



+Trinity Times+

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

June 2026



JUNE

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Northwestern Ohio Synod - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

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Pastor Jen Herrmann

A Note from Pastor Jen

Theological Ramblings from your Pastor

(Humming a camp song: "Heaven is a wonderful place, filled with glory and grace, I wanna see my Savior's face, 'cause heaven is a wonderful place.")

I grew up in a world that said: "You must believe in Jesus or you're going to hell when you die — and only if you believe will you be saved and sent to heaven." (And don't forget to be good.) There's plenty to critique in that theology. But it's the laser focus on heaven — that single fixed point — that actively hinders faith. This sole focus means we miss what faith is meant to do while we're actually alive.

There was a time before I was alive and there will be a time after I am dead. I can't remember the first and I can't control the second. I believe that whatever comes after this life is a return to the love of God — which is what I mean by heaven. I believe that in my baptism, God claimed me as a beloved child, and that my faith will lead me into that love at the end. I believe that in Jesus we saw what God-in-the-flesh was about, and I've chosen that path. Great. The afterlife is settled. Now what?

Jesus didn't come saying "believe in me or there will be hell to pay." He spent almost all of his time teaching his disciples how to be ALIVE — how to love, how to bring the reign of God into THIS world. If we sell faith as fire insurance, we've missed the point entirely. Scaring people into belief with the threat of hellfire may fill seats, but it doesn't build a community of people living out mercy, grace, love, and faith. That is what it means to be church.



Imagine your faith being like a patch of zucchini. A bumper crop grows an embarrassing, copious abundance — grace, mercy, joy, forgiveness, love — so much that you can't help but give it away. Bags left on neighbors' porches, recipe cards pressed into anyone who'll take them. A community of people with so much grace and love they don't know what to do with it all. That is what Christian life is about — giving it away to those who could use it.

Do we have that bumper crop? For far too long, the heaven-focused model didn't just shift the emphasis — it separated us from what faith is meant to give us now. When faith becomes only about the afterlife, the present gifts wither. We stop looking for mercy, grace, and hope in this life. We stop building community around those things. We hold onto what little we have, afraid there might not be enough until we die. Faith becomes just another transaction.

Our faith isn't simply about the next world. It's about this one, right here. The reassurance of God's love now brings peace about what comes after — we hold those promises as gift. The resurrection of Jesus assures us that God is victor over all life and death. It isn't a mistake to believe in heaven. It's a mistake to live like it's the only point.

They will know we are Christians by our love.

Pastor Jen may be contacted at
419-822-7630 (call or text) or
jen.herrmann@gmail.com



We are going to discontinue the Puzzle Room. If you donated any puzzles and would like it back or simply would like to take a few home, please do so by **June 14th**. Leftover puzzles will be donated and if you know any place accepting donations, please let Sally Warner know. Watch for updates on the former Puzzle Room by the corner of the Gathering Room, as it will turn into an Archive Room with lots of photos and memorabilia about the history of Trinity!

The Community Mission Team is starting the **“God’s Work Our Hands”** project. This year we will again be making personal care kits.

Any of the following donations are greatly appreciated:

1. One light weight bath sized towel, (20”X40” to 52”X 27”).
2. Two or three bath sized bars of soap (8-9 oz.) individually wrapped, no minis or hotel size bars.
3. One adult sized toothbrush in original package.
4. One sturdy comb, no picks or fine toothed.



The Mission Team needs help on **September 6th at 9:15am**, to assemble kits. Thank you in advance for your faithfulness in this large mission project. **We are God’s workers, working together.** (1 Corinthians 3:9)

PLUM BROOK COUNTRY CLUB



THE CENTER



Join us on July 6, 2026 for the Fifth Annual Golf Tournament at **Plum Brook Country Club**. This annual event brings together golfers and community partners who share a commitment to supporting children and families across Erie County.

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- Eighteen holes of championship golf
- Golf cart rental included
- Morning Coffee Station
- Driving Range will be open during check-in (weather permitting).
- Lunch boxes on carts
- BBQ dinner buffet
- Auctions & 50/50 Raffle with extra prizes
- Games & Challenges on the course
- Optional skins and mulligans for purchase

Register by May 1, 2026 to receive early bird pricing of \$200/player, \$800/Team.



Register and pay for individual golfers and teams by June 15th!

Scan the QR Code or visit thecentersandusky.org

Minutes for Monthly Meeting -- April 16th, 2026 7:00pm

Attending: Jim Bertsch, Chrissie Nielsen, Ann Streaan, Carrie Wiedenheft, Pat Wiedenheft, Stephanie Lehr, Bill Bertsch, PR. Jen

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

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed with no changes. Bill motioned to approve, Pat 2nd.

Treasurer's report: There is \$7,885.48 in the current fund. Various accounts were impacted by stock market fluctuations. Pat moved to accept; Chrissie 2nd.

President's Report: No report given.

Pastor's Report: Attendance for Easter Sunday & Good Friday was excellent. PR. Jen complimented the youth for reading and suggested them speak louder in the future. She recently attended the conference meeting in Fremont, OH and immigration was discussed. A wedding for Josh & Paige will be held this summer. She needs to catch up with visits.

Congregational Life (Sally Warner): No report given.

Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft): Easter breakfast was successful. Mother's Day gifts for members were discussed.

Community Mission (Chrissie Nielsen): \$600.00 was raised for the Lenten chicks. The committee will meet on May 17th. Memorial Day service and prayer preparations are underway.

Property (Bill Bertsch): Upstairs gathering room is almost finished and the furniture is selected. Bill questioned the extra piano in the storage room – should it be kept? AC maintenance was discussed.

Stewardship and Finance (Ann Streaan): Investment advisors were discussed.

Worship and Music (Adele Hoffman): The committee is meeting May 13th. In the future, a Holy Week schedule will be printed prior to services.

Young at Heart: No report given.

Old Business: No report given.

New Business: The council approved facility usage for Mike and Maree Markley on May 16th. Jim removed the seasonal wildflowers around the flagpole per member request. Prices for soil were discussed. The blacktop in the parking lot is due for maintenance before the 100th anniversary celebration. Stephanie will write a request for lot maintenance donations in the bulletin. Ann proposed an idea for a community garage sale.

Thank yous: Adele & Jenae Farrell for playing during Easter service, Maree Markley for breakfast, Dave & Cathy Wobser for changing sign.

Assistant to count offering in May: Gayle Thompson
The devotion leader for the next meeting: Bill Bertsch
Pat moved to adjourn; Chrissie 2nd. Closed with Lord's Prayer.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sandusky, Ohio - Sandusky OH
Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2026

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
<i>Assets</i>		
1.100.102	Checking Account	48,111.82
1.100.104	Petty Cash Fund	20.00
1.100.106	Thrivent Bond Fund Checking	26,613.20
1.200.113	Thrivent Youth Gathering M/M	6,911.61
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,796.27
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	105,053.68
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,371.81
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	292,542.54
1.400.110	Thrivent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	44,614.48
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	1,044.58
	Total Assets	\$531,079.99
<i>Liabilities</i>		
2.100.210	Financial_Agent	788.42
2.100.216	Ohio Treasurer of St	79.00
2.100.218	R.I.T.A.	156.69
2.100.220	Board of Pension	80.96
	Total Liabilities	\$1,105.07
<i>Fund Balances</i>		
3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	11,513.54
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	6,954.82
3.220.300	<i>Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	(1,698.31)
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	109,570.49
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	65,432.78
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	1,044.58
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	292,542.54
	<i>Total Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	<i>\$466,892.08</i>
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	44,614.48
	Total Fund Balances	\$529,974.92
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$531,079.99

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

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 #131 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, 1920 Cleveland Rd W, Huron, OH 44839

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
Marilee Werner 5110 McCartney Rd, Sandusky
Orpha Densmore 7138 SR 412, Clyde



June 14th at 9:15am

**Crossroads Meal by Jim Bertsch
June 17th, 2026**

**Shredded pork & gravy over mashed potatoes
Corn
Green beans
Salad
Bread & butter
Cookies & ice cream**

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



BIRTHDAYS

Patty Swartz	06/05
Patricia Nielsen	06/06
Rodney Velliquette	06/07
Trevor Ramsdell	06/07
Kaitlin Miller	06/09
Rebecca Miller	06/10
Rex Stierhoff	06/11
Laura Miller	06/15
Michael Markley	06/20
Jamie Opfer	06/26
Marilee Werner	06/27

MEMORIALS & HONORIUMS

In memory of Mike Sessler

Larry & Pat Wiedenheft, Dave & Sally Warner, Denny & Barb Sessler, Richard Miller, Greg & Cindy Norman, Jim Bertsch

In honor of Alice Bertsch's 100th birthday

David & Cathy Wobser

ANNIVERSARIES YEARS

Ann & Tal Streaun 03/16	24
Scott & Sharon Swartz	30
Richard & Sheryl Miller	50



Trinity would like to thank:

- Laureen Bollinger for donating archive materials
- Candy Beatty, Barb Sessler, Denise Casanova, Cathy Wobser & Sally Warner for crafting candles for Mother's Day
- Members who directed money from Thrivent
- Gathering Room team: Bonnie Lieb, Barb Sessler, Jamie Opfer, Sally Warner, Bill Bertsch & Denny Sessler
- Secretary Stephanie would like thank Pastor Jen for assisting with office operations while she was ill

JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 NA 11am
7 Communion 8 & 10:30am	8	9	10 NA 7pm	11	12	13 NA 11am
14 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am JAM session	15	16	17 Crossroads 1pm NA 7pm	18 7pm Church Council	19	20 NA 11am
21 Communion 8 & 10:30am Father's Day .	22	23	24 NA 7pm	25	26	27 NA 11am
28 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am	29	30				

Monthly Leadership

Date	Ushers Early	Lector Early	Acolyte Early	Ushers Late	Lector Late
June 7	Cindy Norman & Kent Miller	Joyce Patterson	Ryan Wiedenheft	Ken Schenk & Bob Troike	Gayle Thompson
June 14	Cindy Norman & Kent Miller	Russ Stephens	Emma Killingsworth	Ken Schenk & Bob Troike	Natalie Thompson
June 21	Cindy Norman & Kent Miller	Sally Warner	Lincoln Smith	Ken Schenk & Bob Troike	Candy Beatty
June 28	Cindy Norman & Kent Miller	Carrie Wiedenheft	Tyler Wiedenheft	Ken Schenk & Bob Troike	Chrissy Nielsen

Date	Altar Flowers	Memorial Flowers
June 7	Jim Bertsch	Linda Gantz
June 14	Mille McCready	Linda Gantz
June 21		
June 28		

Altar Care for June: Cathy Wobser

Communion Assistants: Sally Warner (Early) Cathy Wobser (Late)



June Readings & Prayers

June 7: Pentecost 2

Hosea 5:15—6:6

God desires steadfast love

Psalms 50:7-15

Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God. (Ps. 50:15)

Romans 4:13-25

The promise to those who share Abraham's faith

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Christ heals a woman and raises a synagogue leader's daughter

Prayer of the Day: O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

May 14: Pentecost 3

Exodus 19:2-8a

The covenant with Israel at Sinai

Psalms 100

We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. (Ps. 100:3)

Romans 5:1-8

While we were sinners, Christ died for us

Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

The sending of the Twelve

Prayer of the Day: God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

June 21: Pentecost 4

Jeremiah 20:7-13

The prophet must speak despite opposition

Psalms 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

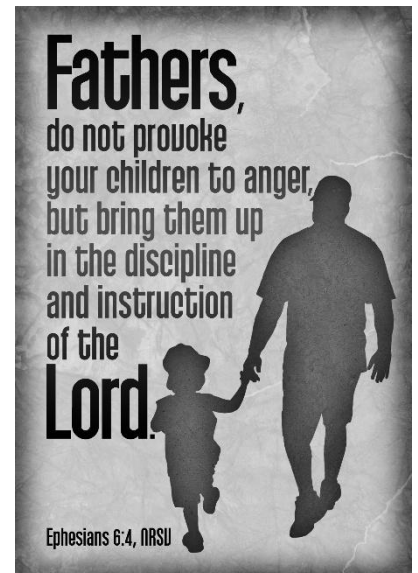
Romans 6:1b-11

Buried and raised with Christ by baptism

Matthew 10:24-39

The cost of discipleship

Prayer of the Day: Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



June 28: Pentecost 5

Jeremiah 28:5-9

The test of a true prophet

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing. (Ps. 89:1)

Romans 6:12-23

No longer under law but under grace

Matthew 10:40-42

Welcome Christ in those he sends

Prayer of the Day: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Puzzle!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).

K	G	S	P	H	F	R	I	C	E	Y	L
1		2		3		4		5		6	
W	N	M	D	O	U	Z	A	Q	T	B	J

“ ‘ H

3 6 3 4 2

4 4 2 5 1 3 4 3 2

5 3 5 2 5 4 2

4 1 2 4 2

1 3 4 1 1 4 3 6 4 2

3 3 6 3 3 4 1 5 3

1 4 6 4 6 5 5

5 3 5 4 5 6 3 3

” ”

1 4 6 6 2 6 6 3 4 2