

## »» NEWSLETTER ««

# THE TRINITARIAN

All are welcome, all are loved

## »» PASTOR'S PEN

### AN AFFIRMING PRESENCE

*"God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."*

*Romans 5:5b*

As I write this, PrideFest is a couple of weeks in the rearview mirror. It was a fun and eye-opening three days at the park and on Ottawa Street – and our experience was quite different than those of last year's event. Like last year, everyone who served at Trinity's booth came away enthusiastic over the ministry we performed and promise this ministry holds for the congregation's future.

The event is an affirmation for Trinity.

It affirmed that our ministry is important to the community and that Trinity is becoming known as a welcoming and loving congregation. It also affirmed that people are searching for a place to belong, to grow spiritually and to serve the greater community. May Trinity be that place!

Last year (our first at PrideFest) was marked by stories of the abuse and wounds the greater church has inflicted on the 2SLGBTQIA+ community over the years. This year, the stories were quite different. People recognized that Trinity is serious about reaching out and healing the wounds people have endured. We now have a track record of presence and a bit of street cred.

Thanks to the addition of a canopy to protect the members staffing the table, Trinity was able to create a sacred place for visitors.

Prayers and blessings were requested and given, Trinity key tags and lanyards were handed out, baked goods from Trinity members, and the popular lollipop tree were all part of our offerings to visitors. FYI – the lollipop tree is a post with lollipops sticking out. If a person pulls a lollipop with a coloured mark on the stem, then they receive a prize (a Trinity T-shirt, prayer quilt, bubble wand, or a gift card). No coloured mark? You still get the lollipop.

We also gave out a lot of information sheets on Trinity and its ministries.

What's exciting this year was that people asked ... **they** asked ... for information about the church. People wanted to know where we are, when we meet, what we believe and if we are truly affirming.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

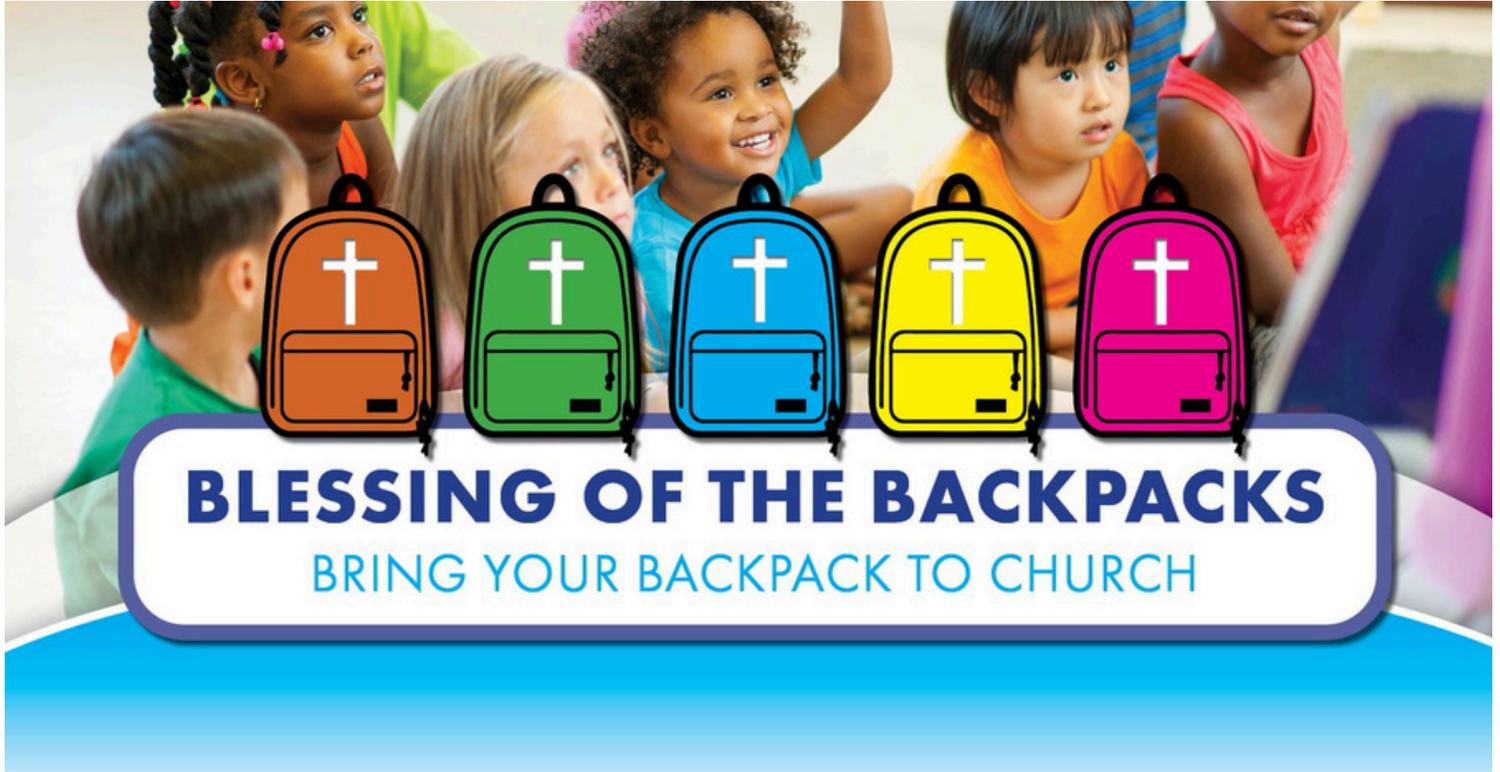
### SEPTEMBER 7 - BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

FALL AT TRINITY KICKS OFF WITH BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY WHEN WE WELCOME EVERYONE BACK FROM SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND BLESS THE CHILDREN AND TEACHERS FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR. LAST YEAR, IT WAS THE DR. SEUSS SERVICE, WHAT WILL IT BE THIS YEAR? COME AND FIND OUT WHAT THE PARROT IS DOING IN THE SANCTUARY. DURING THIS UNIQUE SERVICE (WHICH WILL BE GEARED TOWARD THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART), WE WILL BLESS EVERYONE'S BACKPACKS AND, AFTER THE MUSIC-FILLED SERVICE, WE'RE HOSTING A SPECIAL TIME OF FELLOWSHIP.

### SEPTEMBER 13 - CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

THE MONTHLY TIME OF MINISTRY RUNS FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M. VOLUNTEERS AND CLOTHING DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME.

## ➤➤➤ BACK TO SCHOOL AND BACK TO CHURCH



Children are invited to bring their backpacks to church on September 7 (it's Back to Church Sunday) and have them blessed for the coming school year. During the service, we will also pray for teachers and parents as the year gets under way.

## ➤➤➤ FINANCE

Treasurer Update

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

**End of July 2025 Status:**

**\$48,104.82 – Year to date income**

**\$100,325.07 – Year to date expenses**

**\$52,220.25 – Current deficit for 2025**

Please feel free to reach out to me.

*Submitted by Bob Swiatoschik (Treasurer)*

## ➤➤➤ PASTOR'S PEN

# Being affirming takes some effort

### From Page 1

On that last point, we emphatically said yes! We haven't really proclaimed it, but Trinity apparently has been an affirming congregation for a number of years (at least that's the word around the council table). In the coming months, I hope that we begin making a concerted effort to proclaim our affirming presence with a resolute voice.

This effort begins on September 7, when our worship bulletin begins offering the words "An affirming congregation."

So, what does being an affirming congregation mean?

It means that we publicly declare, through our words and actions, our commitment to inclusion and justice for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

It means that we become radical welcome. That the phrase we use from time to time: "All are welcome and we mean it!" carries weight in our worship and congregational life. It will carry even greater weight as we move forward as we fully and deeply live into the message contained in the phrase.

It means that we actively welcome all through our doors ... that we hold the doors open ... and that we offer our hand in fellowship and in love! It means we actively read the gospel and then live out the promise of grace with all who enter our building AND with all who remain outside our walls.

It means we ask questions about what we read in the Bible and recognize that interpretations change as the world changes. It means we seek to understand what Jesus' call to love really means for us... it is an unconditional love that never changes.

It means we listen. It means we seek to understand.

It means we are willing to enter into difficult conversations and hear those heart-rending stories of pain and hatred that others have endured – sometimes at the hands of a congregation or pastor. It means that we comfort and help the heal those who have been wounded and recognize when we have inflicted those wounds..

It means that we make space for all ... and that we love all.

It means that we live into the grace that we freely received through the cross.

... that we truly live as a faith-filled community.

In the coming weeks, I hope to see Trinity begin the Reconciling in Christ process in earnest.

The effort results in Trinity being designated as an RIC congregation. Through workshops and discussions, we learn about the challenges, persecution and stigma faced by members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

The process leads us to greater understanding and enhances our own welcoming and affirmation efforts to visitors to the building and through our outreach efforts in the community. It is when we always share the message that ...

## Love is love!





# PrideFest-ivities



Trinity's presence at the 2025 edition of PrideFest was eventful and life-affirming. Clockwise from above left: the Trinity table, the shirts provided by the synod office for congregations participating in Pride events, the table team on the final afternoon, a sampling of the Trinity swag that was provided to visitors, and the walkers ready to walk in the Sunday morning parade.



# TRINITY FEELS THE JOY OF COMMUNITY

On the August 8, 9, and 10, weekend Trinity took part again in Pridefest 2025, at Lanspeary Park in Windsor.

We had a rented table, under a borrowed canopy to keep off the blazing sun, where our TLC banner was raised for all the Pridefest visitors to see at a glance. A huge thank you goes out to the diverse helpers from our congregation, who told all our brothers and sisters in Christ that we, as a congregation, are there for them.

In order to help the visitors to Pridefest remember who we are, items (swag) were given out: key tag holders with our name and address, temporary tattoos, paint on rainbows, and lanyards with our name on them rounded out the offerings.

These affirming congregation members (recognizing and acknowledging our siblings in Christ), came and helped at the table and experienced first hand the blessings of outreach to all those seeking support, and even a spiritual home.

There was an undeniable feeling of belonging, and sharing for all who visited us. Especially, the pastoral work done on site for those visitors who needed a kind word, a listening ear, a prayer, or a Nard (an essential oil) blessing. We ministered through our conversations, and shared food. Our "Lollipop tree" broke the ice and attracted families, singles, couples and groups who tried their luck to pick a marked Lollipop to win a prize at the table. If your pop wasn't marked, at least you still got the Lolli. Great fun!

Participation in the Pridefest parade is highly encouraged and I believe utmost for affirming congregations.

As one of the banner carriers, I experienced the palpable joy that emanated from the marchers and from the spectators who lined Ottawa Street.

Our name and faces become known and many people resonated with shouts of support.

Tecumseh United Church, Emanuel United Church, the Metropolitan Community Church and the University Community Church were also in the parade, and we all received cheers for being there and for showing and encouraging others that these affirming congregations have a safe place for all.

We proclaimed to the greater Windsor community God's love for all people.

Taking all of that weekend's experience and telling all of you about it, is the springboard that's taking myself, council and Pastor into "the back to church, after the summer" season. May we all be invigorated after a summer of rest, relaxation, perhaps recuperation and reconciliation.

Be the living testimony of showing God's love to those in need of positive words and actions.

**Dagmar Raulin**  
Trinity Council Chair

## MAKE AN OFFERING ANYTIME

**In response to requests from members, Trinity accepts offerings via eTransfer. You must set up the eTransfer information in your bank account.**

**The email address to be used is "[trinitylutheran@gmail.com](mailto:trinitylutheran@gmail.com)"**

**In the "comment" section, please indicate:**

**"Trinity - General Offering"**

**and ...**

**Put your name and address in the comment section so we can provide a tax receipt**

## OUTREACH

# CONCERT SLATE FILLING UP

We are always looking for sponsors and donors to this wonderful mission. Contact me for more information.

Visit our new Chamber Music Windsor Website. You can see past and upcoming concerts, sponsors and you can even purchase tickets on-line!!

["www.chambermusicwindsor.ca"](http://www.chambermusicwindsor.ca)

### Next Events:

**Sunday, September 14** – This concert will start at 4 p.m. – Tickets are now on sale:  
\$30 – Adults  
\$10 - Students

**Saturday, December 20** – The Academy Brass Quintet – They are coming back!! If you missed this performance last year – DO NOT miss it this year.

**Sunday, May 31, 2026** –Stay tuned!!

*Submitted by Bob Swiatoschik (Council Lead for Music Ministry)*

**Have a voice?  
Join the choir for the Fall  
Talk to Val or Dagmar  
for details**

## 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



# Endimion Ensemble



Sunday, September 14, 2025 @ 4pm  
Works by Mozart | Romberg | Ries  
Trinity Lutheran Church, 1215 Parent Avenue, Windsor

Tickets available online or at the door  
Adults \$30, Students \$10

Supporting the next generation of talented musicians  
[www.chambermusicwindsor.ca](http://www.chambermusicwindsor.ca)

**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.