




Trinity Times

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
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January 2026

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O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to 
follow you
more closely
and to
trust in your
loving guidance.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Northwestern Ohio Synod · Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 · 419 626-0204 · www.trinityelca.com
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Pastor Jennifer Herrmann

A note from Pastor Jen

Dear Church,

I've been thinking about "big" birthdays as we come into this new year and new month. Yes, one reason is because I have a "big" birthday this year – leveling up to 50. But I was also a bicentennial baby – so this year marks 250 years for the United States. Most importantly for this context however, it is the big 100th birthday/anniversary for our congregation.

A look back at 1926:

First ever demonstration of the television

The Orpheum Theatre in Los Angeles opens

The first transatlantic phone call was placed from London to New York

Robert Goddard launched the first liquid fuel rocket.

Ford Motor company implements the 40 hour work week

The first SAT test was administered to 8000 high school students

The first aerosol spray can was invented.

Famous births: Miles David, Marylyn Monroe, David Attenborough, Elizabeth II, Fidel Castro, Jerry Lewis, Harper Lee, Chuck Berry,

100 years later and while Thomas Edison thought the radio was a commercial failure in 1926, it's popularity rose and fell. Television dominated media until the internet and computer have started to take over. Not only can we call anywhere in the world, we can do so without wires now! And that first rocket launch looks laughably simple compared to the space travel of today. 100 years and times have changed so very much.

Over this year, we will have opportunities to celebrate, remember, give thanks, and praise God together. And while the context and world has changed so much in 100 years, God's promises remain. We are beloved children of God. We are called to live out that love in this world. We are meant to be the body of Christ in this time and place. I look forward to us celebrating this year and giving thanks to God for all the years we are given.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Jen

"The Lord bless you
and keep you, the Lord make
his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24-26





Thank you to everyone who donated! The following was collected:

Socks: 104
Briefs: 13
T-shirts: 2
Hats: 7
Gloves: 22

The Northwestern Ohio Synod expresses sympathy to the family of Rev. K. Bernell "Bernie" Boehm, who died on December 25, 2025. There will be a visitation and burial service on **Tuesday, January 6, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9340 Township Rd 32, Jenera, OH.** Burial will follow visitation at the St. Paul Cemetery at 3 p.m. with Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin officiating. Memorial gifts may be given in Pastor Bernie's name:

All Saints Lutheran Church (<https://www.allsaintstoledo.org>)
or Capital University/Trinity Lutheran Seminary (<https://www.capital.edu>).

Grace Lutheran's free community dinner is **Wednesday, January 14th 5:00—6:00pm.** The menu is turkey tetrazinni, coleslaw, roll, and dessert. Call 419-357-3672 to schedule shut-in delivery.

Come to a beautiful and contemplative **Choral Evensong** led by the Grace Episcopal Church Choir on **January 11th at 4:00pm.** Rooted in ancient tradition, Choral Evensong blends scripture, prayer, and sacred music into a peaceful service designed to quiet the heart and lift the spirit. Whether this is your first time or a beloved tradition, all are welcome to come, listen, and rest in the beauty of the evening. 315 Wayne St, Sandusky, OH 44870 is Grace Episcopal Church's address.

Peaceful Poses, Wed, Jan 7, 5:30-6:30 pm. Join Erie MetroParks for a gentle yoga practice designed for those 50 yrs. and up. We'll start with some breathing exercises to still the mind and slowly move into light stretching while mostly seated, ending the practice with a nature-based visualization. All abilities welcome and encouraged! Folding chairs provided - bring a towel or mat if available. **Registration required.** Osborn MetroPark, Roger Johnson Nature Center, Atrium, 3910 Perkins Ave., Huron.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sandusky, Ohio - Sandusky OH
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2025

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

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Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.100.102	Checking Account	59,459.50
1.100.104	Petty Cash Fund	20.00
1.100.106	Thrivent Bond Fund Checking	25,900.39
1.200.113	Thrivent Youth Gathering M/M	4,760.93
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,746.36
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	98,450.39
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,282.96
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	286,421.01
1.400.110	Thirvent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	41,307.54
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	1,015.02
Total Assets		\$523,364.10
Liabilities		
2.100.216	Ohio Treasurer of St	603.00
2.100.218	R.I.T.A.	339.76
Total Liabilities		\$942.76
Fund Balances		
3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	7,281.70
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	8,636.93
3.220.300	Designated Giving Fund Balance	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	12,868.01
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	102,343.35
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	62,547.78
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	1,015.02
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	286,421.01
Total Designated Giving Fund Balance		\$465,195.17
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	41,307.54
Total Fund Balances		\$522,421.34
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		\$523,364.10

Attending: Pat Wiedenheft, Jim Bertsch, PR. Jen, Bill Bertsch, Barb Sessler, Nancy Vollmer, Sally Warner, Betsy Stierhoff, Stephanie Lehr, Carrie Wiedenheft

Meeting called to order by President Carrie Wiedenheft. A devotion was given by Carrie Wiedenheft.

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed and Bill motioned to accept as written; Nancy 2nd.
Treasurer's report: Nancy motioned to approve the report as written; Betsy 2nd.

President's Report: There was good attendance at the annual congregation meeting with 51 members present.

Pastor's Report: PR. Jen has been working on a new brochure for the church. Several minor edits were suggested. She is entertaining the idea of a Prayer Pairs program to connect members with prayer; every six months, a member will rotate with another member. There is a new confirmation student in the class. PR. Jen expressed having fun with her Bible study and it is going well. She proposed her vacation time of December 25 through January 5th.

Congregational Life (Sally Warner): Sally discussed having a Christmas photo opportunity after the youth program. This year's theme is "Make a Joyful Noise!". Members will be invited to wear ugly Christmas sweaters on December 21st.

Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft): A Thanksgiving dinner for senior members will be held on November 30th. The youth have been practicing instruments for the upcoming Christmas program. 55 plates of candy buckeyes were sold.

Community Mission (Betsy Stierhoff): Good Gifts, Helping Hands, and Feets & Seats will be done again this year.

Property: Cabinets have been ordered for the upstairs gathering room. An electrician and carpenter visited. There is no established finish date. The elevator is currently out of service. Stephanie and Jim contacted Stanley Door and received insufficient feedback.

Stewardship and Finance (Jim Bertsch): There was clarification regarding a recent large donation.

Worship and Music (Nancy Vollmer/Barb Sessler): No report given.

Young at Heart (Nancy Vollmer): Hanging of the Greens will be November 30th. Young At Heart helped Providence Care residents with playing bingo. December 1st will be a luncheon featuring performances by Sandusky Keynotes.

Old Business: Stephanie distributed a daily log of tasks and answered questions. It was suggested a subcommittee will be set up to determine her hours. The council went over the shut-in list to confirm members and addresses.

New Business: Nancy made a motion to approve giving envelope purchase; Pat 2nd. Sally will be retiring from her Sunday School position effective January 1st.

Council Thank-yous: Bill for cleaning rooms; Betsy, Nancy, Barb for council service; members who purchased buckeyes and donated ingredients; members who passed out candy for Trunks for Treats; Ann & Pierre Van Raepenbush for donating dessert toppings.

Assistant to count offering until the next meeting: Sally Warner. The devotion leader for the next meeting: Bill Bertsch. Next council meeting is December 18th. Nancy motioned to adjourn, Pat 2nd. Closed with Lord's Prayer.





FAITH Member Ministry

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

FAITH Members (as of 0/01/2026)

Commons of Providence, 5000 Providence Drive, Sandusky

Ruth Sieb Apt #107

Birthday: Sept. 19

Commons of Providence Memory Care Unit, 4901 Providence Drive, Sandusky

Ruby Stierhoff Rm #114

Birthday: July 26

Parkvue Community, 3800 Boardwalk Blvd, Sandusky OH 44870

Ray Remy Apt. 112

Birthday: Feb 9

Mary Ann Neidler

Providence Care Center, 2025 Hayes Avenue, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Alice Bertsch Rm #43

Birthday: April 25

Patty Swartz Rm #52

Birthday: June 5

Admirals Point

Sam Wilcox

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.

Crossroads Meal by Jim Bertsch December 17th

Shredded pork roast & gravy
Noodles
Green beans & mushrooms
Creamed corn
Salad
Rolls
Dirt pudding



January 11th, 2026

Altar Care
Pat Wiedenheft

If you would like to support this ministry, please mark your church donation as "Homeless Meals."



BIRTHDAYS

Benjamin Stephens	1/5
Cynthia Nielsen	
Madison Stephens	1/6
Greg Norman	1/7
Evan Miller	1/9
Pastor Jen	1/16
Cathy Wobser	1/17
Linda Velliquette	1/21
Bonnie Lieb	1/25
Andrew Warner	1/29

ANNIVERSARIES

	YEARS
Greg & Susanne Lemert	42
Steven & Holly Miller	51
Chuck & Sandy Paseka	40



MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

In memory of Viola Liptok from Tom & Shirley Sigman

In memory of Rev. Tim Miller from Roy & Joyce Patterson, Chuck & Sandy Paseka, David Wiedenheft

In memory of Rev. Ralph Schibler from Jim Bertsch, David Wiedenheft

In memory of Barbara Miller from Chuck & Sandy Paseka

In memory of Carlos, Mildred, Charles, and Wayne Wiedenheft from Mary Anne Wiedenheft

Thank you for the all beautiful Christmas cards and generous gifts. I appreciate it and hope you have a wonderful 2026.


— Stephanie



On behalf of Trinity, we thank:

- Jim Bertsch for cleaning the sidewalks
- Mark, Tyler, Ryan, Rob, Eva, and Oliver for assembling the nativity scene
- Those who helped with Hanging of the Greens
- Rumpke Trash for providing free service

January 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 New Years Day Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3 NA 11:00am
4 2 Christmas Communion Service 8 & 10:30am Sunday school 9:15am	5	6	7 AA 9:00am NA 7:00pm	8	9	10 NA 11:00am
11 Baptism of our Lord Word & Prayer Service 8 & 10:30am 9:15am Sunday school 9:15am JAM!	12	13 Bible Study 10:00am	14 AA 9:00am NA 7:00pm	15 Council Mtg 7pm	16	17 NA 11:00am
18 2 Epiphany Communion Service 8 & 10:30am 9:15am Sunday school	19  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. Day	20 Bible Study 10:00am	21 Crossroads AA 9:00am NA 7:00pm	22	23	24 NA 11:00am
25 3 Epiphany Service of Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am 9:15am Sunday school	26	27 Bible Study 10:00am	28 AA 9:00am NA 7:00pm	29	30	31 NA 11:00am

HELPERS AT WORSHIP - January & February 2026

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

Altar Care — Pat Wiedenheft Communion Assistant — 8:00 Guy Miller 10:30: Candy Beatty

January 4			Rich Miller & Cindy Norman	Guy Miller	Lincoln Smith	Bob Troike & David Wobser	Candy Beatty	
January 11			Rich Miller & Cindy Norman	Joyce Patterson	Carlie Wiedenheft	Bob Troike & David Wobser	Chrissy Nielsen	
January 18			Rich Miller & Cindy Norman	Russ Stephens	Drew Killingsworth	Bob Troike & David Wobser	Mason Russell	Mason Russell
January 25			Rich Miller & Cindy Norman	Sally Warner	Zane Warner	Bob Troike & David Wobser	Cathy Wobser	

Altar Care — Linda Gantz & Cindy Norman			Communion Assistant — 8:00 Sally Warner 10:30: Gayle Thompson					
February 1			Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff	Carrie Wiedenheft	Emma Killingsworth	Denny Sessler & David Wobser	Gayle Thompson	Natalie Thompson
February 8			Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff	Guy Miller	Ryan Wiedenheft	Denny Sessler & David Wobser	Natalie Thompson	
February 15			Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff	Joyce Patterson	Tyler Wiedenheft	Denny Sessler & David Wobser	Candy Beatty	Mason Russell
February 22			Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff	Russ Stephens	Drew Killingsworth	Denny Sessler & David Wobser	Chrissy Nielsen	

January 4: 2 Christmas

Isaiah 60:1-6

Nations come to the light

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)

Ephesians 3:1-12

The gospel's promise extends to all

Matthew 2:1-12

Revelation of Christ to the nations of the earth

January Prayers. Readings & Psalms

Prayer of the Day

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

January 11th: Baptism of our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9

The servant of the LORD brings justice

Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

Acts 10:34-43

Jesus' ministry after his baptism

Matthew 3:13-17

Revelation of Christ as God's servant

Prayer of the Day

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

January 18th: 2 Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7

The servant brings light to the nations

Psalm 40:1-11

I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul's greeting to the church at Corinth

John 1:29-42

Revelation of Christ as the Lamb of God

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

January 25th: 3 Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4

Light shines for those in darkness

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

The LORD is my light and my salvation. (Ps. 27:1)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Appeal for unity in the gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

Revelation of Christ as a prophet

Prayer of the Day: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

