



+Trinity Times+

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October 2026



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

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you,
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.
Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this?
In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being. Job 12:7-10

He was born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone but we all have come to know him as Francis of Assisi. His father, a wealthy cloth merchant, had him nicknamed "Francesco." Francis grew up in comfort, but in his mid-twenties he gave it all up. He embraced a life of poverty, preached to ordinary people, and gathered followers who became the Franciscans.

What Francis is best remembered for, though, is how he saw the world around him. He called the sun his brother and the moon his sister, and wrote a hymn, the Canticle of the Creatures, praising God through wind, water, fire, and earth. Stories tell of him preaching to birds and making peace with a wolf that was frightening the town of Gubbio. For Francis, every creature was a fellow member of God's family and a witness to God's goodness.

He died 800 years ago in 1226 but his message of care for the creation is needed now more than ever. As Job reminds us, animals and birds can teach us, if we will listen. As we give thanks for the harvest and for the creatures who share our homes and fields, may we see creation as a gift to be cherished and not a resource to be used up.

Holy God, creator of all; you who know every grain of sand and star in the heavens, we ask for your blessing on our community. Bless the animals that share our lives by providing comfort, love, work, or food so that we may be strengthened in service to you and our world we share. In Jesus name, Amen.

Pastor Jen may be reached at 419-822-7630 and jen.herrmann@gmail.com

A Note from President Carrie Wiedenheft

As our annual congregational meeting approaches, I would like to thank you for your support over the last six years. I truly value your encouragement and trust in me. We have been through a lot together: navigating a new normal in wake of the pandemic, working with interims while guiding the call committee on hiring a new pastor, and continuously trying to do God's work with our hands in a modern world that is not always in harmony with our traditional ideals and beliefs.

During our search for members willing to accept and embrace leadership roles, I encourage you to think about what Trinity means to you and how you can help shape our future -- at church and in our community -- to positively impact the lives of others. As I prepare to pass the torch, I leave you with this final thought:

“Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well.” 1 Peter 4:10

If you feel called to serve on council, please reach out to Pastor Jen or a council member. We appreciate those who have dedicatedly served.

Community Mission



The Community Mission Team is collecting boxed and canned goods for Thanksgiving dinner. We'll take donations through October and give them to Grace's food pantry. Grace will be assembling kits for Thanksgiving dinner to hand out to those in need. Suggested items: Jarred gravy, instant potatoes, stuffing, green beans, corn, peas, mushroom soup, cream of chicken soup, onion topping, canned pumpkin, or any other item you would serve for Thanksgiving that would last through November. Thank you so much for helping others in need during this time of Thanks.

Thank you for your health kit contributions to Lutheran World Relief. We collected and assembled 138 kits and had over 20 volunteers, so we were finished quickly. We are still collecting funds for the shipping cost. Any donation is greatly appreciated -- mark your envelope "Health Kits."

Sunday School

Welcome back to Sunday School from **9:15 am to 10:15 am**! The teachers for preschool – 5th grade are Shelby Koch and Carrie Killingsworth. Join them for music, Bible lessons, and fun crafts. The teachers for 6th grade – high school are Dave Wiedenheft and Pastor Jen. Pastor Jen is also leading the catechism classes. Confirmation will be on **October 25th**. Congratulations to confirmands Tyler Wiedenheft and Lincoln Smith!



Our music director Adele Hoffman is working on our Christmas program. More details to follow soon. Trunks for Treats will be on **October 25th**. Watch for details in the bulletin.

Congregational Life

The Congregational Life Team would like to thank everyone who came out to "raise the roof" with singing, prayer, and worship at Trinity's 100th anniversary celebration! What a wonderful feeling in our hearts with so many in attendance. Our heartfelt thanks go to Pastor Jen and Carrie Lemert who were the driving force behind this day. If you haven't visited the Archive Room, which is in the corner room of the Gathering Room, please do so. We're hoping to add more items as time goes on.

Thank you to Adele Hoffman for the wonderful music and organizing a chime choir which consisted of Tyler, Carlie, Ryan and Pat Wiedenheft; Carrie, Emma, and Drew Killingsworth; Shelby and Zoe Koch; Jim Bertsch, and Sally Warner. Adele also brought in Will Coffman to share his talent on the trumpet. This certainly made the worship service more special! Thank you Jim Bertsch for his involvement and Candy Beatty, Denise Casanova, Bonnie Lieb, and Barb Sessler who got a caterer, made the table arrangements, and made sure everything went smoothly in the kitchen. And a HUGE THANK YOU to Laura Miller who so graciously made the beautiful cake. We were surprised with four different flavors of moist, delicious cake. We can't thank her enough for sharing her cake decorating talent.

If you haven't yet, check out the timeline on the wall in the educational hall and add your information e.g. your birth date, confirmation date, wedding date or any other important Trinity dates. We are hoping to move this timeline to the Archive Room soon.



We're working on putting together some medical equipment that can be used by our church members if the need should arise. This equipment is stored under the north steps off the fellowship hall. We currently have a wheelchair, crutches, two knee scooters, a walker, a shower chair, and a bedside commode. There is a sign-out sheet when borrowing any of the equipment. We're also working on getting elastic wrist, knee, and ankle bands and other elastic wraps that can be taken and don't have to be returned. We hope this may help our members.

Mark your calendar for beautiful Christmas candles the church will be selling in early November.

Proceeds will be directed towards **TREES FOR TROOPS**, a organization that supplies Christmas trees for United States armed forces members and their families. With two of our members employed with the armed forces (Jacob Stierhoff and Morgan Otto), this is a worthwhile organization to help this Christmas season. Come get your Christmas gifts early!

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

Monday, September 21, 2026

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.100.102	Checking Account	44,750.48
1.100.104	Petty Cash Fund	20.00
1.100.106	Thrivent Bond Fund Checking	6,933.30
1.200.113	Thrivent Youth Gathering M/M	7,704.37
1.200.114	Thrivent Money Market Account	1,811.59
1.220.116	Endowment Savings Thrivent	113,006.66
1.220.118	Mission Plus Investments (3 CD's)	4,417.41
1.220.120	Edward Jones Mutual Fund	307,553.33
1.400.110	Thrivent Moderate Fund (Reserve)	48,356.11
1.400.112	Thrivent Moderate Fund - Pavement	2,646.80
Total Assets		\$537,200.05
Liabilities		
2.100.200	Accounts Payable/Vendors	375.00
2.100.210	Financial Agent	811.20
2.100.216	Ohio Treasurer of St	80.00
2.100.218	R.I.T.A.	274.30
2.100.220	Board of Pension	80.96
Total Liabilities		\$1,621.46
Fund Balances		
3.100.300	Current Fund Balance	(10,868.72)
3.210.300	Community Mission Fund Balance	2,572.53
3.220.300	Designated Giving Fund Balance	
3.221.300	Memorial Fund Balance	14,807.84
3.222.300	Endowment Fund Balance	117,424.07
3.223.300	Building Improvement Fund Balance	51,716.63
3.225.300	Pavement Fund Balance	4,016.80
3.227.300	Charity Fund Balance	307,553.33
<i>Total Designated Giving Fund Balance</i>		<i>\$495,518.67</i>
3.400.300	Reserve Fund Balance	48,356.11
Total Fund Balances		\$535,578.59
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		\$537,200.05

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes for Monthly Meeting -- August 20th, 2026, 7:00pm

Attending: Carrie Wiedenheft, Jim Bertsch, Bill Bertsch, PR. Jen, Pat Wiedenheft, Sally Warner, Barb Sessler, Chrissie Nielsen

Meeting called to order by President Carrie Wiedenheft. Chrissie gave an opening devotion.

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed with several changes in phrasing. Jim motioned to approve; Barb 2nd. Treasurer's report: Motion made by Barb to roll CD over to a three year CD; Sally 2nd. Sally motioned to accept the Treasurer's report; Chrissie 2nd.

President's Report: There was a discussion about worship possibly being one service. Jim figure costs used for electricity, gas, and water to see if it's worth going to one service. Need further discussion with council and information given to congregation.

Pastor's Report: PR. Jen looking for members to help with archive room. Carrie Lemert has been assisting, but further help is needed. A part of the anniversary service will be directed toward NOWS annual fund. Chrissie motioned to approve; Pat 2nd. Todd Fisher will be making anniversary ornaments and magnets; funds will be separate. Will Coffman to perform on trumpet for the service, Adele suggested a \$100 fee.

Congregational Life (Sally Warner): Working on anniversary preparations and making Christmas candles. Money given to Christmas trees overseas.

Faith Builders (Pat Wiedenheft): No report given.

Community Mission (Chrissie Nielsen): No report given.

Property (Bill Bertsch): Concrete repaired by Ron Vanzandt. Snow plowing by Dunlap will be \$400.00 per Sunday. Discussed looking for a company closer to Sandusky.

Worship and Music (Adele Hoffman): No report given.

New Business: The LWR hygiene kit shipping cost is \$4 for each kit. Will be put in bulletin and newsletter. Asking for help sending kits.

Thank yous: Jim for bringing in vegetables from his garden; those who supported the jam sale for pavement resurfacing; Pat Wiedenheft, Linda Gantz, Rhonda Matus & grandson, Jim Bertsch for Crossroads meal; youth and adult acolytes

Assistant to count offering in September: Adele Hoffman
The devotion leader for the next meeting: Pat Wiedenheft
The meeting adjourned. Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Minutes by Pat Wiedenheft



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
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In their homes:

Judy Welser	5619 Debra Drive, Castalia 419-684-7232	Birthday: Feb 11
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Laura Allen	2015 Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky
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Pat Nielsen	1502 Martins Point Rd, Sandusky	Birthday: June 6
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Orpha Densmore	7138 SR 412, Clyde	Birthday: April 12
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JAM SESSION: October 11th, 2026



**Crossroads Meal by Jim Bertsch
 October 21st, 2026**

**Hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes
 Green beans
 Corn
 Roll & butter
 Chocolate raspberry dessert**

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

BIRTHDAYS

Betty Miller	10/01
Joyce Patterson & Rosemarie Canter	10/04
Athena Haynes	10/05
Mark Markley & Chris Nielsen	10/10
Emma Killingsworth	10/11
William Hirt	10/14
Halle Miller	10/16
Denise Casanova & Emily Strauss	10/17
Bret Hirt	10/18
Gayle Thompson	10/19
Charlie Bango	10/22
Amy Baum & Glen Bango	10/23



ANNIVERSARIES	YEARS
Robert & Melissa Wiedenheft 10/10	11
Carrie & Kenneth Killingsworth 10/10	16
Jeff & Chrissie Nielsen 10/21	37
Rhonda & Dean Matus 10/22	3
Jeff & Shelly Robbins 10/23	44



MEMORIALS & HONORIUMS

In memory of Marilee Werner

Tom & Shirley Sigman, Karen Zlansey, Wendy Wiedenheft

In memory of Patty Swartz

Gregory, Susanne, and Carrie Lemert; Gary & Bonnie Lieb; Tom & Shirley Sigman; Larry & Linda Velliquette; Don & Alice Kuns; Larry & Pat Wiedenheft; David Wiedenheft; Dave & Sally Warner; Jim Bertsch; Bill Bertsch; Shannon Limberios; Carol Dahs; Steve & Holly Miller; Karen & Barry Gill; Dave & Karen Eckhert; Beth Potts; Joe & Sally Verhoff; Jen & Andy Olson; Judy Harris; Bev Mix; Jean & Jeff Smith; Donna Sessler; Jami Williamson; Roy & Joyce Patterson Daniel & Brenda Barnett; Ruth Sieb; Marty Deleruyell; Arlayne Mischler; Jean Cline

Trinity would like to thank:

- Bridget Adams Brewer for photographing the 100th Anniversary
- Jim Bertsch & Community Mission team for doing LWR kits – Linda Wilcox, Bonnie Lieb, Chrissie Nielsen
- Special music contributors Will Coffman and chime players
- Judy Welser for supplying the cookies for the 100th Anniversary
- Laura Miller for baking and decorating the 100th Anniversary cake
- All members of the Anniversary committee

OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Communion Service 8 & 10:30am S.S. 9:15am	5	6	7 NA 7pm	8	9	10 NA 11am
11 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am S.S. 9:15am JAM! 9:15am	12	13	14 NA 7pm	15	16	17 NA 11am
18 Communion Service 8 & 10:30am S.S. 9:15am Annual Congregation Mtg 9:15	19 Dartball 7:30	20	21 NA 7pm Crossroads 1pm	22 Council mtg 7pm	23	24 NA 11am Fellowship hall reserved 1- 5pm
25 Word & Prayer 8 & 10:30am S.S. 9:15am	26 Dartball 7:30	27	28 NA 7pm	29	30	31 

Monthly Leadership

Date	Ushers Early	Lector Early	Acolyte	Ushers Late	Lector Late
Oct 4	Roy Patterson & Sally Warner	Sally Warner	Tyler Wiedenheft	Ken Schenk & David Wobser	Candy Beatty
Oct 11	Roy Patterson & Sally Warner	Carrie Wiedenheft	Carlie Wiedenheft	Ken Schenk & David Wobser	Chrissy Nielsen
Oct 18	Roy Patterson & Sally Warner	Guy Miller	Ryan Wiedenheft	Ken Schenk & David Wobser	Mason Russell
Oct 25	Roy Patterson & Sally Warner	Joyce Patterson	Zane Warner	Ken Schenk & David Wobser	Gayle Thompson

Date	Altar Flowers	Memorial Flowers
Oct 4	Ken & Carrie Killingsworth	Linda Gantz
Oct 11	Millie McCready	Linda Wilcox
Oct 18	Dean & Rhonda Matus	Sally Warner
Oct 25	Candy Beatty	Greg & Cindy Norman

Altar Care: Barb Sessler & Bonnie Lieb

Communion Assistants: Sally Warner (Early) Candy Beatty (Late)



October Readings & Prayers

October 4th: Pentecost 19

Isaiah 5:1-7

The song of the vineyard

Psalms 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

Philippians 3:4b-14

Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ

Matthew 21:33-46

The parable of the vineyard owner's son

Prayer of the Day: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

October 11th: Pentecost 20

Isaiah 25:1-9

The feast of victory

Psalms 23

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoice in the Lord always

Matthew 22:1-14

The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

Prayer of the Day: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all people and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

October 18th: Pentecost 21

Isaiah 45:1-7

An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will

Psalms 96:1-9 [10-13]

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica

Matthew 22:15-22

A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God

Prayer of the Day: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

October 25th: Pentecost 22

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Holiness revealed in acts of justice

Psalms 1

Their delight is in the law of the LORD. (Ps. 1:2)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

The apostle's tender care for the Thessalonians

Matthew 22:34-46

Two great commandments: love for God and neighbor

Prayer of the Day: O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

