



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

Greeting God Outdoors

"But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

(Matthew 5:6-8, NRSVue)

As the summer season has now started and the days have reached their longest points, these are the weeks and months when we like to get outside to take in all that nature has to offer. Jesus might tell us to pray in secret, but that doesn't mean you have to lock yourself away or only experience the spiritual life in secret. During the summer months I like to think back to the special memories made while worshipping in outdoor settings. Many of you may have spent time at the outdoor chapel at Camp Edgewood or Lutherlyn, singing songs on the benches while surrounded by trees in the middle of the woods.

I also remember fondly the in-person services I held at my first congregation in the summer of 2021. I had not been able to worship indoors with this congregation since beginning my time there, but when summer started, we decided that outdoor worship in the building's courtyard would be a safe option for the cautious group. As we sang, the birds sang along with us. As we prayed, the wind carried our petitions upwards. As we shared in communion, the sun warmed our faces. Greeting God in the outdoors provided us the chance to experience worship with unique highlights added in.

Continued next page

July/August 2026

Volume 7 Issue 6

Inside this issue

[Pastor's Message 1](#)

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

[Milestones 2](#)

[German Afternoon 2](#)

[Food 4 Kids 3](#)

[Summer Sun Protection 4](#)

[Picnic Worship 4](#)

[Trinity's Vision 5](#)

[Let's Go Hiking 6](#)

[Summer Office Hours 6](#)

[Good Food Box 6](#)

[In Memorium 6](#)

[Social Ministry 7](#)

[Past Events Photos 8](#)

[Trinity Contact 9](#)

[July Events Calendar 10](#)

[August Events Calendar 11](#)

Trinity Milestones



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Trinity members turning 90+.

July Birthdays

Eileen Forestall - July 10

Karl Hubatschek - July 31

August Birthdays

Gerhard Magiera - August 13

Ilse Kastrau - August 28

Happy 50th Anniversary to

**Sparrow Rabideau and Rick
Kalbfleisch July 31**

Pastor's message continued

As you go about your days this summer, where will you greet God? Might you experience church in a different way while at the cottage or vacationing in a new city? Will you enjoy your morning coffee on the porch and take time for prayer as the sun rises? Can hikes along the trails in and around Hamilton provide the opportunity for discovering something new in creation? As you tend your garden, will God's gifts be revealed to you in the bounty that comes from the ground?

God is most certainly present in all seasons, even in the ice and snow, but during the summer it is so much easier to greet God in the outdoors. I hope that in your time outside you might find yourself connecting with our creator in meaningful ways so that you might declare as the psalmist says: *"O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures."* (Psalm 104:24)

German Afternoon

Saturday July 18 at 2:00 p.m.

We invite you to an afternoon in German with a devotion, a presentation and fellowship with coffee and cake. All are welcome.



What do they do?

In 2025 FOOD4KIDS ensured that 1,750 families received nutritious food they could depend on. These bags of food are distributed through 76 elementary and 11 secondary schools in the Hamilton area.

How can we help?

The organization depends on monetary donations to provide food that is easily accessible to children without preparation being involved. So, in addition to fresh fruit, healthy pre-packaged items are essential.

Although there are many volunteers involved in FOOD4KIDS, there is still a need for volunteer drivers to deliver the food bags to the schools across the city.

For more information on how you can support this important program please visit their website at food4kidshamilton.ca.

Thank you for supporting the Lutheran Ladies United fundraiser for FOOD4KIDS HAMILTON! We were able to donate \$1350.



Summer Sun Precaution

by Sparrow Rabideau

With summer upon us, it is time to consider sun protection. During peak sun hours between 10 am-3pm, try to stay in the shade while outdoors.

Wear protective clothing: light-coloured long-sleeved shirts, pants, and a wide-brimmed hat.

If wearing sunglasses, make sure they provide both UVA and UVB protection.

Excessive sun exposure can cause skin cancer as well as premature skin aging.

Sunscreens: use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with both UVA and UVB protection. Choose one with at least a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher. Apply the sunscreen evenly for at least 15 minutes before you go out in the sun. Re-apply after about 2 to 3 hours. Also, re-apply after swimming or sweating excessively. A water-resistant or sport sunscreen stays on better. Avoid falling asleep in the sun.

Remember that ultraviolet rays can get through clouds, fog, and haze. Water, sand, and concrete reflect the sun's rays. With the thinning of the protective atmospheric ozone layer, more UV rays get through to the earth's surface.

Finally, don't use tanning beds.

Picnic Worship Service- Sunday July 5

10:30 a.m. at Bow Park Farm, 140 Oxbow Rd., Brantford

Faith Lutheran Church in Brantford is inviting the whole Bay Area to worship together at the Bow Park Farm at 10.30am.

The service will be followed by a potluck, and lawn games for the children.

It's a 40-minute drive and to make it easier, all who don't feel like driving but still would like to join can meet at 9.30am at the Fennell Site and will get a ride from there to Brantford. There is a big barn so we can come together even if the weather is not great.

Please bring some food for the potluck and a lawn chair (if you have one).

For all who are homebound we will send out link to a Lutheran Service as there will be no in-person service at the church on this day.



Restoring Our Home: Trinity's Vision for the Future

by Thomas Mertz

Every time I walk by our beautiful church on the corner of Wilson and Hughson Streets, I am thrilled to see the renovation progressing so well. The foundation for our future main entrance and elevator is now in place and the work in the sanctuary and basement is moving along beautifully.

It has been almost 60 years since our last major overhaul, and the upgrades will improve building accessibility tremendously. Upgraded seating, sound, lighting, and technology will enhance our worship experience. Moreover, our organ is being thoroughly cleaned and tuned, and it will feature the magnificent Spanish trumpets from the old Faith Lutheran organ. Finally, our renovated kitchen will meet modern standards, allowing it to play a vital role in our congregation's fellowship and outreach ministry.

While these physical updates are exciting, we know that Trinity is ultimately so much more than brick and mortar. It is a gathering place where our hearts are uplifted, lives are transformed through the Gospel, and we serve the wider community together. This once-in-a-century project will preserve the legacy of those who built Trinity while strengthening our mission to welcome all who walk through our doors.

We are tremendously grateful to the four congregations that provided our amalgamated church with the assets to finance the bulk of this undertaking. However, because the renovation is ultimately a matter of our faith in our community and our ministry, this fundraising campaign also gives each of us a personal share, a piece of ownership in this legacy project. So far, our community has responded with overwhelming generosity to raise over \$55,000 toward our \$200,000 goal.

Every donation, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to project completion. You can easily contribute to this collective act of faith by cheque or e-transfer to tlchamilton2020@gmail.com.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for the many ways you have already contributed to the life of our congregation. I am deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to the wonderful work we will accomplish together.

Blessings, Thomas Mertz

Let's Go Hiking

Saturday August 15

9:30 a.m.

Join us for a hike. We will meet in Dundas at the corner of Mill Street and Head Street. We'll walk along Mill Street towards Spencer Creek. Everyone is welcome.



Trinity Summer Office Hours

Please note that beginning on July 1st and continuing until after Labour Day, the church office will be operating on summer office hours.

The office will be open from 9-3 Tuesday through Friday and will be closed on Mondays.

Good Food Box

The Good Food Box is finished for the summer but will resume September 10th.

Order your September Good Food Box through Trinity's website on the [Good Food Box sign-up page](#), by contacting Pastor Thomas at 289-680-7387 or email tfrm58@gmail.com.

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

Order the next Good Food Box by September 3.

Pick up September 10

232 Fennell Ave. E from 11 am to 4 pm.

130 Victoria Ave. N. (Eucharist church) from 12 pm to 2:30 pm.

In Memorium

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

Sarah Wolski - June 7

Ed Rakowski - June 15

John Kerwin - June 18

Social Ministry Committee

by Lynn Shanks

On May 31, 2026, members of Trinity took part in the **ELCIC (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada) Day of Action**. In support of Hamilton Community Fridges and Pantries, Trinity members brought in food donations. These donations, along with food purchased with financial donations, helped to stock four different fridges and pantries in our community. We met our neighbours who use the fridges and pantries and they expressed their appreciation for our support. Our donations continue to make a difference in our community. The Day of Action is over but the need for support of Community Fridges and Pantries continues. 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
- A cheque made out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mailed to 232 Fennell Ave. E. Please include a note indicating what your donation is supporting.

Donations of clothing and shoes are no longer required. 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 stock our Fennell **Little Library** with donations of used fiction books.

The Friendship Circle is taking a much deserved break for the summer. Their last meeting is June 29th, and they will resume September 14, 2026.



ELCIC Day of Action



ELCIC Day of Action

Past Events



May 31, ELCIC Day of Action St. Michaels



May 31, ELCIC Day of Action St. Michaels



Birdwatching April 2026



Birdwatching April 2026

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

July 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.

Thursday July 2	Kid's Movie Night- Minions – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday July 5	Picnic Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. at Bow Park Farm, 140 Oxbow Rd., Brantford.
Tuesday July 7	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday July 9	Adult Movie Night- A Man Called Otto – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday July 12	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday July 14	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday July 16	Kid's Movie Night- Minions 2 Rise of Gru – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Saturday July 18	German Afternoon - 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday July 19	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday July 21	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday July 23	Adult Movie Night- Little Women (2019) – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday July 26	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday July 28	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday July 30	Kid's Movie Night- Hoppers – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.

August Events Calendar

Sunday August 2	Sunday Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday August 4	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.
Thursday August 6	Adult Movie Night- The Peanut Butter Falcon — 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday August 9	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday August 11	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday August 13	Kid's Movie Night- Super Mario Galaxy – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Saturday August 15	Let's Go Hiking - 9:30 a.m. See page 6 for details.
Sunday August 16	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday August 18	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday August 20	Adult Movie Night- Won't You Be My Neighbor? – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday August 23	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Monday August 24	Trinity Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday August 25	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday August 27	Kid's Movie Night- How to Train Your Dragon (2010) – 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday August 30	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Summer Youth Camp Kintail - August 30 to September 4.

*Please note that Pastor Jordan will be on vacation from August 10-24.

Please contact Pastor Daniela for any pastoral emergencies.