



Trinity Times

April
2020

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Northwestern Ohio Synod - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 - 419 626-0204 - www.trinityelca.com

Office...trinityelca@bex.net

From your Council President

Dear Trinity Congregation,

These are very difficult times, especially because there is such uncertainty in our future. The one thing we can be certain of though is that our faith in Jesus Christ will help to see us through these tough times.

Our Congregation Council has been working very hard to make the most proactive and responsible decisions possible. As you already know we have cancelled all worship services through April 20. Pastor Cathy and I are working with others to find a way that we can record a service that can be viewed online. We recognize that there may be some members that are not "computer savvy" and might have some difficulty, but we want to be able to reach as many as possible. Hopefully those people might have a family member or friend to help them out.

Both Pastor Ralph and Pastor Cathy will be available for any emergencies and are willing to make such visitations. The church office has closed at this time but you can leave a message on the machine as Carol will be checking the messages remotely several times a day. If you need emergency pastoral care you can call Barb Wobser at 419-656-8278 or me at 419-202-0803.

Per Governor DeWine, any funerals that happen during this "Stay at Home" period will be a graveside service with limited family only.

Our biggest challenge may be how do we keep community going among ourselves and those around us. I do not want our time away to be like, "Well, see you when I see you!" Maybe we can take some time to call a fellow member just to let them know we are thinking of them and possibly share a prayer. Our Transition Team will continue its work toward the Call Process. If you have completed your survey you can mail it in to the church office. Please consider sending in your offering also. Even though we won't be worshipping together for a time there are still bills that need to be paid.

I encourage you to keep an eye on the Trinity website, Facebook, or call in to the office for updates as things seem to be changing at a rapid pace.

If you have any questions or concerns please, call the office, me, or any member of council. Please take all the recommended precautions to stay safe and reduce the spread of this disease.

Yours in Christ,
Dave Miller
Council President

URGENT CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Call the Church Office Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
419 626-0204

(leave a message, the messages are checked regularly)

Other Hours

Call Barb Wobser at 419 656-8278
(she will contact the appropriate care person)

YOUR SERVANTS AT TRINITY

INTERIM PASTORS -

The Rev. Ralph Schibler

The Rev. Catherine Schibler

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

Carol Dahs

MUSICIAN: Adele Hoffman

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

COORDINATOR:

Sally Warner - 419 684-7850

CUSTODIANS:

Jim Bertsch - 419 625-4377

Pat Wiedenheft - 419 625-8652

PRESIDENT: Dave Miller

TREASURER: Jim Bertsch

DATA ENTRY: Shannon Limberios

OFFICE PHONE: 419 626-0204

OFFICE HOURS: 9 am to 1 pm, M-F

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TIMES REPORTS



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

As I write this, we as a congregation, state and nation are going through some difficult and frightening times. We are in the midst of a coronavirus that has shut almost everything down, including worship services. We are experiencing the closing of schools, restaurants, you name it. We have been told to stay away from hospitals and nursing care facilities.

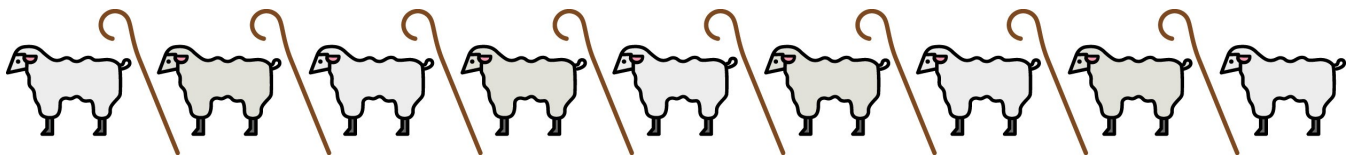
A few days ago, I had an interesting experience at a doctor's office. I was scheduled for my six month check up. That morning I got a call from the doctor's office telling me that when I got there, I should stay in my car, and they would call me when it was okay for me to come in. Sure enough, even before I got to there, I received a phone call, telling me that when I got there, I should come in. When I actually got into the office, there was no one in the waiting room, and I went right into the examining room.

Yes, we are taking all kinds of precautions. We have been advised to have no meetings at church, and if we need to, limit it to 10 people. And even at that, to keep at least six feet between people. And, we have canceled worship at least until after the next council meeting. We are working on a way that we might be able to share worship through social media. We will keep you informed as we get things worked out.

In the meantime, let us remember that the church is not the building, but it is us, the members of the congregation. Please keep everyone in your prayers. Another thing you might consider doing is to call and check in with one another every so often. Use the phone when you do so that you can hear voices and not just see words on Facebook. Let us keep connections with one another.

Also remember that Jesus is Lord, and we are His people. With patience, prayer, and His presence, we will get through this.

Pastor Ralph.



Music & Worship
Committee

The Worship and Music committee recently set up an "INFORMATION CALL LIST." There are 7 ladies who have volunteered to call members of the congregation and inform you of any changes pertaining to our worship services or any other important information that needs to be relayed to you about happenings at the church. You should have received one of these calls after the decision to cancel worship services and Sunday school through and including April 19th. Our concerns from you are: if you received a call but would like to be taken off this list AND/OR if you did not receive a call and would like to be added to the

list. Either way, please call the church office and leave Carol a message as to your preference. And please, remember to leave your phone number. If you didn't get a call, it may be that the church office does not have your phone number. It has been in the weekly bulletins for some time now asking for any updates to your phone number (cancelled land line, new phone number). If you did not give the church office your updated number, of course, there is no way for us to contact you. So, now is a good time to do that! And please remember that all phone numbers are kept confidential and will not be given out to anyone else. So, help us to help you and keep you informed of any IMPORTANT information and happenings at Trinity.

Youth and Family

with SALLY WARNER, Trinity's Youth
and Family Ministries Coordinator

We are asking all the students who took home a barn to put change in for our "CHANGE FOR CHICKS" project to go on ahead and keep collecting change. Once we are allowed to meet together again, we'll have you return them then. Let's all pray that it won't be long before we can gather together at Sunday school. We miss all you kids and pray you and your families are being safe and enjoying your time together.



A message from the Congregational Care Team.....

In the last issue of the *Trinity Times* we announced the new name of our team's ministry, FAITH Member Ministry, which stands for:

Friends/Family Abiding in Christ In Their Homes/Hospitals/Healthcare Centers

Our team ministers to members who have expressed an interest in continued ministry wherever they may be, mainly because they are unable to be with us during regular worship services. Whether this absence at worship be on a temporary basis, or a permanent basis, they are still an important part of our Trinity family.

Well, in only a little over a month after we unveiled our new ministry name, we find that we are ALL temporarily unable to worship at Trinity, due to this current health issue we are facing. So, that means we are now all FAITH Members until we can reconvene at worship again at Trinity on some Sunday morning in the distant future.

So, our Congregational Care Team members would like to encourage everyone to join together, with our team members, to reach out to one another via phone calls, cards or social media and minister to one another and help each other abide in Christ while we are physically separated. May our joint ministry be to those within our church family and also to those in need in our community.

Until we gather again as one family in Christ at 502 Bardshar Road, let us all pray each day:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





Recommended Ways to stay connected to your faith through this uncertain time.

Trinity is currently working on getting a virtual sermon together for those who have access. If we can get it going it will be posted on Facebook.

Trinity's weekly Sunday bulletin is on their website at trinityelca.com, this also includes the monthly newsletter. Please bear with us as we get the website updated since Pastor Gardner's retirement.

You can watch sermons at <http://asermonforeversunday.com>. Trinity has used this website's sermons for several services over the years.

You can listen to 88.3 FM radio or visit their associated website at bbn1.bbnradio.org (Bible Broadcasting Network)

You can watch Pastor Sharon Brown at www.sojaz.net under the "Worship" tab. Sermons are kept for 90 days

Zion offers it's 10:30 am Sunday service on the radio at WLEC 1450 AM. They will also be live streaming services at the following times on their Facebook page and YouTube Channel: Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, Saturday at 6:00 pm, and Sunday's at 10:30 am.

Miscellaneous News



There will be no Easter flowers ordered this year. We apologize for not being able to continue this lovely Easter tradition this year but we look forward to continuing with it next year.

Trinity received \$57.41 from the Kroger Community Rewards Program from November 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020. Thank you to all who participate.

On Tuesdays only, Walmart in Sandusky will be open from 6:00 am to 7:00 am for senior shoppers.

COUNCIL UPDATE

TRINITY CONGREGATION COUNCIL Meeting Highlights - March 19, 2020 - 7:00 pm (These are unapproved meeting minutes)

Attending: Barb Wobser, Dave Miller, Sally Warner, Jim Bertsch, Bonnie Lieb, Candy Beatty, Pastor Ralph, Mike Markley, Pastor Cathy, and secretary, Carol Dahs.

Not in Attendance: Judy Driscoll

Meeting called to order by President, Dave Miller. Devotions were given by Dave Miller.

Minutes of previous meeting (February 20) were reviewed. Barb made a motion to accept the meeting minutes with the following corrections: Souper Bowl Subs money was given to Care & Share not Mills School Children's Project and food items collected during Lent are for Grace's Table not Project Share. 2nd by Bonnie. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report for February was reviewed. Barb made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. 2nd by Candy. Motion passed. Jim stated that an audit of the books was completed on March 15.

President's Report: After much discussion Barb made a motion to cancel all church activities and service through April 20 with a review to be done at the next council meeting on April 16. 2nd by Sally. Motion passed. Pastor Cathy, Dave, and others will work on seeing if we can get some sort of video sermon created for each week. Dave will put together a letter for the April newsletter with information on the decision to cancel services. Mike will try and do some office and building improvements while the church is closed. Dave is waiting for signed reviews from Adele and Shannon yet. The transition team met on February 22, 2020 and decided to send out a questionnaire to all members to get some feedback on what the congregation is looking at for the future of Trinity. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 7, Henry Seibert will be there to help guide the process. Barb made a motion to accept the emergency council meeting minutes from March 14 noting that Bonnie was absent do to her not being notified of the meeting. 2nd by Candy. Motion passed. The current monthly copier lease is \$329 per month. The proposed new one would be \$319 with the enhanced features. Sally made a motion to go with the new copy machine and service company. 2nd by Bonnie. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ralph lost a ring so keep an eye out for one. Weddings and funerals have very specific gathering guidelines during this "stay at home health crisis".

The Congregational Care Ministry team – Barry submitted an overview of the team's activities for February. They will continue on with their ministry even in this health crisis with phone calls and mail but no in-home visits. Barry also asked that Trinity allow the NA meetings to continue if they keep their group size to 10 or less. He will take care of wiping down the areas affected by their gathering. Mike made a motion to allow them to continue. 2nd by Jim. Motion passed.

Property – Mike Markley – Council stated that they consider the need for a railing going up to the altar and lectern as a safety issue and would like Mike to get the railing and adjustments done as soon as possible. Mike has Eric Alderman from Norwalk coming in to give an estimate on getting the needed tuck pointing done this spring. Mike will get back with the glass company on removing the big storm windows on either end of the sanctuary so that painting can be done and then they will be re-installed. Jim made a motion to purchase a new desk unit for Carol at a cost of \$750. 2nd by Barb. Motion passed. The office will have some updates: painting and flooring done before new unit is assembled. Barb reported that the family restroom downstairs faucet needs some adjusting as it gives you a bath when used.

Worship and Music – Sally Warner – A call list has been started to help get worship closings and other important emergency information passed onto our members. Barb is looking into the price of an automated One Call System.

New Business – There was a request to put the monthly balance sheet back in the newsletter. Council agreed this should be done. Jim made a motion to give Bernie Neidler one of the children's benches that are being offered to the congregation for his work in refinishing them all several years ago. 2nd by Mike. Motion passed. Jim stated that the mower was at Bill's Implement for spring servicing. It is in need of \$300 of maintenance. Jim had Bill give some estimates on a new mower and two used ones. Barb made a motion that Trinity purchase the one-year old mower for \$3950 with the trade in of the current mower. 2nd by Bonnie. Motion passed.

Beginning January 1, 2020
Please use the following guidelines for Pastoral Care:

- If the situation is an **EMERGENCY** and requires **IMMEDIATE** Pastoral Care and it is during the church office hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; Monday through Friday, call the church office at 419-626-0204.
- If the situation is an **EMERGENCY** and requires **IMMEDIATE** Pastoral Care and it is **NOT** during the church office hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; Monday through Friday, call **Barb Wobser at 419-656-8278**. Barb will obtain all necessary information and discuss the designated Pastoral Care available for the emergency situation.
- If the situation is an **EMERGENCY** and **not at a local hospital**, please contact the hospital and ask about immediate Spiritual Care services and then follow the above guidelines to notify the designated Trinity personnel.
- If the situation is a **NON-EMERGENCY** situation, please contact the church office at 419-626-0204 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; Monday through Friday, and speak with Church Administrator, Carol Dahs. You may also call the church office at any time and leave a message, requesting Pastoral Care, and someone will return your call.
- If you have any questions about any other concerns regarding Pastoral Care, contact our Church Administrator, Carol Dahs, during office hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Monday through Friday. You may also contact any of the members of the Congregational Care Team listed below:

Barry Gill:	419-366-0307
Jean Holbrook:	419-202-9057
Patty Swartz:	419-626-4970

For the above situations, please have the following information to share with us:

- The parishioner's name.
- Where the Pastoral Care is needed.
- What the nature of the situation is.
- A contact person's name and telephone number (family member).



APRIL ALTAR CARE

Barb Wobser, Chairperson
Ellen Kleinoeder



**TODAY'S CHRISTIAN MUSIC
IN A SPIRIT-FILLED
ATMOSPHERE!
COME, WORSHIP, AND SING!**

CANCELLED FOR APRIL



**MAY TIMES
Submissions Deadline:**

APRIL 20

**Items received after this date
will be held for the
June newsletter**

**IT'S EASY
AND IT
WON'T
COST YOU A
DIME!**



**Kroger is giving
MILLIONS to local non**

Just shop, swipe your Kroger Plus Card and earn rewards for
Trinity Lutheran Church.

Here's how to enroll:

1. Visit: krogercommunityrewards.com
2. Sign in to your online account or create an account.
3. Follow the prompts or see the church secretary, Carol, and she will help you.
4. Trinity's number is IU449

**Use the Power of your Plus Card
for Good!**



FAITH Member Ministry

Friends and Family **A**biding in Christ **I**n **T**heir **H**omes/Hospitals/Healthcare Centers

Trinity's Congregational Care Team ministers to our brothers and sisters in Christ who are unable to be with us at worship – whether on a temporary or a permanent basis. Our team's mission is to share Christ and what is happening within the walls of Trinity with these FAITH Members, so they can continue to be a part of our Christian family. Please join us in praying for these FAITH Members and we ask that you join us in this important ministry by making a visit or call, or by sending them a card or letter, their birthdates are listed with each member. Should you like to join our team in making home visits, where we offer conversation, prayers and communion, please contact Barry Gill at 419-366-0307.

FAITH Members (as of 02/22/20)

At the Commons of Providence Assisted Living Building, 5000 Providence Drive, Sandusky

Iretta Gast	#318	419-308-4269	July 15
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At the Commons of Providence Memory Care Unit, 4901 Providence Drive, Sandusky

Geraldine Watson	#128		Oct. 6
Ruby Stierhoff	#114		July 26

At the Willows of Bellevue, 101 Auxillary Drive, Bellevue, Ohio 44811

Shirley Miller	#311	419-483-4189	April 3
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At Providence Care Center, 2025 Hayes Avenue, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Dorothy Miller	#72		June 20
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At The Meadows at Osborn Park, 3916 Perkins Ave., Huron, Ohio 44839

Margaret Lieb			June 27
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At Heritage Village, 700 Helen Street, Clyde, Ohio 43410

Kay Braden	Sister of Kathy Parker and Donnie Bowers
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In their homes:

Brian & Mary Ann Hickman 51 N. Harbors End, Port Clinton, 419-732-7398

B: May 25 MA: July 10

Viola Liptok	102 Portland Avenue, Bay Bridge, OH	419-684-5840	Dec. 9
Send mail to:	5322 Hampton Drive, North Olmstead, OH 44070		
Dan & Gwen Miller	5708 Bogart Road, Castalia	419-684-5274	D: May 24 G: Oct. 5
Bernie Neidler	1305 Ogontz, Sandusky	419-684-5274	B: Nov. 16 MA: Dec. 30
Pat Nielsen	1502 Martins Point Road, Sandusky	419-684-5627	June 6
Barb Saylor	114 W. Menominee Trail, Sandusky		June 8
Judy Welser	5619 Debra Drive, Castalia	419-624-7232	Feb. 11
Ron Wriker	101 Caswell Drive, Castalia		Apr. 6

APRIL MILESTONES

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Dustin Howard | |
| 3 Shirley Miller | |
| Alison Schwochow | |
| Carrie Wiedenheft | |
| 5 Alexis Howard | |
| 6 Ron Wriker | |
| 7 Robert Stradtman | 20 Jaelyn Sosa |
| 8 Robert Troike | Kenneth Grahl |
| 9 Harold Schonhardt | Deborah Pfann |
| 10 Brian Driscoll | 21 Shawn Bahnsen |
| Charles Howard | 22 Isabella Lesch |
| 12 Kenneth Pfann | Troy Brown |
| Orpha Densmore | 23 Dustin Auble |
| 13 Suzanne Berger | 24 Casey Swartz |
| Kaylin Griffin | 25 Alice Bertsch |
| 15 Guy Miller | Lois Huff |
| 16 Rylee Chapman | 26 Stephanie Salama |
| Thomas Kingsborough | Charles Paseka |
| 18 Caleb Schwan | 28 Brenna Carrozzino |
| 19 Betty Roeser | Jess Neill |
| Gail Lococo | 29 Adam Thiede |
| Bentley Koch | |



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Daniel & Sarah Strayer - 14th
 6 Thomas & Becky Barnes - 36th
 20 Roy & Joyce Patterson - 57th
 29 John & Natalie Powell - 14th



Dave & Sally Warner in memory of
Ray Downing

Jim Bertsch, Barb Wobser, Dave &
Sally Warner in memory of JoAnne
Harris



**Easter
Blessings**



On behalf of the people of Trinity, our Congregation Council thanks:

- To all who donate towards the Crossroads meal each month including those who volunteer to help put the meals together.

HELPERS AT WORSHIP - April 2020 and May 2020

Altar Care: April - Barb Wobser (chair), Ellen Kleinoeder
May - Pat Wiedenheft (chair), Alice Bertsch, Carrie Killingsworth

Date	Chancel Flowers	Memorial Flowers	8:00 Service			10:30 Service		
			Acolyte	Lector	Communion Assistant	Acolyte	Lector	Communion Assistant

Sunday Ushers in April - 8:00 - Barb Wobser, Brad Stierhoff
10:30 - Denny Sessler, Bob Chapman, Sonny Schonhardt

Lenten Wednesday April 1	Cancelled
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April 5	Cancelled
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Holy Week	Maundy Thursday April 9 - Cancelled	Good Friday April 10 - Cancelled
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April 12 Easter Sunday	Cancelled
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April 19	Cancelled
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April 26	Craig & Betsy Stierhoff		Mariska Farlow	Guy Miller		Mason Hermes	Candy Beatty
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Sunday Ushers in May - 8:00 - Rex Stierhoff, Roy Patterson, Barb Wobser
10:30 - Charles & Judy Howard, Bill Bertsch

May 3	Mike & Maree Markley		Erica Miller	Joyce Patterson	Dave Miller	Natalie Thompson	Jim Bertsch	Bob Troike
May 10	Ken & Marsha Schenk	Patty Swartz	Trent Hershey	Sally Warner			Barry Gill	
May 17	Gary & Bonnie Lieb	Fred Wobser	Brett Miller	Phyllis Nuber	Phyllis Nuber	Eli Conner	Candy Beatty	Cathy Wobser
May 24	Dave & Sally Warner	Charles & Sandy Paseka	Lilah Werner	Penny Solem			Cathy Wobser	

Unity Service - Chancel Flowers: Larry & Pat Wiedenheft

APRIL 2020

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Nar-Anon 7 pm NA 7:00 pm	2	3	4 NA 11:00 am
5 Palm Sunday Services Cancelled	6	7 Transition Team Mtg- 5:30 pm	8 Nar-Anon 7 pm NA 7:00 pm	9 JoyTime - 6:00 pm	10	11 NA 11:00 am
12 Easter Sunday Services Cancelled	13	14 Community Mission Mtg - 6:30 pm	15 Crossroads Meal -1:00 Nar-Anon 7 pm NA 7:00 pm	16 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	17	18 NA 11:00 am
19 Second Sunday of Easter Services Cancelled	20 Dartball Banquet	21	22 Nar-Anon 7 pm NA 7:00 pm	23	24	25 NA 11:00 am
26 Third Sunday of Easter Worship will be decided at the Council Meeting on the 16th Worship 8:00 and 10:30 am ?? Sunday School 9:15 am ??	27 Holy Comm. at The Commons 1:30 pm	28	29 Nar-Anon 7 pm NA 7:00 pm	30		