



## 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

How is God? Who is God? How would you describe God if you were only to use a few words?

Every Sunday in worship we confess with the Apostolic Creed that God is the "Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth." Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer which begins with "our father in heaven".

God as our heavenly father is a prominent description of God. We may have ambiguous experiences with our earthly fathers, but God is like the father we know from the parable of the prodigal son, which often is also called the parable of the loving father. It focuses on the father who has two sons, one of whom went astray, left home, and blew all the money that his father gave him as his inheritance. Later, when a famine came and he began to starve, he realized he would be better off as a servant at home than living alone in a foreign country. He returned home to ask to work as a hired hand. However, when that father saw his boy in the distance, he ran to him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. He welcomed him home - not as a hired hand, but as a son - and celebrated his return with a feast.

God the Father is like the father in that story. He is a father who loves us and who longs for a relationship with us. He is broken-hearted when we move away from him, but he is also forgiving and welcomes us back with open arms.

#### June 2026

#### Volume 7 Issue 5

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## Trinity Milestones



## Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Trinity members turning 90+.

**Arno Reuter - June 6**

**Hanna Fast - June 7**

**Marie Sattler- June 7**

**Elfriede Graf - June 15**

**Monika Arth - June 23**

**Anneliese Rudolph - June 29 -  
Turning 101!**

**Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to**

**John and Dianne Busser on  
June 19**

## Pastor's message continued

On June 21 we celebrate Father's Day, a day on which we remember all our fathers and fatherly figures who were important in our lives, who were inspiring role-models, who loved us but also challenged us and helped us become the person we are today.

It is a good reminder to be thankful for all these people, and to follow in their footsteps. Fatherhood is a call to be present, engaged, and intentional in our children's lives. It is a call to lead by example, teaching values and instilling a love for God and others, and walking alongside them on their journeys.

As imperfect beings, we may stumble and at time fail in this role. However, God's grace is abundant, providing us with the strength and wisdom we need. God is the ultimate Father who guides and equips us to fulfill our role with love and grace. Amen.

## Trinity Fundraiser Dinner for Building Fund Friday, June 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy a three-course dinner that includes a garden salad, baked ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetable medley and dessert.

**\$35 Per Person**

Tickets for the dinner can be ordered and bought at the church office and from Pastor Dani.



## Faith of Our Fathers

by Barbara Wilk-Ridge

With Father's Day approaching on June 21st, ask yourself, "What did your father teach you about faith?" As I reflect about my own father, here are some things I learned from him.

My father showed me his faith in how he lived, in his actions, and the wisdom he spoke. He was a kind, humble, and loving father who always looked after us. I remember him saying to me, "it's important to keep your friends." With that, I have come to see that friendship is the social glue for belonging and being part of God's community.

Dad always rested on Sundays. He sat under the apple tree and liked to listen to the radio and his music. I would come to see how he used his hands and creativity to serve others. Even when he didn't know how to do something he had the faith to figure it out. When he wasn't feeling well, he said to me that "walking behind the lawn mower and sitting in the sun would heal his aches and pains."

Dad attended church weekly. He would pray every day and for others, that they stay healthy and alive. He said, "his prayers allowed him to still be here with his health and with Mom."

When it came to giving thanks, dad said "it is never enough, and never too much to thank God for all the things he does." He also said, "that hope meant peace and gratitude for him."

When dad was living in his retirement home he said, "How peaceful it is for a man to be able to live in this environment and how grateful I am to be here".

His morning prayer then was, "God help me this day in peace and harmony, help my body and my mind, and help lead me through this day." When his health started to decline, he prayed, "Lead me your way so that I do not get lost. Get me up, dressed for lunch and supper, and God help us to be at peace together." When I would come to visit, we would pray The Lord's Prayer.

I was profoundly surprised by the clarity of wisdom when dad would come to say the following:

"God can help you to change when you cannot change yourself."

"You should never talk about someone else in a negative way."

"You know everything, but you know nothing."

"It's not done until we make the change and learn the lesson."

"Never judge someone else, judge yourself."

When dad and I were asked, "what is your valley of darkness?" I remember that dad said "loneliness." When Dad and I heard the words, "God helps those who cannot help themselves," without a beat, dad replied "all the time." Lastly, when dad was asked, "How can we be patient with others?" he said, "Keep the peace, and speak kindly of the people and do not push them away, keep them in your heart."

With that, I wish all the fathers a Blessed Happy Father's Day!

## Vision Task Force

by Daniela Mertz

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus shares a parable that has challenged believers to reflect on how we use the gifts God has entrusted to us. The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14–30) tells the story of a master who, before traveling, entrusts his servants with varying amounts of money. The servants who invest and multiply their talents are praised, while the one who buries his out of fear faces consequences. This parable is a call to faithful stewardship, creativity, and action.

To be faithful stewards of our space and resources, a dedicated group of approximately 13 volunteers began meeting monthly in March with the pastors to plan the future use of our buildings once the renovations are complete.

Like the servants in the parable, Trinity Church has been entrusted with an important responsibility: discerning how these spaces can better serve our congregation, our neighbours, the wider community, and our shared calling in the years ahead. This may include reimagining underused areas, fostering new connections, and creating meaningful community partnerships.

We are working with Katja Brittain who works for the Eastern Synod, Church Building Usage Lead. She is a seasoned consultant specialising in church management, mission realignment, and sustainability. This task force is made up of three dedicated groups, each focused on an important area of planning for the future.

**The first group** is exploring the future use of our Fennell site. While our goal is to retain and continue using the property, we also recognize the importance of making the space financially sustainable. The team is actively considering rental opportunities and community uses that could help support ongoing costs such as maintenance, insurance, and utilities, while ensuring the site remains an asset for years to come.

**The second group** is focusing on the Hughson site building. With its modern renovations and fully accessible design, this downtown space presents an exciting opportunity not only to support and expand our ministries, but also to build meaningful partnerships and welcome renters who can help bring energy, activity, and community life into the building throughout the week.

**The third group** is focused on future staffing needs and long-term ministry support. With Pastor Daniela's retirement planned for 2027, Trinity Church will transition to having one pastor. As part of this planning, the group is thoughtfully considering what staffing roles and support positions will best strengthen the ministry, support the pastor's leadership, and help meet the evolving needs of the congregation and community in the years ahead.

If you are interested in joining the Vision Task Force, please talk to Pastor Jordan or Pastor Daniela.

## Lutheran Ladies United

A sincere **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated to and attended our Spring Sale on May 9th. Proceeds from the sale are being donated to the FOOD4KIDS summer program!

### Our Next Meeting

**WE WERE CREATED EQUAL** to be presented by Audrey Karlos.

**Join us on Tuesday, June 16**

1:30 pm at 232 Fennell Ave. E.

This is our last meeting before September. Everyone is welcome!

“May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sunshine warm upon your face, May the rain fall soft upon your fields,  
And, until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.” An Irish Blessing

## Bird Watching/Nature Outing

**Saturday, June 27th, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Rock Chapel Sanctuary, 318 Rock Chapel Road, Dundas (west of Clappison’s Corners)**

Part of the Royal Botanical Gardens network of natural spaces, the Rock Chapel Sanctuary includes the spectacular Borer’s Falls and several lookouts from the escarpment to the countryside below. The property is made up of mature woodland and abandoned farm fields that attract a variety of breeding birds, butterflies, and other interesting wildlife.



There is a parking fee if you are not an RBG member, so carpooling can be arranged.

Whether you are an experienced birder or a novice, join Debbie Lindeman and Dennis Price for a morning of birding and nature appreciation. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Though many of the bird species are colourful and will be singing heartedly, pack your patience because finding them in the fully leafed trees can be challenging. However, there is lots to see and experience on an early summer day in nature!

Please email Debbie at [deborahlindeman3@gmail.com](mailto:deborahlindeman3@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.

## Bible Study

**Sunday at 11:15 in-person and on Zoom  
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'll learn about how the church 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](mailto:revjordansmith@gmail.com) for information

For more information email Pastor Jordan at [revjordansmith@gmail.com](mailto:revjordansmith@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto:tfrm58@gmail.com).

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

**Order by June 4**

**Pick up June 11**

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



## LLU Plant and Bake Sale, May 9, 2026



Food security is an on-going problem in our community. Using your financial donations and food donations, we continue to fill Hamilton Fridges and Pantries. They are open 24 hours a day and everyone is welcome to help themselves to food in the fridges and pantries. Food donations can be left in the box at the back of the church.

We continue to ask for financial donations and food donations in support of **Hamilton Fridges and Pantries**. Food donations can be left in the box at the back of the church.

Financial donations for **Hamilton Fridges and Pantries** can be made:

- In your Sunday offering
- By e-transfer to [tlchamilton2020@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Knitters and crocheters** can continue to make prayer shawls and baby items. Completed items can be left at the church. To arrange pick up, donate wool, or request some supplies for knitting and crocheting, contact Dianne Busser at 905-389-4008.



We continue to accept used fiction books for our **Little Library** at Fennell. Check out the library. You may find a good summer read for yourself.



## Trinity Lutheran Pastors

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**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.

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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](mailto:tlchamilton2020@gmail.com)

[www.trinity-hamilton.com](http://www.trinity-hamilton.com)

## June 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.

- Monday June 1**                    **Friendship Circle** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday June 2**                    **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 June 3**                    **Worship and Music Committee Meeting**- 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Thursday June 4**                    **Deadline for ordering Good Food Box**  
**Mid-Week Service** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Friday June 5**                    **Fundraising Dinner** - 6:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E. Tickets required.
- Sunday June 7**                    **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 June 8**                    **Friendship Circle** – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday June 9**                    **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
- Thursday June 11**                    **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.
- Sunday June 14**                    **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.  
**Sunday School**- 10:00 a.m.
- Monday June 15**                    **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 June 16**                    **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.  
**Lutheran Ladies United (LLU) Meeting**- 1:30 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.

## June Events Calendar

<b>Thursday June 18</b>	<b>Mid-Week Service</b> -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
<b>Sunday June 21</b>	<b>Sunday Worship Service</b> (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. <b>Sunday School</b> - 10:00 a.m.
<b>Monday June 22</b>	<b>Friendship Circle</b> - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
<b>Tuesday June 23</b>	<b>People's Café</b> - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
<b>Wednesday June 24</b>	<b>Vision Task Force</b> - 7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
<b>Thursday June 25</b>	<b>Mid-Week Service</b> -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
<b>Saturday June 27</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> - 9:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. <b>Bird Watching/Nature Outing</b> - 9:00 a.m. See page 5 for details.
<b>Sunday June 28</b>	<b>Worship Service</b> (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. <b>Children's Activity</b> -10:00 a.m.
<b>Monday June 29</b>	<b>Friendship Circle</b> - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
<b>Tuesday June 30</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast Sunnyside Grill</b> - 9:00 a.m., 930 Upper Paradise <b>People's Café</b> - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.

\*Please note that Pastor Daniela will be on vacation from June 7 to 29.  
Please contact Pastor Jordan for any pastoral emergencies.