



**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
70th Anniversary Celebration  
Trinity Sunday, May 26, 2002**



**A 70-Year Timeline**

Lutherans in Toronto in the early years of the twentieth century were comparatively few and the Lutheran religion unknown to most inhabitants of the city. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was represented by only one congregation until in the summer of 1931 a pastor was assigned to organize another congregation and to do institutional mission work.

**Aug '31**

Rev. John Schutt, a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, ordained in Pembroke, Ontario, arrived in Toronto. His call read, "to work particularly among the Germans in the city of Toronto, Ontario, and to do institutional mission work". The number of Germans in Toronto at the time was estimated to be between five and twenty-five thousand. His salary was only \$1000 a year. Services began and continued for just over a month in the basement of St. John's. Soon after, the mission board rented 574 Concord Street, for \$75 a month, as a parsonage and chapel.



Schutt

**May 22, '32**

Trinity Sunday, official organization of the congregation. The group of charter members named the congregation "Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church".

**Jul 31, '32**

Pastor Schutt was granted a release to become the pastor of the Logan-Monkton parish.

**Sep 24, '32**

Candidate E. Lewerenz of the Fort Wayne seminary took over the 10 communicant member congregation as intern pastor.

**Dec '32**

588 Ossington Avenue, a larger and cheaper house rented for \$25 a month. Congregation numbered 32 baptized, 18 communicant and 11 voting members.



Lewerenz

**Oct 15, '33**

Pastor Lewerenz ordained.

**Apr '34**

Congregation moved to the chapel in the Anglican Men's Hostel at 188 Simcoe Street.

**End '35**

77 baptized, 51 communicant and 27 voting members with 14 enrolled in Sunday School. Within one year of the envelope system's start, receipts were increase by 87%.

**1936**

Trinity congregation officially accepted as member of Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Ontario District, at District Convention in Ottawa.

**End '36**

117 baptized, 77 communicant and 35 voting members.

**Feb 18, '37**

First choir organized. Seven men were founding members.

**May 16, '37**

15 children confirmed. 120 people in attendance.

**Jun 4, '37**

First Walther League organized.

**End '37**

134 souls, 102 communicant members and 14 in Sunday School. There had been 9 baptisms, 15 confirmations, 17 marriages and 5 burials.

**Dec 4, '38**

First service held at the Chinese Mission on Bay Street.

**Feb 28, '39**

First English Lenten Service held with 15 people in attendance. A new mixed choir sang for the first time at the Easter Sunday Service for which 134 people were in attendance.

Due to the start of the war, it was decided to start services in English.

**End '39**

170 baptized, 125 communicant and 30 voting members plus 30 Sunday School children and 4 teachers.

**Jun 13, '40**

Executive committee of the voters' meeting recommended that the German service be dropped for the duration of the war.

**Apr 23, '41**

Pastor Lewerenz accepts call to start Lutheran Service Center at Hattiesburg, Mississippi conditional on his later release and indefinite leave of absence from Trinity.

**June, '41**

Vicar A.R. Bolduan named to serve congregation, with Pastor Hahn's assistance.

**May 20, '42**

The congregation accepts Pastor Lewerenz's resignation and subsequently called Pastor Frank Brasch to be his successor.

**Fall '42**

Rev. Frank Brasch installed as pastor.

**Oct 27, '43**

619 Sherbourne Street property purchased for \$6,500. Possession took place on December 15, 1943 after full payment had been made with help of the Synod.



Brasch

**Mar 4, '45**

Basement church dedicated.



Basement Church

**Nov '45**

German services began once again.

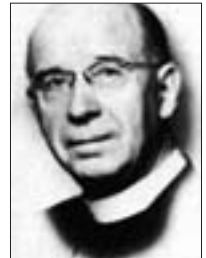


**1949**

Constitution translated into English then mimeographed in both English and German and distributed among voting members.

**Jul '49**

Rev. Brasch accepted a call to Buffalo, New York, and consequently Rev. A.F. Pollex of Seebach's Hill was called to Trinity.



Pollex

**Sep 25, '49**

Rev. Pollex installed as pastor of Trinity.

**Jun 11, '50**

Ground-breaking ceremony for parsonage.

**May 6, '51**

Dedication of the completed parsonage.

**Jun 24, '51**

Ground-breaking for Trinity's new church building with the cornerstone being laid on October 14.



Parsonage Dedication

**Sep 9, '51**

Lutherans from Lithuania, and pastor Leo Kostizen were received into membership and adopted the name of Grace Lutheran Church.

**Feb 13, '52**

Pastors C.T. Wetzstein and H.H. Erdman presented Trinity with a new plan for ministering to new Canadians. This expressed that Pastor Kostizen work mainly in the Western part of Toronto with the Lithuanians. Dr. W.H. Goegginger, a German pastor from Latvia, was appointed to assist Pastor Pollex with the German immigrants.



Parsonage & Basement C.

**Jun 15, '52**

Trinity's new building was dedicated with services both in the afternoon and evening in English and German.



Church ground-breaking

**Oct '52**

Latvian/Estonian Congregations given approval to hold services at Trinity in their respective languages alternating weekly on Sunday afternoons.



Church cornerstone

**Jul '53**

First vacation Bible School held. Continued for ten successive years.

**Mar 26, '54**

Dr. Geogginger, pastor of the German "Dreieinigkeitsgemeinde" congregation, left Trinity suddenly with a group of his followers who were unsatisfied with certain opportunities at Trinity.



Church Dedication

**Mar '55**

Rev. M.J. Michael was called and installed as pastor of Dreieinigkeitsgemeinde. He became ill in November 1956, and was given leave of absence returning to serve in March 1957.

**Jul '57**

Pastor Michael accepts call to Glendora, Michigan.

**1958**

Ontario District Board decides that Dreieinigkeitsgemeinde and Trinity should unite into one congregation and Pastor Pollex should again serve in both languages. In response to this, a large number of German-speaking people left Trinity to organize their own congregation. A "faithful remnant" remained, and the united congregation worked together in harmony.



Michael

**Jul '59**

Members decided to become self-supporting.

**Apr 20, '65**

Hallman Organ Company of Kitchener contracted to build and install 848 pipe organ which was installed in June 1966 and dedicated on October 2, 1966.

**Feb 19, '67**

Rev. Richard Wukasch installed as the first full-time Institutional Chaplain (for Metro Toronto) in the Ontario District during a service at Trinity.

**End '67**

675 souls: 305 communicants, 205 family units, 36 baptisms, 12 confirmands, 19 marriages, 9 deaths.

*May '68*

Bloor-Danforth Subway went into operation with the Sherbourne Station just north of the property.

*1970*

At the annual meeting it was decided to amend the constitution of the congregation to include the authorizing of women to be voting members.

*Sep 30, '73*

Pastor Pollex retired from active parish ministry at Trinity.

*Apr 4, '74*

Call extended to, and accepted by Rev. Daniel Jurkovic of Carrington, North Dakota.

*Aug 25, '74*

Rev. Jurkovic was installed as pastor of Trinity.

*Jul 7, '74*

The last German service was conducted by Pastor Pollex.

*Jun 6, '76*

Pastor Jurkovic resigned from Trinity due to disagreements on housing. Pastor William Gatz served as vacancy pastor.



Jurkovic

*Jan 20, '77*

Call extended to, and accepted by Rev. Robert Cole of Waterloo.

*Mar 6, '77*

Rev. Robert Cole installed as pastor of Trinity.

*Jun 12, '77*

Mortgage burning ceremony.

*Oct 12, '80*

Rev. Kim Chow inducted as pastor of the Chinese Mission in Trinity Church.



Cole

*Jul '87*

Koreans join with Trinity in their worship services.

*Jun '88*

Steven Lee starts Vicarage under pastor Cole's supervision.

*Jul '88*

Koreans start separate services conducted by Vicar Lee.



Mortgage Burning

*Jun 4, '89*

Steven Lee Ordained and installed as pastor of Korean congregation.



Lee

*Aug 31, '89*

Rev. Cole resigns as pastor of Trinity.

*Oct 2, '89*

Rev. John Neimenan comes on as vacancy Pastor and is subsequently called to be pastor at Trinity.

*Nov '89*

Pastor Neimenan is installed as pastor of Trinity.

*Jun 12, '94*

Pastor Neimenan resigns and is released from service at Trinity.

*Jan '95*

Rev. Roberto Muñoz called as Urban Mission Field Developer and pastor of Trinity. Accepts call one month later.



Muñoz

*Jun 11, '95*

Rev. Muñoz installed as pastor of Trinity.

*Oct '95*

Pastor Muñoz along with PM Productions began regular musical theatre performances.

*Jun '95*

Eun Sun starts as full-time lay worker for Korean congregation.

*May 29, 2000*

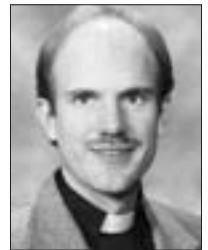
Toronto Korean Church becomes a LCC Charter member congregation.

*Oct 2000*

Pastor Muñoz and family leave to pursue other theatre options in New York.

*Apr 29, 2001*

Gerhard Wilch called and installed as pastor of Trinity.



Wilch

*Aug 19, 2001*

Rob Korsch assigned as Vicar at Trinity.

*May 19, 2002*

PM Productions held its last performance in the Basement theatre.

