

# Trinity Times

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

May 2025

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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](http://www.trinityelca.com)

[trinityelcasandusky@gmail.com](mailto:trinityelcasandusky@gmail.com)

Pastor Jennifer Herrmann

## *A note from Pastor Jen*

Dear Church,

There are so many things happening in our individual lives, local community, country, and the global world, that it can be overwhelming. We end up focusing on the minutia of our lives and miss the context we live in, or focus on the vast global issues and forget the things that are closest to us. And, in our time and place, division is sown like dandelion seeds floating in the wind.

One of the most important things I think we can do as people of faith is remember that we all share humanity. Whenever there is division – an US or THEM situation of any kind — it can become really easy to dehumanize whoever we see as the “other.” Walls of fear or distrust cannot be broken down with anger or hate. It’s only compassion and empathy that can allow us to bravely look at things in the light of truth. Empathy allows us to step into another's shoes, even when someone’s views differ vastly from our own. It doesn't mean we condone harmful ideologies, but it does offer a path to understanding the anxieties and frustrations that might make someone susceptible to them. This understanding, in turn, can inform more effective ways of communication and bridge-building.

All people, no matter gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, legal status, age, ability, or any other thing (even those people who don’t use turn signals!) are intrinsically and inherently worthy of being seen as a whole person. Jesus’ incarnation reminds us of how important God sees humanity. God loves us so much that God became human for us to know more about that Godly love we believe in. We in turn, are entrusted to see people through God’s eyes of love. During this Easter season, may our eyes see with compassion, our hearts be moved by empathy, and our labor be that of justice.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jen



## *A note from Secretary Stephanie*

Ah, the universal maxim of “spring cleaning.” From organizing our closet (my disorganized closet fancies creepy cobwebs and scuttling spiders) to a more metaphorical organization of our spiritual life, the blossoming season beckons us. For some, spring carries the anticipation of summer vacation.

A recent study claims that the emotion of awe is most impactful for our parasympathetic nervous system, our “rest and relaxation” system. Experiencing awe is beneficial for stress, anxiety, and depression. The idea of awe conjures a picturesque landscape found in a summer vacation, of gentle breezes and lapping waves. However, it is critical to note that awe is accessible in quotidian life and not just a special journey into foreign land that requires economical privilege.

The theological concept of immanence — the divine being omnipresent in day-to-day endeavors and scenery — is interchangeable with awe. What are some ways we can pause and see a greater energy? Here are some spring ideas:

What kinds of formations does a dandelion cluster make?

What shade of blue is the sky?

How does the texture of the grass differ from another spot?

Is the light dappled on Cold Creek?

How do the bubbles form in the sink after washing your hands?

For me, there is an abundance of small miracles every day. However, our receptiveness must be balanced so we don’t feel overwhelmed at the overabundance! Isn’t that **AWE**some?

*Stephanie*



Please join us on **May 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am** around the flagpole for a tribute service for our veterans who have served. Following the tribute service, join us at Venice Cemetery to place flags at the gravesites of veterans.

• Remember and Honor •

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sandusky, Ohio - Sandusky OH**  
**Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2025**

**Thursday, May 1, 2025**

**Page 1 of 1**

**Account #      Account Name      YTD Balance**

***Assets***

1.100.102	Checking Account	8,373.06
1.100.104	Petty Cash Fund	20.00
1.100.106	Thrivent Bond Fund Checking	45,419.79
1.200.113	Thrivent Youth Gathering M/M	1,640.26
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,728.89
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	104,216.72
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,167.95
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	279,059.61
1.220.122	Edward Jones CD	20,966.82
1.400.110	Thrivent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	62,453.19
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	901.44
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$528,947.73</b>

***Liabilities***

2.100.200	Accounts Payable/Vendors	(46.20)
2.100.210	Financial_Agent	(51.40)
2.100.216	Ohio Treasurer of St	203.00
2.100.218	R.I.T.A.	112.07
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$217.47</b>

***Fund Balances***

3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	(11,094.95)
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	15,408.51
3.220.300	<i>Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	18,168.01
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	108,444.67
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	55,364.78
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	926.44
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	279,059.61
<i>Total Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>		<i>\$461,963.51</i>
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	62,453.19
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$528,730.26</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$528,947.73</b>



# COUNCIL UPDATE

TRINITY CONGREGATION COUNCIL  
Meeting Highlights - April 10th 2025 - 7:00 pm  
(These are unapproved meeting minutes)

.Attending: Pat Wiedenheft, Jim Bertsch, PR. Jen, Carrie Wiedenheft, Barb Sessler, Nancy Vollmer, Bill Bertsch and Stephanie Lehr

Meeting called to order by President Carrie Wiedenheft  
Opening devotions were given by Carrie Wiedenheft

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed with one minor change in Worship and Music. Jim motioned to approved, Barb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Treasurer's report:** There is a deficient of \$9,000 in the current fund. The \$20,000 extracted from Thrivent has not been done yet. The fire extinguisher evaluation was discussed. Nancy motioned to approve; Pat 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**President's Report:** The youth candy fundraiser was received well.

**Pastor's Report:** PR. Jen discussed her April 2<sup>nd</sup> worship for Providence and the Breakfast Buddies program. The latter requests diaper donations. PR. Jen noted her preparations for the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday service. She will be on vacation April 22<sup>nd</sup> – April 25<sup>th</sup>. Stephanie noted ongoing issues with the office computer; Pastor Matthew from Gibsonburg evaluated the computer. Bill motioned to invest in a new computer tower; Jim 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Congregational Life (Sally Warner):** Not available.

**Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft):** Pat confirmed the kids singing for the following Sunday.

**Community Mission (Betsy Stierhoff):** Chick sales are going well.

**Property:** There was a discussion about the upstairs gathering room remodel, including the painting contractor. There is a possibility of splitting duties between committees. Stephanie agreed to research memorial money for the project. Possibility of meeting with congregation?

**Stewardship and Finance (Jim Bertsch):** Not available.

**Worship and Music (Nancy Vollmer/Barb Sessler):** Not available.

**Young at Heart (Nancy Vollmer):** Six members attended The Last Supper at Cinemark; the Ehoove lunch gathering went well.

**Old Business:** Not available.

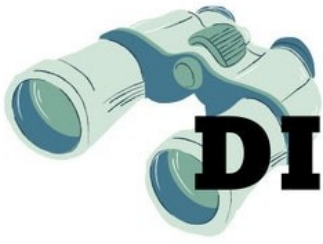
**New Business:** Stephanie discussed a plant donation from Our Lady of the Pines; it was approved.

**Council Thank-yous:** Dunlap Snow Removal, Midday Lent Actors Guy Miller, Russ Stevens, Barb Sessler, Sally Warner, Roy Peterson  
Assistant to count offering until the next meeting is Nancy Vollmer

The devotion leader for the next meeting is Pat Wiedenheft

May's council meeting will be May 15th. Barb moved to adjourn, Nancy 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Motion passed. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.



# DISCIPLE DETECTIVES

HELP FIND JESUS'S TWELVE APOSTLES NAMES BELOW



S W E M O L O H T R A B  
M O E E A D O J A M E W  
S R N C M D A A N S R E  
F P E T E R O N C A R H  
P T A B S U E D D A H T  
I H D R H I S R O O N T  
L E N O E N I E H H N A  
I S O T R N M W N T R M  
H V M H A D O C C H R A  
P P I M O S N S T E R V  
A V S R A D Z C G R R E  
S D A U G J S A M O H T

**SIMON**

**JAMES**

**BARTHOLOMEW**

**JAMES**

**PETER**

**JOHN**

**THOMAS**

**THADDEUS**

**ANDREW**

**PHILIP**

**MATTHEW**

**SIMON**



## FAITH Member Ministry

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

"Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness." - Seneca

### FAITH Members (as of 05/01/2025)

#### **At the Commons of Providence, 5000 Providence Drive, Sandusky**

Ruth Sieb Apt #107

Birthday - Sept. 19

#### **At the Commons of Providence Memory Care Unit, 4901 Providence Drive, Sandusky**

Ruby Stierhoff Rm #114

Birthday - July 26

#### **At Parkvue Community, 3800 Boardwalk Blvd, Sandusky OH 44870**

Ray Remy Apt. 112

Birthday - Feb 9

#### **At Providence Care Center, 2025 Hayes Avenue, Sandusky, Ohio 44870**

Alice Bertsch #43

#### **At Admiral's Pointe, 1920 Cleveland Road West | Huron, Ohio 44839**

Mary Ann Neidler

#### **At The Meadows of Osborn Park, 3916 Perkins Avenue, Huron, Ohio 44839**

**At Otterbein Senior Life, 9400 North Shore Blvd, Lakeside-Marblehead OH 43440**

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

#### **At the Willows of Bellevue, 101 Auxiliary Drive, Bellevue, Ohio 44811**

#### **At Heritage Village, 700 Helen Street, Clyde, Ohio 43410**

#### **In their homes:**

Judy Welser

5619 Debra Drive, Castalia

419-684-7232

Laura Allen

2015 Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky

Pat Nielsen

1502 Martins Point Rd, Sandusky



Should you like to join our team in making home visits, where we offer conversation, prayers and communion, please contact Patty Swartz at 419-626-4970.



**May ALTAR CARE**  
Pat Wiedenheft & Carrie  
Killingsworth



**JAM!**

**May 11th**

Crossroads Homeless  
Shelter Meal  
May 21st

Pork gravy over mashed  
potatoes  
Green beans  
Salad  
Bread/butter  
M&M cookies/Raspberry  
Jello Fluff

Jim is still cooking monthly meals for  
Crossroads. If you would like to support  
this ministry please send your donation  
to the church and mark it Homeless



The Congregational Life Team will continue  
the "Cookie and Coffee" fellowship time in  
2025 on the first Sunday of every month.  
Please sign up on the bulletin board in the  
office hallway. Remember you can bring  
store bought cookies/donuts or ask a  
friend or two to help you by donating a  
dozen homemade cookies for this event.







### *BIRTHDAYS*

Daniel Baum 05/02  
 Craig Stierhoff Sr. 05/02  
 Ann Strean 05/06  
 Pat Wiedenheft 05/07  
 Barbara Wobser 05/14  
 Michael Ramsdell 05/15  
 Carrie Killingsworth 05/16  
 Kenneth Schenk 05/20  
 Linda Gantz 05/21  
 Tim Thompson 05/24  
 Keith Miller 05/28  
 Kent Miller 05/28  
 David Wobser 05/25

### *ANNIVERSARIES*

	Years
Craig & Betsy Stierhoff Sr. 05/04	29
Bob & Charlene Zeno 05/06	58
Dale & Mary Meyer 05/11	51
Rev Dane & Kristi Meuschke 05/14	48
Ron & Marilee Werner 05/23	55
Larry & Linda Velliquette 05/27	47
Kenneth & Marsha Schenk 05/29	49

### *MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS*

In memory of Kenneth Grahl for his birthday on April 20th from Edward Grahl

In memory of Martha Martin Selke for Mother's Day and her birthday on May 12 from Patty Swartz and Jean Leimeister



Actors for the Lent services: Guy Miller, Russ Stevens, Barb Sessler, Sally Warner, Roy Patterson — bravo and a standing ovation!

The ushers and acolytes for worship — thank you for all you do!

Dunlap Snow Removal — keeping our parking lot safe during the winter.

# May 2025

M O N T U E S W E D T H U R S F R I S A T						
				1	2	3 N/A 11am
4      3 Easter Communion service 8am& 10am Sunday School      9:15am	5	6	7 NA 7pm	8	9	10 N/A 11am
4 Easter 11 Mother's Day Worship service 8am& 10am Sunday School      9:15am Jam Session      9:30am	12	13	14 NA 7pm	15 Council mtg. 7pm	16	17 N/A 11am
18      5 Easter Communion service 8am& 10am Sunday School      9:15am	19	20	21 NA 7pm	22	23	24 N/A 11am
25      6 Easter Worship service 8am& 10am Sunday School      9:15am	26 Memorial Day 	27	28 NA 7pm	29 Ascension of our Lord	30	31 N/A 11am

# HELPERS AT WORSHIP - April & May 2025

Date	Alter Flowers	Memorial Flowers	8:00 am Service				10:30 am Service		
			Ushers	Lector	Acolyte		Ushers	Lector	Acolyte

## Alter Care: Pat Wiedenheft      Communion Assistant – 8:00 Sally Warner 10:30

April 6	Sally Warner		Roy Patterson & Guy Miller	Sally Warner	Ryan Wiedenheft	Gary Lieb & Charles Howard	Candy Beatty	Mason Russell
April 13	Larry & Pat Wiedenheft		Roy Patterson & Guy Miller	Guy Miller	Ryan Wiedenheft	Gary Lieb & Charles Howard	Cathy Wobser	Natalie Thompson
April 20	Jim Bersch		Roy Patterson & Guy Miller	Carrie Wiedenheft	Tyler & Carlie Wiedenheft	Gary Lieb & Charles Howard	Gayle Thompson	Eli & Claire Connor
April 27	Craig & Betsy Stierhoff	Pat & Larry Wiedenheft	Roy Patterson & Guy Miller	Erica Miller	Lincoln Smith	Gary Lieb & Charles Howard	Natalie Thompson	Malachi Herrmann

## Alter Care: Pat Wiedenheft & Carrie Killingsworth      Communion Assistant – 8:00 Guy Miller 10:30 Candy Beatty

May 4	Carrie Killingsworth		Sally Warner & Fred Wobser	Joyce Patterson	Drew Killingsworth	Chrissy Nielsen & Bill Bertsch	Candy Beatty	Natalie Thompson
May 11	Peggy Kingsborough	Fred Wobser	Sally Warner & Fred Wobser	Russ Stephens	Mariska Farlow	Chrissy Nielsen & Bill Bertsch	Cathy Wobser	Mason Russell
May 18	Ken Schenk		Sally Warner & Fred Wobser	Carrie Wiedenheft	Zane Warner	Chrissy Nielsen & Bill Bertsch	Gayle Thompson	Eli Connor
May 25	David & Cathy Wobser		Sally Warner & Fred Wobser	Sally Warner	Emma Killingsworth	Chrissy Nielsen & Bill Bertsch	Natalie Thompson	Malachi Herrmann

# May Prayers. Readings & Psalms

## May 4: Third Sunday of Easter

### **Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]**

*Paul's conversion, baptism, and preaching*

### **Psalms 30**

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

### **Revelation 5:11-14**

*The song of the living creatures to the Lamb*

### **John 21:1-19**

*Jesus appears to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## May 11: Fourth Sunday of Easter

### **Acts 9:36-43**

*Peter raises Tabitha/Dorcas from the dead*

### **Psalms 23**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

### **Revelation 7:9-17**

*A white-robed multitude sings before the Lamb*

### **John 10:22-30**

*Jesus promises eternal life to his sheep*

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## May 18: Fifth Sunday of Easter

### **Acts 11:1-18**

*Peter's vision: God give the Gentiles repentance that leads to life*

### **Psalms 148**

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

### **Revelation 21:1-6**

*New heaven, new earth: springs of living water in the new Jerusalem*

### **John 13:31-35**

*Jesus gives a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you*





O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **May 25: Sixth Sunday of Easter**

#### **Acts 16:9-15**

*Lydia and her household are baptized by Paul*

#### **Psalm 67**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

#### **Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5**

*The Lamb is the light of the city of God*

#### **John 14:23-29**

*The Father will send the Holy Spirit*

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



## Community News

The **Project Share Spaghetti Benefit** was a huge success once again thanks to the overwhelming support of our church families and community! Over \$4700 was raised while serving over 300 meals which included 65 deliveries to our community shut-ins. Whether you made a dessert, worked at the benefit or picked up meals, we thank you for your generosity! Definitely God's work with our hands!



Blessings,  
Brenda Ried  
419-357-3672

On Saturday, May 10th, 2025, the letter carriers of Sandusky Post office, USPS, and the Sandusky Rotary Club will hold their **Stamp Out Hunger food drive**.

Please place a non-perishable food item in a bag by your mailbox on May 10th. Last year, over 21,000 lbs of food was collected and distributed to local food banks!

Wayne Roesch, Food Drive Coordinator  
419-602-1548

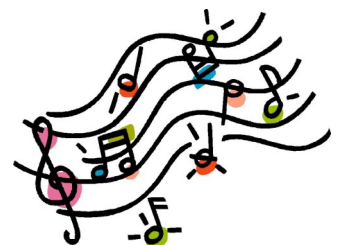
The **Northwestern Ohio Synod** expresses sympathy to the family of **SAM Frank Raeske**. Frank died on April 21, 2025. Frank was part of the first introduction of the SAM program in the Northwestern Ohio Synod. He served as a SAM for 18 years at Grace, Elmore. He went on to serve at Zion, Luckey, and St. John, Toledo.

A remembrance of Frank's life and ministry with the congregation will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2025 during the 10:30 AM service at St. John's Lutheran Church, 708 S. Erie St, Toledo, OH. Please keep SAM Frank's family and friends in your prayers.

**Tuesday, May 13th** at 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church is a presentation of the life-changing experience of Beth and Dan Rice. In 2020, Dan was hospitalized, placed in an induced coma, and on life support. Given the slim chances of his survival, Beth turned to her faith for strength. This is their story of Dan's miraculous recovery, God's healing power, and where God is leading them today.

A **FREE COMMUNITY DINNER** will take place at Castalia's Grace Lutheran Church on Wednesday, May 14th at 5:00pm — 6:00pm. The menu is ham in mac & cheese, coleslaw, bread, and dessert. Delivery available for shut-ins, please call 419-357-3672.

A **FREE CONCERT** "Praise II" performed by Firelands Chorus Inc. will take place on Friday, May 9th & Saturday, May 10th at 7:30pm, at Zion Lutheran Church in Sandusky. Doors will open at 7:00pm. You won't want to miss it!



**JUNE  
14**



# TOM STIERWALT MEMORIAL RUNNING IS BETTER AT THE PINES - 5K



**OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER**

**Date:** Saturday, June 14, 2025

**Place:** Rodger Young Memorial Park (1111 Tiffin St., Fremont, OH)

**Check-in Time:** 8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

**Race Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Route:** Start and end at Rodger Young Park with a trip through the peaceful grounds at The Pines Retreat Center

**Race Fee:** \$25 (includes t-shirt if registered by 5/31)

**Online registration:** [olprc.retreatportal.com](http://olprc.retreatportal.com) or scan QR code

**Mail in registration:** make checks payable to *Our Lady of the Pines*

*Retreat Center* and mail with bottom half of this form to: **1250 Tiffin St.  
Fremont, OH**

All proceeds from this race will go to  
the Birchard Public Library of Sandusky  
County in memory of Tom Stierwalt.

-----  
**Registrant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sex:**    **MALE**        **FEMALE**        **Contact Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**T-Shirt Size (adult unisex):**    **S**                      **M**                      **L**                      **XL**                      **XXL**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age (day of event):** \_\_\_\_\_

*By my signature, I attest that I am physically capable to participate in this event. I have full knowledge of risks involved. I further acknowledge that the event course may contain uneven surface conditions, including but not limited to potholes, curbs, and tree roots which may create a risk. I further acknowledge that at least part of the course is on public roads and that vehicular traffic may be encountered and I accept those risks. I understand that bicycles, skateboards, roller skates, in-line skates, animals and radio headsets are not allowed and I will abide by this guideline. I further acknowledge that weather conditions, including heat and humidity may be a risk which I accept. Therefore having read this waiver, and in consideration of the acceptance of my entry, myself, my heirs, my representatives, my executors and administrators, waive any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Our Lady of the Pines, any event sponsors, the city of Fremont and any individual associated with this event and agree to release and will hold them harmless for any and all injuries I may suffer in conjunction with this event.*

**Registrant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_