

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

THE TRINITARIAN

All are welcome, all are loved

>>> MUSIC OUTREACH



SCHEDULE

**DECEMBER 21 -
ACADEMY BRASS QUINTET**

TRINITY'S NEW TRADITION CHRISTMAS MUSICAL EVENT WILL BE THE FIRST OFFERING IN OUR NEW "TRINITY MUSICAL ARTS SERIES." THIS CONCERT BY THE ACADEMY BRASS QUINTET MARKS THE BEGINNING OF OUR MINISTRY THAT AIMS TO ESTABLISH AFFORDABLE MUSIC OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY. TICKETS ARE \$20 FOR ADULTS AND \$10 FOR STUDENTS. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE OR AT THE DOOR.

**DECEMBER 24 -
CHRISTMAS EVE**

ONCE AGAIN, TRINITY WILL HAVE TWO SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS EVE. THE 3 P.M. SERVICE WILL INCLUDE OUR LATEST MUSIC PROGRAM ADDITION ACCOMPANYING THE CONGREGATION ON THE PIPE ORGAN. THE 7 P.M. SERVICE WILL INCLUDE OFFERINGS FROM THE CHOIR. IT IS A JOYOUS TIME TO RECONNECT WITH YOUR TRINITY FAMILY.

LET'S DUMP THE DRAMA AND EMBRACE THE JOYOUS

I had originally started writing about some pettiness that is going on behind the scenes with not-so-secret emails and phone calls, but decided to, instead, to remind ourselves of aspects of congregational life that carry within them hope and that are truly life-affirming for the congregation.

These are things merit much more attention than some drama created by someone's ego that distracts from other members' efforts to ensure the congregation has a future beyond the next couple of years.

During the Advent Season and our journey toward the manger in Bethlehem, we are invited to reflect upon four themes: Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. While we might feel a twinge of anxiety or feel sadness or anger over the divisive actions we witness, there are things that should fill us with Joy at Trinity.

The choir is back in action and the voices sound fantastic. I've been blessed to be able to listen to their rehearsals and even their warmups bring goosebumps. New voices have joined the choir veterans and the result is amazing. Our new choir director, Val, has interesting plans for the choir that, if they are successful, will greatly enhance the music program, worship and bring new faces to the sanctuary.

The choir has moved from the loft and to the front of the sanctuary.

This was done so that the group can more effectively lead us in song and to address comments from some members that it had become physically difficult to turn and watch the choir sing from the loft. In the end, we turned back the clock and placed the choir up by the altar.

Speaking of music, the Dec. 21 concert by the Academy Brass Quintet is intended to be the beginning of an annual Trinity Arts Series. Jim's and Mary's son-in-law, Florin Simioanca, developed the idea and brought it to congregational council ... who saw the potential for bringing the community through our doors and creating and funding a new outreach ministry for the congregation (more on that as details are developed ... but it does sound exciting thus far) ... and embraced the concept.

A committee has been formed to oversee and guide the art series and more voices are being drawn to assist with the effort.

Tickets to the Dec. 21 are \$20 or \$10 for students and they are available in the church office or at the door. This event will help establish the series, which will play a large role in securing Trinity's future.

Our first monthly Clothing Giveaway demonstrated that the shift from twice a year was the right move.

The flow of people was steady and many bags of clothes went out the door. As well, people took food from the food bank table (one a can of soup and a can of sauce remained at the end of the day). Judith also put one family on the Rotary Club's radar for a Christmas hamper.

It's clear that there is a great need for this Trinity ministry ... a need that needed to be addressed more often than every six months. The monthly giveaways will take place on the second Saturday of every month.

If you'd like to volunteer to assist this essential outreach, please speak to a member of the Outreach Committee.

Trinity is beginning to form relationships with local congregations and faith-based agencies – the latest being Assumption University. These relationships broaden our ministry efforts and raise Trinity's profile within the community. One result of this new relationship is our connection to student organizations at the University of Windsor and, most recently, an invitation for the congregation to take part in a prayer service during the Week of Christian Unity at the end of January. More details will be shared in the December Trinitarian.

Sunday worship services are seeing more people returning after lengthy absences and new faces arriving because they heard about Trinity and want to see things for themselves ... AND they are coming back. There are also new voices and ideas coming to the forefront and

All these things are aspects of congregational life to be celebrated. They offer hope to the community and are a source of joy for us as we transition into the future. Let's embrace the good news.

FINANCE

Treasurer Update

Here is our financial statement as of October 31, 2024.

WFCU Accounts	Value	Previous Month	Comments
<u>Chequing Account – Account 3</u>	\$95,902.23	\$100,242.62	
Alto Savings – Account 13	\$33,871.67	\$33,864.48	
Alto Savings – Account 14	\$23,921.15	\$23,916.07	
Alto Savings – Account 15	\$5,865.81	\$6,627.31	This is the Memorial Fund
Term Deposit #10	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	Matures August 14, 2025
Bingo Account	\$4,065.74	\$4,065.41	
ELFEC Investment	\$54,317.10	\$52,133.41	As of 09-30-2024
Total Funds	\$242,943.70	\$245,849.30	
Due Back to Savings	Value	Previous Month	Comments
Gift Cards	\$5,580.00	\$6,550.00	
Total Funds	\$5,580.00	\$6,550.00	

The following are our restricted fund accounts:

Restricted Funds	Value	Previous Month	Comments
Memorial Fund	\$5,865.81	\$6,627.31	Funded \$762.31 for new Pascal Candle
Endowment Fund	\$30,705.21	\$30,705.21	
Congregational Growth	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	
Youth	\$1,857.84	\$1,857.84	
Family Assist	\$740.00	\$690.00	
Total Funds	\$40,868.86	\$41,580.36	

The following is our year to date income-expense totals.

END OF October 2024	Budgeted		Actuals
INCOME TOTAL	\$128,892.00		\$85,446.23
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$148,021.48		\$133,376.02

END OF October 2023			Actuals
INCOME TOTAL			\$95,242.96

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Submitted by Bob Swiatoschik (Treasurer)

»» COUNCIL

SERVICE CELEBRATES LOVE FEAST

The new Church year is drawing nigh, coming, approaching, which ever way you want to say it, it is and swiftly. It is also the time where the old year ends at Christ the King Sunday, as Jesus Christ is honoured as lord over all creation.

“He lived not by brute force as an earthly ruler in those ancient days, but rather by caring for others who needed him. His power is not one of might, but one of love.”
(www.britannica.com)

This is now the “dark” time of year, not only illustrated by blustery, cold days, but also the “dark” time before the coming of the Messiah. With the arrival of the 1 Advent, come to church on Sunday, Dec 1, in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate the Agape (brotherly or familial love) Feast, or Love Feast, a communal meal shared to promote fellowship.

This feast is intended to encourage harmony, community and goodwill, recalling the meals Jesus shared with his

disciples.

It expresses the fellowship of the family of Christ. As we commemorate and anticipate the Coming of Jesus during Advent, let us also remain vigilant and steadfast in our service as a congregation and to the business of this congregation.

The upcoming 2025 Congregational Church Budget meeting takes place after the service on Sunday, December 15.

Bring your budget documents with you to the meeting, or notify the office if you haven't or can't receive them before that date.

Share God's love with those in need in your words and actions, as we wait and seek Him this Advent.

Dagmar Raulin
Trinity Council Chair

»» OUTREACH



This year's Christmas White Elephant had something for everyone ... the church got a lot of candles for next year's Lenten service, BTW ... and a lot of Christmas lists were trimmed by the end of the day. Of course, the baked goods table was by far the most favourite stop in the Fellowship Hall.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



BEHAVIORS AND ASPIRATIONS OF OUR MEMBERS

COMPASSIONATE LOVING INCLUSIVE KIND JUST JOYFUL
RESPECTFUL TRUTHFUL PEACEFUL

PRAY/MEDITATE DAILY
READ THE BIBLE OFTEN
WORSHIP REGULARLY WITH AN
OPEN HEART
MAKE ALL IN OUR MIDST FEEL
WELCOME
CONTACT EACH WEEK THOSE IN
NEED OF A LOVING WORD
HELP FEED THE HUNGRY AND
CLOTHE THE POOR
OFFER TALENTS AND FUNDS TO
SUPPORT A THRIVING CHURCH

➤➤➤ COUNCIL

Budget Meeting:

The 2025 budget meeting will be held on Sunday, December 15, after Church.

Outreach Update:

Christmas Bazaar – Thank you so much for all the helping hands. Your continued efforts to help keep Trinity afloat are so appreciated.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday December 21 (Confirmed) – Trinity’s NEW tradition Christmas musical event is scheduled for 2 p.m. This will be the first performance of our new “Trinity Musical Arts Series.” The name of the group that will be performing is the Academy Brass Quintet.

This is their website: <http://www.academybrassquintet.com>.

Tickets will be \$20 (adults) and \$10 (students). Tickets are now available. Please spread the word – this new music series is vital for the future of Trinity. Not only is this a fundraiser for Trinity, it is also our new music outreach to the community. It is so important to attend these events – as this is the future of Trinity. You can make a directed fund donation to the “music series,” if, by chance, you are conflicted with another event that might be occurring on that same day.

Submitted by Bob Swiatoschik (Council Lead for Outreach)

➤➤➤ INVITE INVITE INVITE

According to survey’s done by Pew Research, the majority of people who attend a church for the first time do so because a member invited them.

So, your invitation to someone to check out Trinity is essential to its future. Bring people in ... invite them to our faith community.

Send in your news,
photos and recipes.

➤➤➤ LET'S TALK

"Let's Talk" will be monthly open, non-aggressive discussions for those who wish to chat about anything Trinity-related.

"Let's Talk" will take place following church services in the sitting area in the Fellowship Hall. The next session is set for the new year.

➤➤➤ HELPERS NEEDED

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

➤➤➤ LESSONS & CAROLS

The December 29 service will see the return of the Lessons & Carols liturgy. It will a time to hear lessons from the Bible and to enjoy familiar hymns.

➤➤➤ GIFT CARDS

SPECIAL OFFER

Buy two gift cards (see below) and get a \$10 Dollarama Gift Card for only \$10!!!

Only while supplies last!!

These are the Gift Cards 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

**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.