



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

A Leap of Joy

"And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1:20-21, NRSVue)

"It's a flying fish!"

That was the exclamation coming from the breakfast table as my family began our first morning of our Alaskan cruise travelling the inside passage. Gazing out where the water met land, occasional splashes of water drew our attention to excited salmon approaching the end of their journey home. For those who are used to fish slowly gliding under a kayak or in a small pond, seeing large fish propel their body into the air was a surprising and entertaining sight.

My cruise last month to Alaska was filled with wildlife sightings, offering us a wide display of God's creation. We were fortunate to see bears, whales, otters, sea lions, bald eagles, dolphins, jellyfish, star fish, and certainly most frequently, salmon.

As we learned from our guides, salmon have an incredible lifecycle. This leads them out to sea from the rivers they are born in, and years later they return to their birthplace, battling upriver to birth the next generation of fish. On that journey they regularly jump sometimes across challenging rock formations, sometimes up human-made fish ladders, and occasionally in the middle of the open water. [Continue Next Page](#)

October 2026

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Trinity Milestones



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Trinity members turning 90+.

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Pastor's message continued

One of my children asked a guide, "Why do they jump?" He told us we don't fully know, and then jokingly added, maybe it's because they are so happy to be home. As we settle into our fall routine, attending church or seeing our friends on the Zoom screen each week, I wonder if those salmon could be an example of our excitement for being in church this fall? Might the joy of community cause us to jump for excitement that we are here, that we have returned home?

Being able to worship together is a gift not to be taken for granted. It is a sign of God's grace that we are brought together, each uniquely made, each uniquely talented, gathered to celebrate what God has made.

Looking out over the cold waters of the Pacific Ocean, I was able to witness God's abundance in new ways. Abundance in the variety of creation and abundance in the goodness of what has been made. In that abundance, joy was shown by fish returning home to a place of belonging. In this season of life, may our church also be a place of belonging, a place which brings joy to all who travel here.

Bay Area Bonfire

Saturday October 3 from 5-7 p.m. 97 Alberton Road, Ferguson farm.

The Bay Area is inviting everyone to come to a Fall Bonfire Gathering with hot dogs and marshmallows, fellowship and camp songs.



Congregational Communication By Cathy Calvin

Our Fundraising efforts are off to a great start. We have raised more than \$60,000 thanks to your efforts. The Fundraising Committee, which currently includes Cathy Calvin, Pastor Jordan Smith and Pastor Thomas Mertz, has been expanded to include two new members, Uwe Schaible and Tim Matthews. We are blessed to have their expertise as we move into the next phase of applying for city and government grants.

The Trinity Board has decided to sponsor a fundraiser which will be held on Friday February 5, 2027. It will be a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. It is our hope to open this to not only the congregation, but friends and neighbors in the community. Tickets for the dinner will be reasonable at \$15 per person and there will be some entertainment provided.

What we will need are donations for the Silent Auction. We will be soliciting local vendors that we deal with for donations. If you own a business, you may consider donating something for the auction. We will only be accepting new items or services for this auction.

How can you help? Donate a new item, such as a gift basket, homemade quilt or gift card, or offer a service such as snow shoveling, gardening, baking, preparing a meal or even a weekend at your cottage. Simply decide what you'd like to offer and, if applicable, for how long (e.g., four Saturdays of gardening). Then contact Gail Bennie gabennie52@gmail.com, Cathy Calvin dccalvin1980@gmail.com, or Carol-Ann at the office tlchamilton2020@gmail.com, and we'll create a certificate and add your donation to the auction.

We will begin collecting donations in December with the end date of January 31, 2027, to have them in house. This is a great opportunity for you to contribute to the success of the dinner and auction.

A reminder also to all church committees that budget requests for 2027 are due by the end of October to the Finance Committee for consideration. Please email them to Cathy Calvin at dccalvin1980@gmail.com. Please note that our goal this year is to reduce the budget as our funds will be considerably less due to the renovation. If you need to check how much of the budget you have used to date, please contact Carol-Ann at the office.

The Trinity Board wishes all our members a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.



Learning, Service, Spiritual Growth, and Meaningful Connections By Lynne Shanks

Trinity offers a variety of committees, ministry groups, and fellowship activities that support the life and mission of our church. From learning and service to shared meals, hiking, coffee hour, and German afternoon, there are many ways to connect, grow, and get involved. Members of Trinity and the wider community are welcome to participate. For a full list of opportunities, visit the Events section of our website or watch for Trinity's monthly newsletter.

Communications Committee

What we do: Discuss the best way to share information with the congregation and community. Review Trinity's website, newsletter, and social media platforms as well as brainstorm ideas on how to promote Trinity's news.

Meetings: A few times per year over Zoom.

For questions or to volunteer contact: Will Koevoets williamkoevoets2@gmail.com

Finance Committee

What we do: Prepare the budget, discuss investments and how the budget is performing.

Meetings: Begin preparing the budget in November for the following year and finalize the budget in January. Perform a mid-year review. Meetings are over Zoom.

Anyone with financial and investment knowledge is welcome to contact Cathy Calvin, dccalvin1980@gmail.com.

Tech Team

What we do: Set up and test equipment prior to Sunday Zoom church service. As a team we operate technical equipment to ensure Trinity's online community experiences a meaningful broadcast of our Sunday Church Service.

Time commitment is Sunday mornings based on your availability. Set-up begins at 9:00 a.m. and some members come in time for the broadcast at 10:00. Real-time training is provided during church service. If you have any questions or are interested in joining the team and learning new skills, contact Jim Ridge.

Fundraising Committee

What we do: Organize events to fundraise for our non-construction costs for our Building Renewal (sanctuary chairs, kitchen appliances, and new communion table).

The Committee may request volunteers to assist with fundraising events.

Continued next page

Learning, Service, Spiritual Growth, and Meaningful Connections Continued

The People's Café

What we do: Everyone is welcome to visit the café to enjoy refreshments and fellowship. We provide shelter and fellowship for two hours. The Café operates every Tuesday from 10:00 to 12:00 at the Streetlight Church, 82 Ferguson St. N. Volunteers help with dishes and visiting with our guests. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, contact Pastor Dani.

Lutheran Ladies United (LLU)

What we do: Fun and fellowship over coffee and goodies, devotions, and discussions of interesting topics related to faith, safety, health, and the environment. Guest speakers may be invited to cover a specific topic of interest. Fundraising events in support of community programs as well as hosting celebration of life events. Ladies of Trinity and the community are welcome from 1:30 to 4:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Assistance with setup, cleanup, and membership of the executive team is appreciated. If you have questions or are interested in joining, contact Mary Storbeck.

Friendship Circle

What we do: Fellowship and using our creative skills we work on a variety of projects including quilting, making diapers, and washcloths. Ladies of Trinity or the community are welcome on Mondays from 9:30 to 11:30. If you have any questions or are interested in joining, contact Nancy Catton.

Bibles and Bagels

What we do: Enjoy breakfast together while discussing Bible studies, current church topics, other faith communities, and events at home and around the world. In a welcoming and trusting environment, participants share openly and conclude with prayer for personal needs, the church, community, family, and friends. All women are welcome from 9:00 to 11:00 on the last Saturday of each month. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, contact Pastor Dani.

Men's Breakfast

What we do: Enjoy fellowship and a breakfast prepared by volunteers, and share thoughts on various issues that men face as Christians through bible studies, speakers, and presentations on current issues. The men of Trinity meet from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on the last Saturday of each month from September to June.

If you have any questions or wish to join, contact Pastor Jordan at revjordansmith@gmail.com or Matt Koevoets at mcakoevoets@gmail.com.

Animal Blessing

Saturday October 3 at 10:00 a.m.

232 Fennell Ave. E.

On Saturday October 3rd we will host the annual Blessing of the Animals at our Fennell site as the conclusion of recognizing the Season of Creation. Bring your pet, or a photo of your pet if they're not good in crowds. Join us outdoors at 10 a.m. for a time of prayer, singing, and blessing of the relationship we share with our furry friends.

Thanksgiving Family Event

Thursday October 8 at 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

232 Fennell Ave. E.

Thanksgiving is a great opportunity to come together and thank God for all the good and wonderful things we experience every day.

All children, youth, and the young-at-heart are invited! We will have some fun crafts, songs and thanksgiving soup.

Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP, if possible, to ensure we'll have enough soup.



Let's Go Hiking

October 10, 2026

9:30- 11:00 a.m.

Join us at Albion Falls for a hike. We will meet at Albion Falls South parking lot and hope you can join us!

Exodus Bible Study

Sunday October 18, 25, Nov 1, 15, 22. Starting at 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

232 Fennell Avenue East and on Zoom

Join us for one hour each Sunday following worship as we read and discuss sections of the book of Exodus and the Ten Commandments. Bring your questions and insights as we learn from this book which tells of the Israelite's journey to freedom and the gift of God's law.

Lutheran Ladies United (LLU)

Tuesday October 20, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.

232 Fennell Ave. E.

The next meeting will start with a delicious Thanksgiving pot-luck lunch at **12:30 p.m.** The guest speaker will be Rev. Katherine Gohm. She is a member of Trinity, assistant to the Bishop at the Eastern Synod and the Congregational Liaison and Program Facilitator for By Living Waters.

Thanksgiving Altar

We need your help by donating fruit, vegetables etc. to decorate the altar for Thanksgiving. Donations will be forwarded to Neighbour to Neighbour and are greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at church on the Friday October 9, during office hours, and on Saturday October 10 before 10 a.m.

Collections

We are collecting Denninger receipts, used stamps, old batteries and milk bags. All can be placed into marked containers located at the front entrance of the church.

Housekeeping

It would be appreciated, when volunteering to take home linens, if you would return them as soon as possible because of limited supply.

Christmas Market

Saturday November 14, 2026

Did you know that our annual Christmas Market is only about six weeks away? This is the perfect time to start collecting items to donate for our Christmas Gift Shop Table at our annual sale on November 14th. We appreciate your donations of jewelry, (broken silver or gold pieces), decorative items such as crystal, figurines, etc. and of course Christmas decorations as well.

Donations may be dropped off any time during office hours beginning after Thanksgiving. Please note that we are unable to accept clothing or household items at this time. Thank you for your continued support!



Past Events



September 15, 2026, LLU



September 15, 2026, LLU



36 kids, 8 counsellors, and 11 pastors spent a week together at Camp Kintail- August 2026.

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), along with local partners, is helping families survive the Nepal Floods. With the help of your donations, they assess urgent needs and provide emergency support. Please consider supporting CLWR with emergency relief and recovery efforts for families in Nepal.

We continue to support Hamilton **Community Fridges and Pantries** which help to address food security. Monthly we fill fridges and pantries with your food donations and with groceries purchased with your financial donations.

Financial donations to **CLWR or Community 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.

With the cooler weather approaching we are accepting winter **boots and winter coats** that are water resistant and in good repair. **We are not accepting any clothing currently.**

Knitters and crocheters can make hats, scarves, 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.

Good Food Box

The Good Food Box is on Thursday October 8, 2026. The cost is \$22. Order through Trinity's website by October 1 on the [Good Food Box sign up page](#) or by contacting Pastor Thomas at 289-680-7387 or email tfrm58@gmail.com.

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

Order by October 1

Pick up October 8

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.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Good Food Box program either by purchasing a Good Food Box or by donating.

Trinity Lutheran Pastors

Pastor Daniela Mertz

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Pastor Jordan Smith

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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

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October 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 Oct. 1** **Deadline for ordering Good Food Box**
Mid-Week Service -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Saturday Oct. 3** **Bay Area Bonfire.** 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. See page 2 for details.
- Sunday Oct. 4** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School- 10:00 a.m.
- Monday Oct. 5** **Friendship Circle** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Tuesday Oct. 6** **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 Oct. 8** **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.
Thanksgiving Family Event- 5:30 p.m. See page 6 for details.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
- Saturday Oct. 10** **Let's Go Hiking** - 9:30 a.m. Albion Falls. See page 6 for details.
- Sunday Oct. 11** **Worship Service** (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday School- 10:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class- 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday Oct. 13** **People's Café** - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
- Thursday Oct. 15** **Mid-Week Service** -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.

October Events Calendar

Saturday Oct. 17	German Afternoon - 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday Oct. 18	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Monday Oct. 19	Friendship Circle - 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Trinity Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday Oct. 20	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N. Lutheran Ladies United - 12:30 Potluck. See page 7 for details.
Thursday Oct. 22	Mid-Week Service -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E. Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Sunday Oct. 25	Worship Service (in-person & Zoom) 10:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Children's Activity -10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Monday Oct. 26	Friendship Circle - 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Tuesday Oct. 27	People's Café - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 82 Ferguson St. N.
Thursday Oct. 29	Mid-Week Service -11:30 a.m. 232 Fennell Ave. E. Choir - 7:00p.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.
Saturday Oct. 31	Men's Breakfast - 9:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E. Bibles and Bagels - 9:00 a.m., 232 Fennell Ave. E.

