



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 Daniela Mertz

On Easter morning, God's glorious victory over death started with fear and horror. The dreams of those who had followed Jesus had been shattered. They had expected salvation and redemption from their leader, teacher and friend, Jesus of Nazareth.

They have had the most amazing experiences with him. No one had ever spoken of God in this way before.

In Jesus' presence, people were healed in body and soul. There was hope for more change, for God's kingdom to unfold in front of their eyes, but then Jesus was crucified.

All hopes and dreams were crushed. Their hope was replaced by fear. Jesus' message had caused fear and disruption with those in power. No wonder the disciples locked themselves away, full of fear that the Romans would come after them as well.

Early in the morning, the women decided to go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body as a last act of love for him. Only on the way do they wonder, "who will roll away the heavy stone in front of the tomb?"

To their surprise that was not an issue, the tomb was open, but not only that, the tomb was empty! Not even the body had been left for the women.

"We bought the anointing oil for nothing," they may have thought. As they were wondering what happened, they noticed a young man wearing a white robe – like an angel. He said, "Jesus is not here. He has risen!" The women were frightened and puzzled. "He has risen." – what was that supposed to mean?

Continued next page

April 2026

Volume 7 Issue 3

Inside this issue

[Pastor's Message 1](#)

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

[Milestones 2](#)

[Family Activity Night 2](#)

[Congregational Comm. 3](#)

[In Memorium 3](#)

[Bible Study 3](#)

[Lutheran Ladies United 4](#)

[Bird Watching Outing 4](#)

[Easter Traditions 5](#)

[Easter Traditions 6](#)

[Supper Club 6](#)

[German Afternoon 6](#)

[Holy Week 7](#)

[Good Food Box 7](#)

[Past Events 8](#)

[Social Ministry 9](#)

[Trinity Contact 10](#)

[April Events Calendar 11](#)

[April Events Calendar 12](#)

Trinity Milestones



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Trinity members turning 90+.

Ray Mulholland - April 1

John Parti - April 12

Inge Stahl - April 17

Helen Lutz - April 22

Walter Braun – April 26

Pastor's message continued

“Get up!” the man continued, “Tell the disciples: Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will find him.”

The women were confused; this could not be true. They simply could not believe it. All they knew, all they had ever experienced was that death is permanent.

The man's words frightened them and they simply ran away. It takes time to understand the message of Jesus' resurrection. His crucifixion is difficult to comprehend, but for many his resurrection is an even greater mystery.

It's not something we can grasp with our human logic, but we know that the encounter with the risen Jesus soon transformed all those who mourned him. The men and women who were in despair before started to feel joy. Instead of grief and shattered dreams, they found a new meaning in life.

Still today we can experience that Jesus Christ is alive. We can feel his presence. He gives me the strength to forgive, which I cannot muster on my own. He gives me the courage to stand up for other people and for creation. He can transform lives for the better where we are fearful or troubled. And when I die, Jesus will not leave me alone. He will give me new life that extends beyond death, as Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

Holy Week Family Activity Night

Wednesday April 1 – 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Join us at church on Wednesday of Holy Week for our family activity night. All are welcome - young and young at heart. We will share in time of singing, holy week crafts, and a soup dinner. RSVP is not required, but please let Pastor Jordan know if you are attending so that we can make sure to have enough supplies.



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

The house is down! Renokrew demolished the house at 39 Wilson Street last month, finally after months of waiting for the permit. Excavation of the lot is now taking place, and the footings and walls will be built in the coming weeks. Progress is being made inside 104 Hughson St. as well. Check out Trinity's website in the coming weeks for a new video from our video crew, Jim and Jordan.

A "Visioning Committee" has been formed to start to think about our move back to Hughson St., which is now less than a year away, and future plans for both properties. Thank you to those who have put their names forth to serve on this committee. We also require a **short-term committee for the procurement of items** we will need for the renovated church. That is the list of items that we are fundraising for. We require some individuals to do some research and make recommendations for purchasing items such as chairs, tables, boardroom furniture, kitchen appliances, etc. We have general guidelines for the committee but basically these individuals will be researching items and making purchase recommendations to the board. If you like to do this kind of work and want to contribute in some way to the renovation project, please contact either Pastor Dani, Pastor Jordan or myself to offer your services.

In Memoriam

We remember and give thanks for all the saints who have recently passed away from our Trinity community.

George Trimborn - Feb. 1

Kathe Urbshaitis - Feb. 16

Mark Weingartner- March 13

Bible Study

Sundays at 11:15 in-person and on Zoom

April 19, 26

May 3, 24, 31

June 7

Join us for one hour on Sunday following worship as we study the Apostles' Creed and Luther's instruction in the Small and Large Catechism. For six weeks, we learn about how the church has used creeds, and we will work on writing personal creeds of faith.



Bible Study: Our Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed

Sundays at 11:15am

April 19 April 26

May 3 May 24

May 31 June 7

In-Person and on Zoom

revjordansmith@gmail.com for information

For more information email Pastor Jordan at revjordansmith@gmail.com.

Lutheran Ladies United

The LLU is meeting on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 1:30pm.**

232 Fennell Ave. E

Topic: The Good Food Box

What is a food box? What is in a food box? Who receives a food box? These questions and many more will be answered by Pastor Thomas. We look forward to this presentation and hope you will join us.

Milk bags and Denninger receipt collection are ongoing projects We appreciate your participation.



May Preview: Mother's Day Bake and Plant Sale

Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 10 - 2

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Donations of baked goods and indoor/outdoor plants would be very much appreciated. A light lunch and desserts will be available for your enjoyment. Proceeds from this sale will be donated to FOOD4KIDS, Hamilton.

Bird Watching Outing

Saturday, April 18th, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Grindstone Marsh Trail, Royal Botanical Gardens

April is an exciting time of year when many of our earlier migrants make their journey north and pass through our area to their breeding grounds. We're going to meet at Spring Gardens Road just north of Woodland Cemetery and walk the Grindstone Marsh Trail of the RBG into Hendrie Valley. This area provides us with a variety of water features from the lake's harbour, to ponds, marshland, and a creek.



Whether you are an experienced birder or a novice, join Debbie Lindeman and Dennis Price for a morning of birding. Please bring a pair of binoculars if you have them.

Please email Debbie at deborahlindeman3@gmail.com if you would like to participate. More detailed information about parking and the meeting spot will be sent to you.

Easter Traditions from Around the World

by Emma Begert

Germany – The Easter Bunny

During the Middle Ages a pagan legend told of the goddess Eostre who saved a dying bird by turning it into a hare. This hare then laid eggs as a sign of renewal and rebirth. The original Easter Bunny from Germanic tradition was actually an “Easter Hare”. Hares are actually much larger and biologically quite different from rabbits. This “Easter Hare” was eventually adopted into Christian Easter celebrations as a symbol of the resurrection and the gifting of eggs as the renewal of life. Eventually, this custom of the “Osterhase”, or “Easter Hare” bringing eggs was brought to North America by German Immigrants in the 18th century. In time the “hare” evolved into the Easter Bunny that children enjoy today.



England- Hot Cross Buns

These tasty, spicy buns may have originated in early pagan times. The Saxons baked similar buns to celebrate spring. In the 14th century a monk from the St. Alban’s Abbey was reputedly said to have baked buns marked with a cross to give to the poor on Good Friday. During the 1500’s, Queen Elizabeth I restricted the sale of the spiced hot cross buns to special events such as Easter, Christmas and funerals. They remain a special treat even today. The cross represents the crucifixion of Christ, the spices symbolize his embalming spices, and the bread marks the end of Lent.



Continued next page

Easter Traditions from Around the World

by Emma Begert

The Ukraine-Blessing of the Paska Basket

Our brothers and sisters in the Orthodox and Coptic churches celebrate Easter according to the Julian calendar, falling approximately a week or so after our Easter. The Eastern European Christians among them look forward the special tradition of preparing the Paska Basket to take to church for Easter Morning sunrise service. The baskets mark the end of fasting and contain symbolic foods. The basket, lined with an embroidered white linen cloth, represents the Shroud of Christ.

The Paska loaf, rich in eggs, symbolizes Christ, the Bread of Life. The cheese or butter may be shaped into a cross, while the meat, often hams or sausages, shows returning joy after the time of Lenten fasting. Horseradish and salt are also important items in the basket, reminding believers of the bitterness of Christ's Passion.

The families often surround the outside of the church, lighting the Christ candle as the Priest passes by, blessing the baskets with Holy Water.



Super Club

Thursday April 16, 6:00 p.m.

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Join us for a hearty meal, prepared with the ingredients we find in the Good Food Box. Come earlier if you would like to watch and learn how to prepare this meal. Everybody is welcome!

German Afternoon

Saturday April 18, 2:00 p.m.

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Come and join us for a fun afternoon. We will have a devotion, fellowship with “Kaffee und Kuchen”, a presentation about Mark Twain, and sing together our favourite “Volkslieder” - all in German.



Holy Week

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 Breakfast

Following the Sunrise Service

Stewart Memorial Church, 114 John St. N.

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 April 2

Pick up April 9

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



Youth Retreat February 27- March 1, 2026



Confirmation Class Skit, March 22, 2026

With your help Trinity donated \$500 to **McMaster University Chaplaincy Centre** for their **Soup and Spirit Program**. Our goal was to raise \$180 to sponsor the program for one week. Thanks to your support, the Chaplaincy Centre will be able to offer soup, bread, and spiritual nourishment to students for at least 2 weeks.

Another event the Chaplaincy Centre provides is **Exam Hospitality** from April 9 to April 22. They provide free cookies, coffee, tea, hot chocolate as well as a relaxing environment to help relieve student's exam stress. The Centre requests donations of peanut free cookies. Anyone willing to provide cookies, home baked or otherwise, is requested to bring them to Trinity on Sunday April 12 and arrangements will be made for delivery to McMaster.

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 **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.

Thank you for your generosity for all clothing items. However, with the changing weather we currently don't need winter coats, knitted hats, scarves or socks. Our knitters and crocheters can continue to make prayer shawls and baby items only please.

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

April 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.

- Wednesday April 1** **Holy Week Family Night** - 6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Thursday April 2** **Deadline to order a Good Food Box**
Maundy Thursday- 7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir- 7:45 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Friday April 3** **Good Friday Worship Service**- 10:00 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday April 5** **Easter Sunrise Service**- 7:00 a.m. Beasley Park Hamilton.
Easter Breakfast- After the Sunrise Service
Stewart Memorial Church 114 John St. N.
Easter Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Children's Activity -10:00 a.m.
- Monday April 6** **Easter Monday.** Church Office is closed. No Friendship Circle.
- Tuesday April 7** **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 April 8** **Worship and Music Committee Meeting** -7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
- Thursday April 9** **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.
Mid-Week Service -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday April 12** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School- 10:00 a.m.
- Monday April 13** **Friendship Circle** – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday April 14** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Congregational Life Meeting- 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

April Events Calendar

- Thursday April 16** **Mid-Week Service** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Supper Club - 6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Saturday April 18** **Bird Watching Outing** -10:00 a.m. See page 4 for details.
German Afternoon -2:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Sunday April 19** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Children's Activity -10:00 a.m.
Spring Bible Study- 11:15 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Monday April 20** **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 April 21** **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.
- Thursday April 23** **Mid-Week Service** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Saturday April 25** **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 April 26** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School- 10:00 a.m.
Spring Bible Study- 11:15 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Monday April 27** **Friendship Circle** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday April 28** **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.
- Thursday April 30** **Mid-Week Service** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.