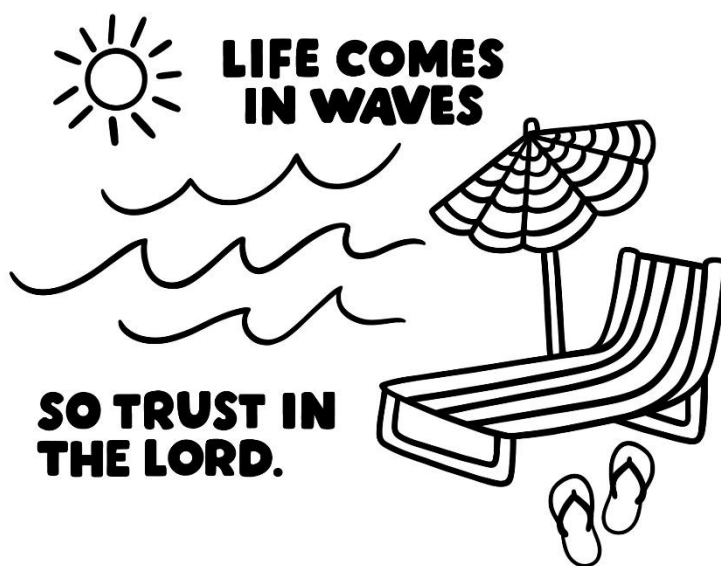




+Trinity Times+

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

July 2026



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Northwestern Ohio Synod - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Ph: 419 626-0204 www.trinityelca.com trinityelcasandusky@gmail.com

Pastor Jen Herrmann

A Note from Pastor Jen

Dear People of God at Trinity,

On September 13th, we will gather for a very special worship service — one that only comes around once in the life of a congregation. One hundred years. That is not just a number — it's a century of baptisms and funerals, of confirmation classes and Christmas pageants, of potlucks and prayers and people who showed up for one another in the best and hardest seasons of life.

We want to celebrate all of it! So, we need some help from you!

Your Story Is Part of Our Story

Every person connected to this congregation carries a piece of Trinity's story. We are collecting those stories to weave into our centennial celebration in two ways:

First, we will share your stories on our Facebook page throughout the summer, so the wider community can witness what Trinity has meant to so many people over the years. Then, on September 13th, selected stories will be compiled and displayed during the centennial service and reception brunch, becoming part of the permanent record of our congregation's life.

What Kind of Story?

No story is too small. In fact, it's often the small ones that carry the most truth. Here are a few prompts to get you started:

- *A moment at Trinity when you felt truly welcomed, seen, or held.*
- *A pastor, teacher, choir director, or fellow member who changed your life.*
- *A service, a sacrament, or a season of the church year that stays with you.*
- *Something funny, unexpected, or wonderfully strange that happened here.*
- *What Trinity has meant to your family across generations.*
- *A time this community showed up for you — or you showed up for them.*

How to Share Your Story

You can share your remembrance in whatever way is easiest for you:

By email: Send your story to TrinityElcaSandusky@gmail.com

On paper: Watch for story cards in the narthex — fill one out and drop it in the offering plate or the church mailbox.

Please share your story by **Sunday, August 31st** so we have time to gather and prepare them. And please let us know if you're comfortable with your story being shared publicly on Facebook, or if you'd prefer it be kept just for the September 13th celebration.

One hundred years of faith does not happen by accident. It happens because ordinary people kept showing up — week after week, season after season — and chose to do life together in this place. Your story is proof of that. We can't wait to hear it.

In gratitude and anticipation, Pastor Jen



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)



Do you have any spare Christmas cookie cutters? The Sunday school team is looking for cookie cutters for a project. Donations will be accepted now through this fall.

A Summer Blessing

On the Galilean road, Jesus stopped to reflect and pray.

We, too, long for rest and a balm for our souls.

Seeing those in need, Jesus healed, taught, and fed.

We are called to live as servants,

loving our neighbors as ourselves

Holding the children close, Jesus blessed them;

for to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

On the road to Bethlehem, the true light came into the world.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us and we have seen his glory.

This litany for the summer is meant to remind us to take Jesus with us wherever we may go. Hopefully, you will find some rest or see or experience something new. Hopefully, you will spot “the true light that has come into the world” in your travels. Our prayers will be for you, wherever you may be, that you will have rest, that you will have fun like a child, and that you will see Christ wherever you go. *Excerpted from Pastor Steve at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene, OR*

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes for Monthly Meeting -- May 21st, 2026, 7:00pm

Attending: Jim Bertsch, Chrissie Nielsen, Stephanie Lehr, Bill Bertsch, PR. Jen, Barb Sessler, Sally Warner
Meeting called to order by Vice President Bill Bertsch; he then gave an opening devotion.

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed with several changes in phrasing. Bill motioned to approve and Chrissie 2nd.

Treasurer's report: Barb motioned to approve; Sally 2nd.

President's Report: No report given.

Pastor's Report: PR. Jen recently completed several hospital visits. She met with Josh & Paige for premarital counseling. She attended a block party at The Center and distributed promotional brochures; approximately 200 people attended. She is working with Zion & St. John to plan and organize day camp and train camp counselors. The second service attendance was discussed.

Congregational Life (Sally Warner): The Puzzle Library is closing. The items from the corner room in the Upper Gathering Room will be moved to the former Puzzle Room. The corner room will be transformed into an archive room. Sally will be meeting with Jim to work on the church's 100th anniversary invitation. Prices for breakfast are being researched.

Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft): No report given.

Community Mission (Chrissie Nielsen): Flag service will be held at 9:15 am the following Sunday with subsequent flag placement at Venice Cemetery. Sandwiches will be assembled for God's Work, Our Hands on 7/12. The collection for hygiene kits will commence on June 14th and final assembly is September 6th.

Property (Bill Bertsch): Upstairs gathering room is officially finished. Stephanie distributed a model containing a breakdown of remodeling expenses. The lower entrance by the sacristy needs a baseboard (\$600 quote). Sally motioned to approve the project; Barb 2nd. The cross on the south side of the church is not working. Jim suggested troubleshooting the church bells before calling a company to come out. Prices on the asphalt sealing have not been obtained yet.

Stewardship and Finance (Ann Strean): No report given.

Worship and Music (Adele Hoffman): Barb reported on behalf of Adele. Musicians are being considered for special music during future worship services, such as Will Coffman on trumpet. Organ tuning will be performed once a year to save money. Adele may not be present on Father's Day. Future dates such as the centennial and anniversary service were discussed. The committee will be meeting on August 5th at 10:00 am.

Young at Heart: No report given.

Old Business: No report given.

New Business: The Erie County Senior Center is looking for a sponsorship of \$150 for a special 250th anniversary celebration. Trinity's name will be publicized. Chrissie motioned to approve the sponsorship with Barb seconding. Pastor Jen suggested serving coffee after each service, exclusive to the summer season. Sally recommended photographs of the Upper Gathering Room for insurance purposes.

Thank yous: Laureen Bolling for donating archive materials, Upper Gathering Room remodeling committee: Bonnie Lieb, Barb Sessler, Jamie Opfer, Sally Warner, Bill Bertsch, Denny Sessler; those who directed money for Thrivent; Candy Beatty, Barb Sessler, Denise Casanova, Cathy Wobser, and Sally Warner for making Mother's Day candles.

Assistant to count offering in June: Sally Warner

The devotion leader for the next meeting: Adele Hoffman

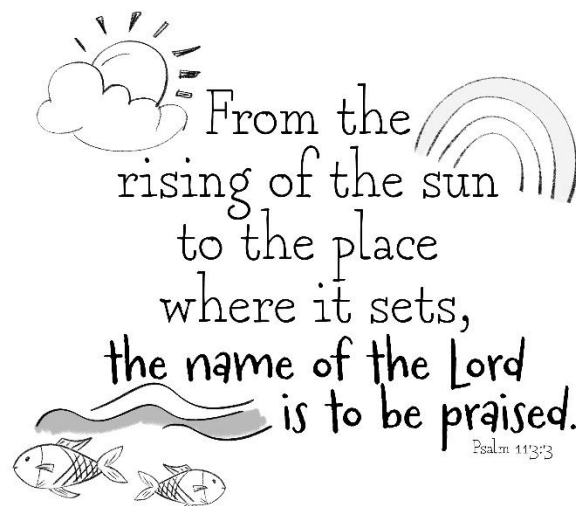
Sally moved to adjourn; Barb 2nd. Closed with Lord's Prayer.

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

Monday, June 29, 2026

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.100.102	Checking Account	31,006.02
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	6,931.61
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,796.27
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	105,558.68
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,371.92
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	302,205.96
1.400.110	Thrivent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	44,614.48
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	1,820.58
Total Assets		\$524,938.72
Fund Balances		
3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	(5,453.60)
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	7,036.23
3.220.300	<i>Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	14,277.84
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	109,880.60
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	50,556.63
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	1,820.58
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	302,205.96
<i>Total Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>		<i>\$478,741.61</i>
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	44,614.48
Total Fund Balances		\$524,938.72
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		<u>\$524,938.72</u>



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

Ruby Stierhoff	Rm #131	Birthday: July 26
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Parkvue Community, 3800 Boardwalk Blvd, Sandusky OH 44870

Ray Remy	Apt. 112	Birthday: Feb 9
Mary Ann Neidler		Birthday: Dec 30

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

Alice Bertsch	Rm #43	Birthday: April 25
Patty Swartz	Rm #52	Birthday: June 5

In their homes:

Judy Welser	5619 Debra Drive, Castalia 419-684-7232	Birthday: Feb 11
Laura Allen	2015 Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky	
Pat Nielsen	1502 Martins Point Rd, Sandusky	Birthday: June 6
Marilee Werner	5110 McCartney Rd, Sandusky	Birthday: June 27
Orpha Densmore	7138 SR 412, Clyde	Birthday: April 12

Should you like to join our team in making home visits, where we offer conversation, prayers and communion, please contact Patty Swartz at 419-366-4684.

July 5th is JAM & JAM Sunday! Join us for a special jam session between services and delicious homemade raspberry jam made by Jim Bertsch and Linda Wilcox. The raspberry jam will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Donation-based; contributions will be directed towards the parking lot maintenance.



**Crossroads Meal by Jim Bertsch
 July 15th, 2026**

**Hot Dogs
 Baked Beans
 Potato Salad
 Coleslaw
 Watermelon**

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



BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Paseka	07/18
Candance Betty	07/20
Dennis Sessler	07/24
Adele Hoffman	07/26
Ruby Stierhoff	07/26
Fred Wobser Jr.	07/29
Don Casanova	07/31

ANNIVERSARIES

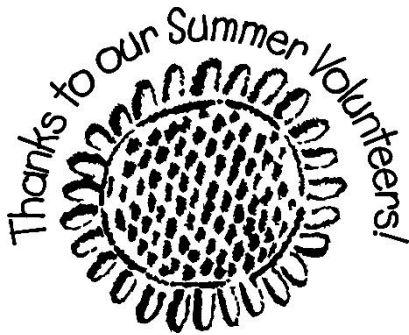
	YEARS
Charlie & Kathy Bango 07/07	26
David & Sally Warner 07/19	51
Michael & Maree Markley 07/26	51
Thomas & Peggy Kingsborough 07/31	50

MEMORIALS & HONORIUMS

In memory of Norman Stierhoff
Shelby Koch

In memory of Sam Wilcox
Jim Bertsch

The world
and its desires
pass away.
but whoever
does the
will of God
lives forever.
1 John 2:17 (NIV)



Trinity would like to thank:

- Carlie, Emma, Drew & Zoe for providing special music
- Emma for attending the synod assembly
- Wayne Gysan for playing guitar
- Jason Cappelletty for playing guitar

Patty Swartz would like to thank those who sent beautiful birthday cards.

JULY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 NA 11am
5 Communion 8 & 10:30am JAM & JAM	6	7	8 NA 7pm	9	10	11 NA 11am
12 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am	13	14	15 Crossroads 1pm NA 7pm	16 7pm Church Council	17	18 NA 11am
19 Communion 8 & 10:30am	20	21	22 NA 7pm	23	24 Lunch & Laughs 11:30am	25
26 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am	27	28	29 NA 7pm	30	31	

Monthly Leadership

Date	Ushers Early	Lector Early	Acolyte	Ushers Late	Lector Late
July 5	Greg Norman & Rich Miller	Guy Miller	Zane Warner Mason Russell (late)	Barb & Denny Sessler	Mason Russell
July 12	Greg Norman & Rich Miller	Joyce Patterson	Emma Killingsworth	Barb & Denny Sessler	Gayle Thompson
July 19	Greg Norman & Rich Miller	Russ Stephens	Ryan Wiedenheft	Barb & Denny Sessler	Natalie Thompson
July 26	Greg Norman & Rich Miller	Sally Warner	Lincoln Smith	Barb & Denny Sessler	Cathy Wobser

Date	Altar Flowers	Memorial Flowers
July 5	Larry & Pat Wiedenheft	Greg & Cindy Norman
July 12		
July 19	Craig & Betsy Stierhoff	
July 26	Tom & Peggy Kingsborough	Rex & Charlene Stierhoff

Altar Care for July: Sheryl Miller, Cathy Wobser, Candy Beatty

Communion Assistants: Guy Miller (Early) Gayle Thompson (Late)



July Readings & Prayers

June 5 : Pentecost 6, US Semiquincentennial

Zechariah 9:9-12

The king will come in humility and peace

Psalms 145:8-14

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

Romans 7:15-25a

The struggle within the self

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The yoke of discipleship

Prayer of the Day: Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

July 12: Pentecost 7

Isaiah 55:10-13

The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13

Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)

Romans 8:1-11

Live according to the Spirit

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The parable of the sower and the seed

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

July 19: Pentecost 8

Isaiah 44:6-8

There is no other God than the LORD

Psalms 86:11-17

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

Romans 8:12-25

The revealing of the children of God

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The parable of the weeds

Prayer of the Day: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

July 26: Pentecost 9

1 Kings 3:5-12

Solomon's prayer for wisdom

Psalm 119:129-136

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (*Ps. 119:130*)

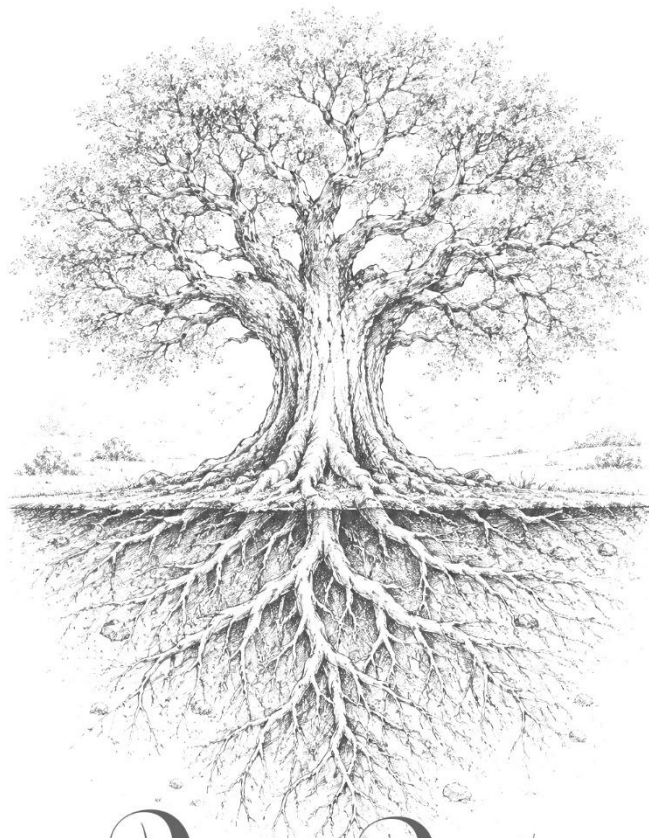
Romans 8:26-39

Nothing can separate us from God's love

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Parables of the reign of heaven

Prayer of the Day: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



Deep Roots.
Strong Faith.

Rooted and built up in him and
established in the faith, just as you were taught...

Colossians 2:7, ESV

Fun Facts: Celebrating 250 Years of America



Celebrating 250 Years of Independence

Since declaring independence on July 4, 1776, the U.S. population has continued to grow. The 2020 Census recorded 331 million people living in the United States—an 8,336 percent increase from just 3.9 million counted in the first census in 1790. As the nation approaches its 250th birthday, Americans continue to celebrate this milestone of freedom with festivities like fireworks, parades, concerts, and more.

How We've Grown

2.5 Million

The number of people living in the new free nation in July 1776.

341.8 Million

The nation's estimated population as of July 2025.



And the Rockets' Red Glare

- **1,319** — The number of U.S. fireworks manufacturers in 2023.
- **Approximately \$407 million** — The value of fireworks imported into the United States in 2025.
- **Approximately \$1.8 million** — The value of American flags exported from the United States in 2025.



Places to Celebrate America's Birthday

- Museums: **5,480**
- Historical Sites: **1,120**
- Zoos and Botanical Gardens: **781**
- Nature Parks: **797**
- Amusement and Theme Parks: **742**
- Sports Arenas: **4,274**



Patriotic Places

Our nation is filled with patriotically named places! As of July 2024, there were 55 incorporated places with patriotic names. Topping the list: "Liberty" with "Independence" a distant second.



Founding Father

George Washington is the only founding father after whom a state is named. And that state even has a small city named George! The 2020 Census population of George, Washington was 809.



Populations of Historic U.S. Landmark Locations

- **Statue of Liberty** — New York, NY (8,478,072)
- **Mount Rushmore National Memorial** — Keystone, SD (261)
- **The White House** — Washington D.C. (702,250)
- **Liberty Bell** — Philadelphia, PA (1,573,916)

Did You Know?

In 2024, about 14 million men age 18 and older were U.S. veterans (89 percent), compared to their 1.7 million female counterparts (11 percent).

Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2025 Population Estimates, 2025 International Trade Statistics, 2024 Population Estimates, 2024 City and Town Population Totals, 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2023 County Business Patterns, 2020 Census, 2020 Facts by Decade, 1790 Facts by Decade, and Historical Statistics of the United States: 1789-1945 report.