

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

THE TRINITARIAN

All are welcome, all are loved



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DEC. 17 - ADVENT 3

**DEC. 24 -
CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICES @ 3 & 7 P.M.**

**DEC. 31 - LESSONS &
CAROLS**

JAN. 7 - EPIPHANY

PASTOR'S PEN

DON'T BE BOUND TO THE PAST

"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

- Matthew 16:19

It's hard to believe that this week marks three months since I first joined you here at Trinity. I'm not exaggerating when I say that I have felt blessed each day I have been with the congregation.

This is not to say that there have not been challenges or minor clashes, but that is to be expected as change comes and we begin to lay the foundation for the congregation's

future. When I first met Trinity's call committee way back in June, change was stressed with me. "We know we need to change ... we want to change," I remember the committee chair proclaiming from the other end of the table.

And that voice was right.

The church should always be in the process of re-forming ... adapting to meet the needs of the world outside the walls of the sanctuary ... speaking to the things that people feel are important and presenting worship that resonates.

So, we change ... and when you embrace change as

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PONDER, SHARE SERVE

By Dagmar Raulin

Council chair

Welcome to our aptly named "Trinitarian" newsletter, and as 2023 comes to a close, take another moment to read the Pastor's Pen article from Pastor Chris.

While we wait and anticipate the celebration of our Saviour's birth, ponder also the changes presently coming to us as a congregation: needed change, desired change, necessary change, longed for change.

Come to worship and share your talents, inspiring and shining as a bright light to our visitors, our new members, our regular long-standing members.

All ... all are welcome.

Learn new ways of worship, new ways to sing God's praises, new ways to serve in the church and in the community.

There are so many challenges and opportunities in our parish, our neighbourhood, in our city, and we need everyone in this congregation to use their gifts from God so we can all help, not only day to day, but especially when a call goes out for anyone needing help, comfort and support.

Let us go into the New Year with joyful anticipation of God's rich blessings.

>>> PASTOR'S PEN

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inevitable, the possibilities suddenly become almost endless.

In the past three months, we've shifted from the green hymnal to the cranberry book that was first introduced about 40 years ago.

Services, such as All Saints, were altered a bit in an effort to make them more meaningful for more people. New services, such as the Liturgical Year in Review for Christ the King, have been introduced. Communion is now offered weekly.

Plans for 2024 include the introduction of an occasional mid-week service known as Messy Church and I hope, with council's blessings, to see our music program expand with the addition of high school and university music students, as well as some accomplished musicians.

As you can see, I have fully embraced the call to change and I invite you to do the same.

The people we touch through our ministry ... the hearts we quicken and open through worship ... the connections we make or re-establish ... all make for an exciting time at Trinity.

To be sure, Covid made it easy to despair for the future of the congregation and of the church in general.

It also caused people to think whistfully of the past ... when the pews were full ... when children came with their parents and grandparents ... when Sunday school was bursting at the seams and when the hymns were the ones that had been known since childhood. Covid made it easy to wish for a return to those times.

It's fine to remember the good ol' days, but they are just memories of what was ... not examples of what is ... or true hopes for what we can be.

This is why Matthew's verse is important (and I am admittedly taking it a bit out of context), Things from the past cannot be allowed to bind us to that past because they speak to a reality that no longer exists. If we loosen the bindings, then we are free - liberated is the word Paul likes to use.

We are free to worship and minister in different ways ... to reach out to new communities and organizations in the city ... and live and love as we are called.

Each Sunday morning gives us reason to loosen despair that may have bound hearts during recent times.

That is when we come together as a community ... as a faith family ... to worship, praise, and give thanks. It is also time when we can see change as new, younger faces arrive and people who have been disconnected from the congregation, whether through the pandemic or something more personal, return to see the changes they have heard about.

Sunday morning is when we feel hope more deeply.

So, let us embrace change ... the future. Let us embrace hope.

- Pastor Chris

>>> KIDS CLUB

Kids Club (A.K.A. Sunday school)

There is a truth effort happening here at Trinity to have a program that will meet the children where they are and provide a program that acquaints them with God and Jesus and their wonderous ways.

Currently, there are just handful young children participating.

We are hopeful that more will find and enjoy our program. It would great to expand the ages attending. We have a lesson/story, a craft, a snack and sometimes time to play.

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>>> GIFT CARDS

CARDS STILL AVAILABLE

The Church earns a percentage of the sale for each gift card sold (which varies on the card) You, the buyer, are paying the face value of the card and the Church makes money!!!

These are the cards currently available:

Card	Value
Zehrs / No Frills	\$25
Zehrs / No Frills	\$50
Zehrs / No Frills	\$100
Metro / Food Basics	\$25
Metro / Food Basics	\$50
Metro / Food Basics	\$100
Sobey's / Freshco	\$25
Sobey's / Freshco	\$50
McDonald's	\$25
Shoppers	\$25
Tim Hortons	\$15
Tim Hortons	\$25
Starbucks	\$25
Canadian Tire	\$25
Indigo / Chapters	\$25
Dollarama	\$10
Dollarama	\$25
Giant Tiger	\$25
Walmart	\$25
Winners	\$25
Petro Canada	\$50

>>> CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Members of the Trinity family set up for the latest Christmas Bazaar. The event was another success.

>>> KIDS

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I am fortunate to have Donna Krejlggaard to work along with me. If you know a child up to age 10 please invite them and their family to come and try us out.

- Kathy Peifer

>>> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're on the lookout for people to assist with Sunday services. We can always use readers, ushers, liturgical assistants, counters and fellowship hosts and hostesses. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the church office.

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE PROGRAM**

AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize ***Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church***, 1215 Parent Avenue, Windsor, ON N8X 4J1, to cause a cheque to be drawn on my account, each month as a contribution by me to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, as follows:

Total ***monthly*** contributions to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of:

(\$ _____ .00) per month

Distributed as follows:

Current Giving/Benevolence	\$ _____	per month
Global Hunger and Development Agency (GHDA)	\$ _____	per month
Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)	\$ _____	per month
ELCIC World Missions/Volunteers in Mission	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Total Monthly Giving:		\$ _____ per month

Contributor's name _____ Envelope # _____

Bank/Trust/Credit Union Name _____

Branch Address: _____

Account Number _____ Type of Account _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

This authority may be changed or cancelled by the contributor at any time.

To ensure accuracy, a sample cheque marked "VOID" must accompany this form.

The transfer of contributions to the ministry of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church will begin in the month *following* receipt of this authorization.