

Trinity Times

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2026



A NEW FORMAT!
We are working out a new format for the Trinity Times. The old format was in Microsoft Publisher which won't be supported or usable this fall. The new format is in Word. Hopefully it will be usable and easy to read in print and digital ways.
Thanks for your patience!
Pastor Jen and Stephanie

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

Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

A beloved prayer used by many Lutherans is: “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.”

Sometimes, we don’t know where we are going, how we will get there, and what will happen next. But we can trust that divine love continues to hold us up.

This month’s celebrations remind me that the journey is different for everyone. In a month when we celebrate Mother’s Day – we remember that the path to being a mom can look different for many people. We remember that while all of us have had a mom those relationships are different for each of us. Parental relationships can be some of the most complicated relationships we have. But no matter what these things look like, we trust God’s love leading us.

We also celebrate Memorial Day. A day remembering those whose service to the US military led to the loss of their lives. It’s a time to grieve the losses, honor those who died, and remember all of their loved ones who hold onto the legacy of those who made that sacrifice. We trust that God’s presence was with those who faced those unknown perils.

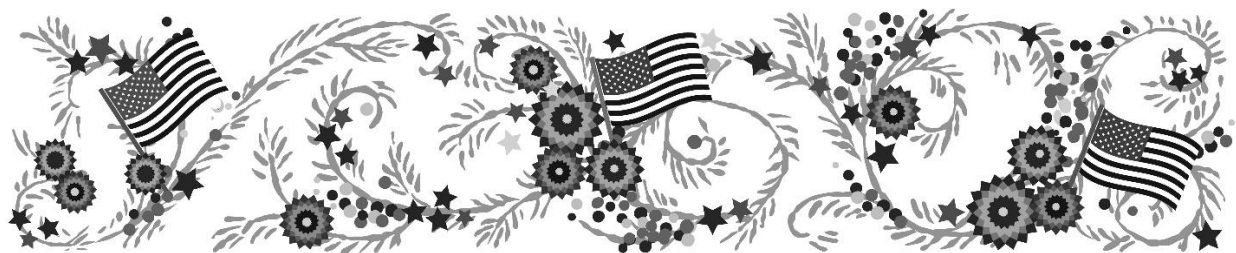
And then there is the gift of graduation. Young people graduate from high school or college and step out into new ventures. This year, we celebrate with Natalie Thompson in our congregation. We trust that God’s love will give her and all others the gift of courage in facing new endeavors.

And for the celebrations of the church year, we celebrate Pentecost. The “birthday of the church” a time we look back at the church in biblical times and see our congregation’s place in that long line of history. In our celebration of 100 years, we see God’s hand showing us a path to walk humbly serving our community and the world his love.

May your paths this month lead you to a deeper love and celebration of God’s gifts.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Jen



Community Events

SPECIAL SUNDAY MOMENTS PLEASE JOIN US!

The Sunday School will be celebrating Mother's Day with the moms, grandmoms and special maternal people in their lives on **May 10th** at 9:15am.

We will observe Memorial Day on **May 24th** with Prayer around the Flagpole at 9:15am and then we will head to the Venice Cemetery to place flags on graves.

We will recognize our graduate Natalie Thompson on Sunday, **May 31** at 2nd service!

PLUM BROOK COUNTRY CLUB



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

Firelands Chorus Inc. is presenting their 66th Annual Spring Concert "Broadway and Beyond" on **Friday, May 8th** and **Saturday, May 9th** at 7:30pm at Zion Lutheran. Doors open at 7:00pm. The concert is free, but a free will donation will be taken. The chorus is excited to present two Beverlie Buck Mayer Memorial scholarships to Emma Troyer and Landon Harvey. Emma (Perkins Class of 2023) is a junior instrumental music major at Kent State University. Landon (Williard Class of 2024) is a junior instrumental music major at Ashland University. The chorus will also be raffling a gift basket with a \$100 Kroger gift card. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Church Council News

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

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed, with a change in spelling and omission of a phrase. Pat moved to accept; Sally 2nd.

Treasurer's report: Budget is presently stable due to generous offerings. There is \$1,400.00 in the memorial fund. The funds for the upstairs gathering room were entertained. Pat moved to accept; Adele 2nd.

President's Report: Carrie received more committee evaluations. A new contact sheet was distributed to council members.

Pastor's Report: There are two youth in the confirmation class that will be confirmed this year during the weekend of Reformation. There has been approximately 15-20 attendees for the midday lent service; Pastor Jen noted the service's brevity and will consider a longer time for the future. Palm Sunday is forthcoming and Holy Week services will be at 7:00pm. Pastor Jen may be out of office for spring break. The Synod Assembly is on May 30th in Bowling Green, OH, from 9am-6pm. The 100th anniversary committee recently met and a catered brunch was considered. The council then had a lengthy discussion about the brunch's time, settling on 9:15am. The possibility of a permanent church archive was discussed, with a consideration of using the corner room in the upstairs gathering.

Congregational Life (Sally Warner): F.R.O.G. (Fully Rely on God) received good attendance and was enjoyable. The budget for the 100th anniversary brunch was discussed, including its asking donation or charge.

Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft): No report given.

Community Mission (Chrissie Nielsen): Lent chick sale is underway. Memorial flags and the Sandusky spend volunteering event was discussed.

Property (Bill Bertsch): Fire extinguishers and elevator were recently inspected. The hallway and sacristy floors will be waxed. Bill requested organization and cleaning of the sacristy. The church bell chimes are currently disabled.

Stewardship and Finance (Ann Streaan): The annual audit is completed.

Worship and Music (Adele Hoffman): A student mellophonist will perform during the Easter service and Claire will sing during Good Friday. The youth will sing Palm Sunday and Easter. Deanna Thompson has joined the music committee. The council discussed the payment amount for the musicians.

Young at Heart: No report given.

Old Business: No report given.

New Business: The council approved facility usage for Gayle Thompson on May 30th 12-6pm.

Thank you: Amanda Reardon & Gini German, Gayle Thompson for minutes, Pastor Jen for pancakes, Lenten service readers, contributors to F.R.O.G, Dunlap Snow, Crossroad helpers Linda Gantz, Rhonda Matus, Pat Wiedenheft. Assistant to count offering in April: Bill Bertsch

The devotion leader for the next meeting: Carrie Wiedenheft Chrissie moved to adjourn; Adele 2nd. Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Church Finances

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

Friday, April 24, 2026

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Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.100.102	Checking Account	48,285.49
1.100.104	Petty Cash Fund	20.00
1.100.106	Thrivent Bond Fund Checking	26,714.19
1.200.113	Thrivent Youth Gathering M/M	6,231.61
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,781.20
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	107,338.89
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,351.11
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	271,464.14
1.400.110	Thrivent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	45,512.99
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	1,042.07
	Total Assets	\$512,741.69
Liabilities		
2.100.210	Financial_Agent	801.70
2.100.216	Ohio Treasurer of St	80.00
2.100.218	R.I.T.A.	44.13
2.100.220	Board of Pension	161.92
	Total Liabilities	\$1,087.75
Fund Balances		
3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	12,859.59
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	6,795.68
3.220.300	<i>Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	(2,078.31)
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	111,875.00
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	64,182.78
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	1,042.07
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	271,464.14
	<i>Total Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	<i>\$446,485.68</i>
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	45,512.99
	Total Fund Balances	\$511,653.94
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$512,741.69

Members, Ministry, and More

FAITH Member Ministry

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

FAITH Members (as of 05/01/2026)

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 #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

JAM SESSION

May 10th

9:15am

**Crossroads Meal by Jim Bertsch
May 20th, 2026**

**Hamburger gravy over mashed
potatoes**

Peas & carrots

Corn

Rolls

Jelly cake

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

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



MEMORIALS & HONORIUMS

Aunt Alice Bertsch's 100th birthday from Dave & Sally Warner

In loving memory of Mother Martha "Martin" Selke's birthday on May 12th from Patty Swartz and Jean Leimeister

ANNIVERSARIES

Craig & Betsy Stierhoff Sr. 05/04

Bob & Charlene Zeno 05/06

Dale & Mary Meyer 05/11

James & Nancy Yantz 05/13

Rev Dane & Kristi Meuschke 05/14

Larry & Linda Velliquette 05/27

Kenneth & Marsha Schenk 05/29



Trinity would like to thank:

- Adele & Jena for their hard work in rehearsing and playing for Easter service
- Marlee Markley for helping with breakfast
- Dave & Cathy Wobser for changing the message on the church sign

MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 NA 11am
						2
	3 Communion 8 & 10:30am 9:15am S.S.	4 10am Bible Study	5 NA 7pm	6	7	8 NA 11am
	10 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am JAM session Mother's Day with the S.S.	11 10am Bible Study	12 NA 7pm	13 7pm Church Council	14	15 NA 11am
	17 Communion 8 & 10:30am 9:15am S.S.	18 10am Bible Study	19 Crossroads Meal NA 7pm	20	21	22 NA 11am
	24 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am Memorial Day service 9:15am with the S.S.	25 10am Bible Study	26 NA 7pm	27	28	29 NA 11am Fellowship Rental 12-6pm
	31 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am 9:15am S.S. *Graduate Recognition					

Monthly Leadership

Date	Ushers Early	Lector Early	Acolyte Early	Ushers Late	Lector Late
May 3	Sally Warner Guy Miller	Joyce Patterson	Drew Killingsworth	Chrissie Nielsen Bill Bertsch	Natalie Thompson
May 10	Sally Warner Guy Miller	Russ Stevens	Zane Warner	Chrissie Nielsen Bill Bertsch	Candy Beatty
May 17	Sally Warner Guy Miller	Sally Warner	Emma Killingsworth	Chrissie Nielsen Bill Bertsch	Chrissie Nielsen
May 24	Sally Warner Guy Miller	Carrie Wiedenheft	Tyler Wiedenheft	Chrissie Nielsen Bill Bertsch	Mason Russell
May 31	Sally Warner Guy Miller	Guy Miller	Lincoln Smith	Chrissie Nielsen Bill Bertsch	Cathy Wobser

Date	Altar Flowers	Memorial Flowers
May 3	Ken Schenk	
May 10	Mark and Carrie Wiedenheft	Mike and Maree Markley
May 17	Carrie Killingsworth	Fred Wobser
May 24	Sally Warner	
May 31		Shelby Koch

Altar Care for May: Pat Wiedenheft & Carrie Killingsworth

Communion Assistants: Guy Miller (Early) Candy Beatty (Late)

May Readings & Prayers

May 3rd: 5 Easter

Acts 7:55-60

The martyrdom of Stephen

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

1 Peter 2:2-10

God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty acts

John 14:1-14

Christ the way, truth, and life

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

May 10th: 6 Easter

Acts 17:22-31

Paul's message to the Athenians

Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

1 Peter 3:13-22

The days of Noah, a sign of baptism

John 14:15-21

Christ our advocate

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

May 17th: 7 Easter

Acts 1:6-14

Jesus' companions at prayer after his departure

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

God will sustain and restore those who suffer

John 17:1-11

Christ's prayer for his disciples

Prayer of the Day: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

May 24th: Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit

John 20:19-23

The Spirit poured out

Prayer of the Day: O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

May 31st: The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

The creation of the heavens and the earth

Psalms 8

How majestic is your name in all the earth! (Ps. 8:1)

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul's farewell to the church at Corinth

Matthew 28:16-20

Living in the community of the Trinity

Prayer of the Day: Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Awesome is God

FROM HIS SANCTUARY;
THE GOD OF ISRAEL –
HE IS THE ONE WHO GIVES
POWER AND STRENGTH
TO HIS PEOPLE.

Blessed be God!

PSALM 68:35, ESV