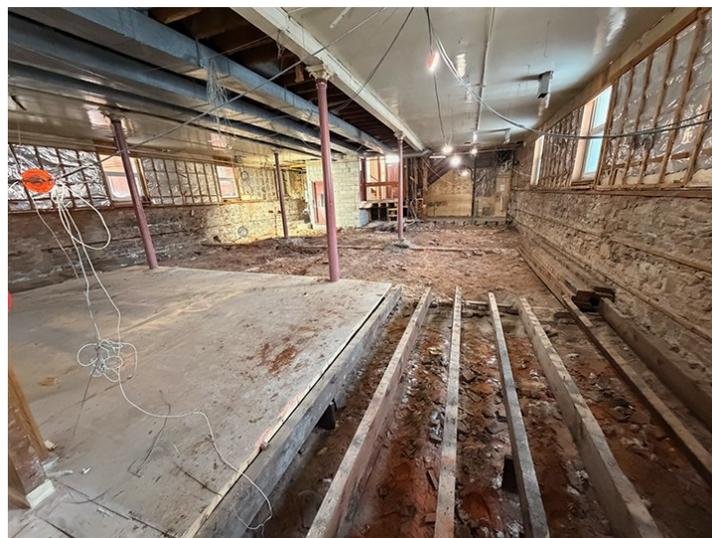
Demolition and construction at our Hughson site began in early January and has continued at full throttle over the past several weeks. Beginning with the existing church building, Renokrew has been busy preparing the space for the planned changes while also preserving those parts of the building which will remain unchanged. The most obvious change is in the church hall where the full floor has been removed in preparation for laying a new pad that will help support the building.

Renokrew is close to starting demolition on the house beside the church, and once the ground thaws they will begin laying the foundation for the addition. While most of the work so far has been on the inside of the buildings, soon you will be able to see the progress from the outside.

Regular renovation updates will be posted on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranhamilton or go to YouTube and search @trinitylutheranhamilton.



Pews and layers of flooring have been removed in the sanctuary.



Church hall demolition reveals the dirt base and 1860s stone foundation.

The History of St. Patrick

by Pastor Daniela Mertz

As popular as St. Patrick is, we don't know a lot about him for sure. Facts and legends are entwined and there are not many historic sources. St. Patrick left only two letters, the "Confessions" (a mixture of his biography and a confession) and the "Epistula" (a letter of protest to a British leader). We have both writings only as translations that were made centuries later.

St. Patrick is thought to have been born in Wales towards the end of the fourth century (385AD) as Maewyn Succat. His father was a deacon and his grandfather a priest.

When he was a teenager, Patrick was kidnapped by Celtic pirates from Ireland who sold him to an Irish farmer in the county of Antrim. He was treated like a slave and forced to look after sheep and pigs on a lonely hill. For six years he suffered hunger and neglect, and in this time of misery he turned to the Bible and to prayer for comfort.

One night, in a dream, he heard the voice of God who told him to escape from this mountain and go to a harbour where he would find a boat to help him escape and take him home. With his newfound faith he trusted the voice and escaped. He walked 200km and made it to a harbour and was allowed on to a ship.

However, it did not bring him to England but to France where he studied theology and became a deacon, and then a priest, and finally even a bishop.

After he had returned to England to his parents, he had another vision that called him to go back to Ireland to teach the Irish about God and the Christian faith.

Again, he followed the vision. First his preaching was met with a lot of resistance, but eventually he managed to spread the Christian faith through preaching, baptisms and writings.

St. Patrick recognized that there were many Pagan spiritual beliefs and practices. He incorporated some of these rituals into his form of Christianity. Many believe that St Patrick introduced the Celtic Cross as a combination of Pagan sun-worship symbolism and the traditional Christian cross.



History of St. Patrick continued

In many pictures we see St. Patrick holding a cloverleaf. According to a legend, he used the Irish shamrock as a parable where each leaf represents one part of the Holy Trinity.

For 60 years, St. Patrick travelled around Ireland, spreading the word of God and the Catholic faith.

He is believed to have died on March 17 in the year 461 AD.

This date is now celebrated as St. Patrick's Day.

St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in Ireland for around 1,000 years - dating back to the ninth century.

Historians believe the first parade to celebrate St. Patrick's Day took place on March 17, 1601; however, it wasn't in Ireland. Instead, it took place in a Spanish colony known as St. Augustine, Florida.



In 1772, the St. Patrick's Day celebrations spread to America. Irish soldiers serving in the English army marched across New York City to mark St. Patrick's Day and the life of St. Patrick. From here on, the celebrations grew more popular in America, prompting more cities to join in.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday and Confirmation

March 29 at 10:00 a.m. at 232 Fennell Ave. E.

Maundy Thursday

April 2 at 7.00 p.m. at 232 Fennell Ave. E.

Good Friday

April 3 at 10.00 a.m. at 232 Fennell Ave. E.

Easter Sunrise Service

April 5 at 7:00 a.m.

Beasley Park, 96 Mary St. Hamilton.

Come and join us to welcome the first light on Easter morning.

Easter Worship

April 5 at 10.00 a.m. at 232 Fennell Ave. E.



Good Food Box

The program runs every second Thursday of the month from September to June. The cost is \$22, and you receive 11 to 13 varieties of fresh vegetables and fruits. Order through Trinity's website on the [Good Food Box sign up page](#) or by contacting Pastor Thomas at 289-680-7387 or email tfrm58@gmail.com.

Payment of \$22 through e-transfer to Trinity Lutheran Church tlchamilton2020@gmail.com is required. Everyone is welcome to order a Good Food Box.

Order by March 5

Pick up March 12

232 Fennell Ave. E. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

130 Victoria Ave. N. (Eucharist church)

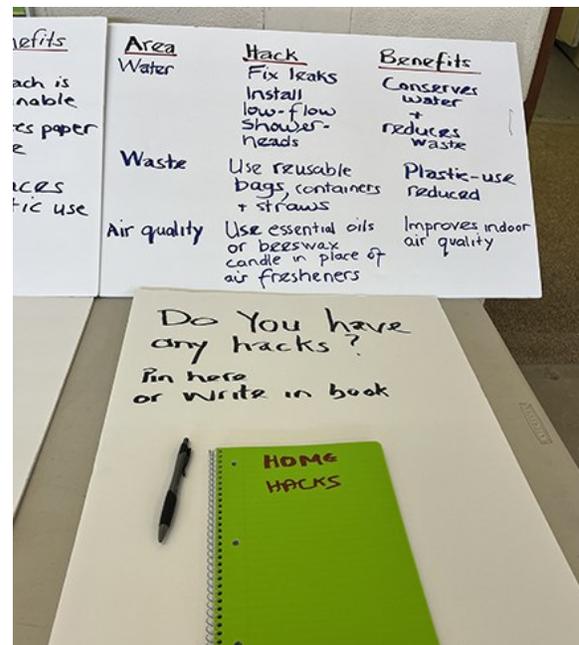
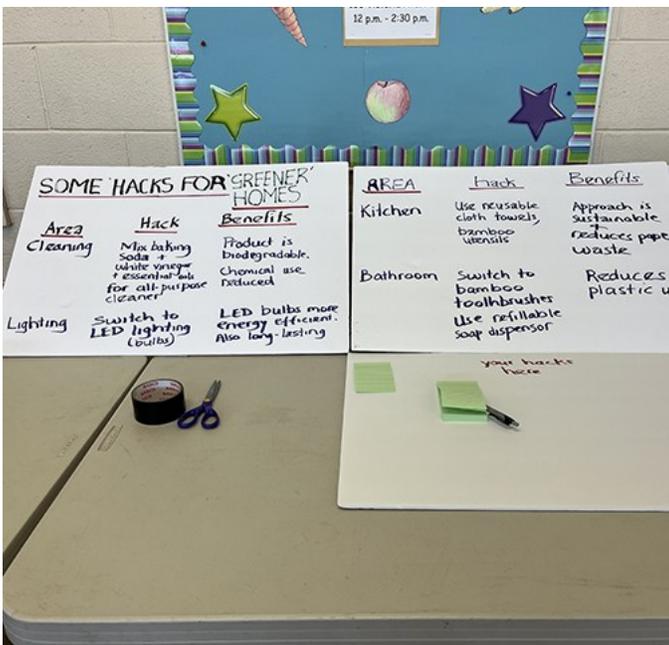
12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Past Events



Four members of Trinity attended the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service held at MacNeill Baptist Church on February 12, 2026.



Eco Display at the parish hall

Social Ministry Committee

by Lynne Shanks

McMaster University Chaplaincy Centre is a place where Chaplains nurture the Spirit of all members of the McMaster community. The Chaplains provide spiritual support by reaching out to students, staff, faculty and alumni. A number of programs are offered by the Centre.

One such program is the **Soup and Spirit Program** where once a week from September to April, 50 to 70 students share soup and bread, as well as spiritual nourishment. This program is open to all students and financial support of the program is needed. The Social Ministry Committee is requesting donations from March 1 to March 8 to help to sponsor this event. Approximately \$180 will sponsor one week of the program. Please consider donating to show our love for our neighbours.

Thank you for your continuing financial donations and food donations in support of **Hamilton Fridges and Pantries**. Monthly, we fill various fridges and pantries around Hamilton. Food donations can be left in the box at the back of Trinity church.

Financial donations for the **Soup and Spirit Program** or **Hamilton Fridges and Pantries** can be made:

- In your Sunday offering
- By e-transfer to tlchamilton2020@gmail.com
- A cheque made out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mailed to 232 Fennell Ave. E., Hamilton, L9A 1S7. Please include a note indicating what your donation is supporting.

We continue to collect clean, gently used water repellent winter coats and gloves. We also collect from our knitters and crocheters donations of hats, socks, scarves, baby sweaters, blankets and baby hats, for newborns at McMaster. Please note that we are not accepting any other clothing at this time.

Contact Dianne Busser at 905-389-4008 if you have wool to donate or if you need supplies to knit or crochet the above items mentioned.

We continue to accept used fiction books to support our Little Library. Everyone is welcome to use the library.



Trinity Lutheran Pastors

Pastor Daniela Mertz

daniela.mertz@elkb.de

Pastor Jordan Smith

revjordansmith@gmail.com

One In Christ newsletter 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 are edited for clarity, positivity, adherence to our mission, constitution and the love of Christ as revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

The Editorial Team:

Emma Begert

erbegert@gmail.com

Cathy Calvin

dccalvin1980@gmail.com

Kathy Davidson

kedavid42@gmail.com

Debbie Lindeman

deborahlindeman3@gmail.com

Pastor Daniela Mertz

daniela.mertz@elkb.de

Pastor Jordan Smith

revjordansmith@gmail.com

Please email all newsletter submissions to Kathy Davidson before the 22nd of each month.

Taxi Program

1. To order a taxi call Hamilton Cab at **905-777-7777**.
2. Press "0" to speak to an operator and order the taxi. If you use the App, it will not go on Trinity's account, and you will have to pay for it.
3. Say that you would like to order a taxi on the account of Trinity Lutheran Church for one of the following addresses:
 - 232 Fennell Ave E.
4. Confirm with the driver that this is on the account.
5. Ask for a receipt with the fare amount on it. Give the receipt to one of the pastors, LLU members, or bring to the church office.
6. You can give them a tip if you wish especially if they help you with a walker, etc.
7. You can use a taxi to go to any of the Trinity sites any day of the week.
8. Make sure you are ready to go before you order the taxi as they can be there within minutes.
9. If you have questions, call the office during the week between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at 905-974-9878.

Trinity Lutheran Church Contact Information

232 Fennell Ave. E

Hamilton, ON

L9A 1S7

905-974-9878

tlchamilton2020@gmail.com

www.trinity-hamilton.com

March Events Calendar

For Zoom links, please contact the office at 905-974-9878 during the week. Check out [Trinity's online events calendar](#) for additional community events.

- Sunday Mar. 1** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School -10:00 a.m.
- Monday Mar. 2** **Friendship Circle** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Social Ministry Committee Meeting -7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
- Tuesday Mar. 3** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Newsletter Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Wednesday Mar. 4** **Lenten Devotions- Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** -2:00 -3:00 p.m.,
57 Brant Ave, Brantford.
- Thursday Mar. 5** **Deadline to order a Good Food Box**
Lenten Devotions -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Soup Supper and Lenten Devotions -6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday Mar. 8** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Children's Activity- 10:00 a.m.
- Monday Mar. 9** **Friendship Circle** – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday Mar. 10** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
- Wednesday Mar. 11** **Lenten Devotions- Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** -2:00 -3:00 p.m.,
57 Brant Ave, Brantford.
- Thursday Mar. 12** **Good Food Box** - 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Good Food Box - 12:00 - 2:30 p.m., 130 Victoria Ave. N.
Lenten Devotions -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Soup Supper and Lenten Devotions -6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Friday Mar. 13** **Confirmation Class**- 5:00-7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.

- Sunday Mar. 15** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School -10:00 a.m.
- Monday Mar. 16** **Friendship Circle** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Trinity Board of Directors Meeting- 7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday Mar. 17** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Lutheran Ladies United -1:30 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Wednesday Mar. 18** **Lenten Devotions- Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** -2:00 -3:00 p.m.,
57 Brant Ave, Brantford.
- Thursday Mar. 19** **Lenten Devotions** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Soup Supper and Lenten Devotions -6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Friday Mar. 20** **Confirmation Class**- 5:00-7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday Mar. 22** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Children's Activity- 10:00 a.m.
Chili Lunch- after service
- Monday Mar. 23** **Friendship Circle** – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday Mar. 24** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
- Wednesday Mar. 25** **Lenten Devotions- Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** -2:00 -3:00 p.m.,
57 Brant Ave, Brantford.
- Thursday Mar. 26** **Lenten Devotions** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Soup Supper and Lenten Devotions -6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Saturday Mar. 28** **Bibles and Bagels**- (in-person & Zoom) 9:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Men's Breakfast - 9:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday Mar. 29** **Palm Sunday and Confirmation**- (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232
Fennell Ave. E.
- Monday Mar. 30** **Friendship Circle** – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday Mar. 31** **Men's Breakfast Golden Griddle** - 9:00 a.m.,1119 Fennell Ave. E.
People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Creation Care Group- 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.