

TRINITY MONTHLY

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOD'S TRUTH THROUGH CHRIST'S LOVE



Freedom Together

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Independence Day is upon us. Each year on the 4th of July we celebrate perhaps the most quintessentially American holiday. With barbeque and watermelon, friends and family, we celebrate both an event and an idea: Independence. To celebrate we make sure that the “Heavens declare the Glory of God” with fireworks and music, what would otherwise be silence is filled in with our “ooh!”s and “ahh!”s. It is grand and it is

glorious and it is ours; America.

One strange thought often fills my mind as we celebrate independence; we all celebrate independence by being united. Independence, in a sense isn't what we have ever wanted, and it isn't actually what our founding fathers fought for. We wanted independence from Britain to be sure, but so we could live united with one another. Independence Day is really a celebration about being free to live together, to depend on each other, to be united.

(continued)

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Welcome New Members | 3

Family Movie Night | 4

Rally Day Service | 6

VBS Highlights | 7



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

This unity, and this freedom to be bound to our neighbors were things our forefathers believed were gifts of God worthy of sacrifice to build and protect.

Our founding fathers were right. The freedom to give oneself fully to and for our neighbors is a right given by God. It is one worthy of protection and sacrifice. Independence gained to allow us the freedom to unite with each other is the essence of that Christian freedom which was shown to us and won for us in Christ. Luther describes in his treatise "The Freedom of a Christian" that Christians are completely free in Christ, while at the same time we are freed to be servants of all. Luther understood that freedom is only a gift when we are free to use it for the blessings of our neighbor.

This Independence Day I encourage you to look beyond the celebration to see what has inspired us all the way back to the founding of our nation. Celebrate as we always do by using your freedom to gather together with your friends, family, and neighbors as one. That unity is God's gift, worthy of your sacrifice to build and protect.

In Christ's Freedom,



Rev. K. McClain
Pastor Kevin McClain
Lead Pastor

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

 508 Center Street
Ashland, Ohio 44805

 Phone: (419) 289-2126

 Fax: 419-289-1381

 trinityashland.org

Of course, you are always
welcome to stop by
Trinity's office:

Monday - Thursday
9am-5pm!

OUR NEW MEMBERS

Kristen
Smith



Kristen Smith, a dedicated clerical professional, finds joy in a diverse range of interests. She delights in reading books, watching movies, and expressing herself through writing. Kristen also cherishes her time in nature and the companionship of pets. When she started attending Trinity Lutheran Church six months ago, Kristen was attracted to its inclusive community and abundant opportunities for involvement. She values Trinity as a place where everyone can find their niche through a variety of activities and groups, fostering a sense of belonging and personal growth for all.

Jen
Richards



Jen Richards, a dedicated kindergarten teacher from the Lexington area, finds joy in her roles as both a mother to her daughter Addilyn and as a new member of Trinity. She has been attending Trinity since March of 2023. She treasures family time, especially with her daughter, and shares a love for reading and dogs. Jen was drawn to Trinity because of its welcoming atmosphere and the opportunities it offers for children to get involved. She looks forward to continuing her journey at Trinity, where she can contribute to and benefit from the supportive community that embraces both spiritual growth and active engagement.

Jan
Hamilton



Jan Hamilton is rejoining Trinity Lutheran Church after moving back to Ashland following retirement, drawn back by fond memories and family ties. She enjoys watching spending time with her two children and watching her three grandchildren excel in baseball and volleyball. Jan's decision to return to Trinity was deeply rooted in her history with the church during her earlier years in Ashland. Now settled back in the community, she eagerly looks forward to connecting with the church's welcoming environment and participating in its activities and services alongside her beloved family.

Judy
Henry



Judy Henry, retired and blessed with adult children, has a long history with Trinity Lutheran spanning over 31 years. She previously attended Trinity, raised her family here, and served on the Altar Guild until she moved states. Judy cherishes memories like her son's wedding in this church. Now transferring her membership from her previous church in Sandusky, Ohio, Judy looks forward to returning to Trinity as a member, where she values the community and opportunities to contribute.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, July 12th | 7pm (Movie Starts at Dusk)

Come on out to Trinity Lutheran Church's Family Movie Night on July 12th at 7pm! Grab your blankets and chairs for an outdoor cinema experience under the stars. We've got popcorn, candy, and drinks covered. Everyone's invited, so bring your friends and family for a night of fun and community bonding. No registration needed. See you there!

SUMMER GARDEN SERVICES

Next service on Sunday, July 28th | 8:45am

All are welcome to join our outdoor summer garden services in the Church Home Rose Garden! Special words and music will fill our time together.

Those attending the garden service should park in the lots on Walnut and Chestnut streets and use the sidewalk to the Rose Garden. In case of rain, the service will be held inside. The Rose Garden and the church sanctuary are ground-level accessible. Upcoming Garden Services are set for July 28th and August 11th. Please contact the church office with any questions.



CELEBRATING JULY BIRTHDAYS



Let's shower our cherished members 85 and over with lots of love and well-wishes as they celebrate their birthdays this month!

Madeline Cole | July 2nd

Rex Smith | July 6th

Kathleen Wendling | July 9th

William Buckingham | July 10th

Joyce Farris | July 12th

Doris Hintz | July 13th

Walter Ryan | July 15th

Ella Shannon | July 16th

Mary Ann Worst | July 19th

Nancy Meyers | July 20th

Robert Gosnell | July 21st

Dana DeLong | July 25th

Henry Hiner | July 29th

WELCOME OUR SUMMER INTERNS

AIDAN CHANDLER

Music Ministry Intern

Aidan Chandler, a dedicated junior at Ohio Northern University studying biology with a pre-dental concentration and a minor in Chemistry, is currently a music intern at Trinity. Hailing from Ashland, Ohio, Aidan has been a lifelong attendee of Trinity, having been baptized here. His roots in the community run deep, and he finds great joy in spending time with family and friends, golfing, staying active through workouts, and expressing his passion for music both through singing and in worship.



Aidan's decision to pursue the music internship at Trinity stems from a positive experience last year and a desire to deepen his faith while contributing to the church community. He looks forward to continuing to grow under the guidance of Kim and the church staff, relishing the opportunity to participate in upcoming activities like Choir Camp. Aidan's commitment to his studies, his faith, and his community underscores his dedication to making a meaningful impact both academically and spiritually.

GABE MURAWSKI

Music Ministry Intern

Gabe Murawski, a passionate sophomore at Ashland University, is pursuing a degree in music education with a minor in religion while currently being involved as a music intern at Trinity. A native of Jeromesville, Gabe has been a lifelong member of Trinity, deeply rooted in the church community. His interests span music, video games, hiking, fishing, and a love for the world of Lord of the Rings.



In addition to his academic pursuits, Gabe actively serves on the worship team at Trinity and has been lending his skills to various church and office duties throughout the year. His decision to undertake the music internship reflects his desire to grow both musically and spiritually under the mentorship of Kim, Ron, and Mark. Gabe looks forward to further honing his musical abilities and contributing meaningfully to the worship experience at Trinity, embodying his dedication to both his studies and his faith.

**ONE
ONE
ONE**

**GOD
CHURCH
SERVICE**

Sunday, August 25th | 10am | Center Street Lot

Join us for a special Rally Day service on August 25th, 2024! This is an extremely special Rally Day as we will be focusing on the theme of *One God, One Church, One Service*.

Time:

- 10am: Service
- 11am - 11:30am: Open House
- 11:30am - 1pm: Lunch & Activities (Kids stuff), Tents with Opportunities to Get Involved

Highlights:

- Commissioning of Sunday School Teachers: Witness the commissioning of our dedicated Sunday School teachers during the service.
- Meet Your Teachers: Stick around after the service for the chance to meet your Sunday School teachers.
- Lunch at Jack's Place: Join us for a delicious lunch at Jack's Place. More details to be announced soon!

Bring your family and friends for a day of celebration, unity, fellowship, and fun!



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

July 8th - 19th | 8:45am - 12pm

Join us for our annual summer reading program for some Olympic level fun! This program is open to all kids in the community who have completed grades K-4th. Kids will be led by certified teachers in fun and interactive projects that will help them improve their reading skills! Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. The cost is \$30 per child (\$20 for additional family members) with a \$5 discount if you register by June 14th. Register today using the QR code.



THANKS FOR AN AMAZING VBS!

We had an incredible week of fun and faith at Scuba VBS! Thank you for all who organized, volunteered, and supported VBS this year. Special thanks to Amy Atterholt, Angela Baker, Kari Emmons, Kristen McClain, and Dawn Forbes for their direction and leadership. Because of everyone's collaboration and involvement, kids were able to enjoy a week of hearing about the love of Jesus!



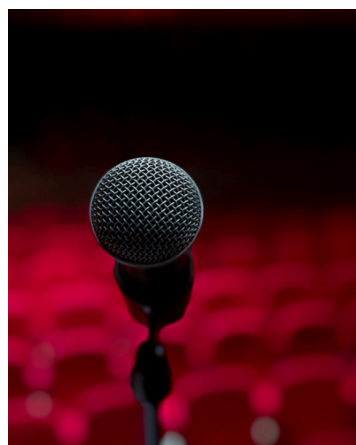
Want to see more photos and moments from this year's VBS?
Scan the QR code to check out our online photo album!



SUMMER YOUTH HANGOUTS: DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, July 21st | 6-8pm | Jack's Place

Join us at a "Drive-In" movie in Jack's Place at Trinity. Popcorn, hot chocolate, and candy will be provided for this special premiere! Movie to be announced. No sign-up needed, just bring your friends, blankets, and chairs!



SAVE THE DATE: TRINITY'S BROADWAY REVUE

Friday, August 9th | 7pm | Jack's Place

Join us for an enchanting evening of Broadway magic at Trinity's Broadway Revue on Friday, August 9th, starting at 7pm in Jack's Place. We are thrilled to showcase talented local musicians who will bring your favorite Broadway hits to life, all in support of the Ashland Community Foundation. Mark your calendars for a night filled with unforgettable performances and the joy of giving back to our community. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

Kids' Choir Camp

PRAISE LIKE FIREWORKS

2024

JULY 29th – AUGUST 1st

9am – 12pm

For all kids ages 4 (potty-trained)
through completed Grade 6

Trinity Lutheran Church
508 Center Street, Ashland, OH

trinityashland.org

SCAN
FOR
MORE

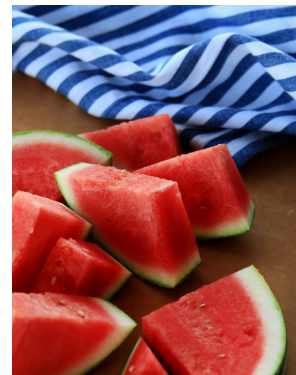


SENIOR MINISTRY

LUTHER CLUB

Thursday, July 11th | Noon | Jack's Place

Interested in fellowship? Join us for Luther Club! Our menu for the gathering will include a build your own cheeseburger option, french fries or onion rings, watermelon and ice cream sandwiches. Our speaker will be announced soon. Cost for the lunch is \$7. Please RSVP to the church office.



MNM'S LUNCHEON

Tuesday, July 16th | Noon | Jack's Place

If you are a woman on your own, we would love for you to join us at our next luncheon on July 16th. We will enjoy chicken salad on a croissant, potato salad, fruit salad, and cookies. Please RSVP to the church office by July 11th.

EUCHRE NIGHT

Thursday, July 25th | 6:30pm | Jack's Place

Shuffle up and deal! Join us in Jack's Place for a lively game night of Euchre. All skill levels and ages are welcome, and you don't need a partner to attend. Contact the office at (419) 289-2126 to RSVP and come enjoy an evening of cards and camaraderie.

EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH

We are taking July off, and will be back in August to make our greeting cards.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SONETWORK MISSIONS PRESENTATION

Sunday, July 28th | 10-10:50am | Trinity Room

Join us to hear about the Summer Missions trips with SONetwork. Together, we'll celebrate the work done by our Summer missionaries and raise awareness about our ministry partnerships worldwide.

For more fun details about this event, contact the Rob or Kim Pool.



TRINITY TESTIFIES

Sundays, August 4th-18th | 10-10:50am | Trinity Room

We'll be hearing a collection of shared testimonies and learning how to craft our own. Our goal is to encourage you through the testimonies of others and teach you how to write and share your own powerful and God-glorifying story.

GET INVOLVED

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: SUMMER COLLECTION

Summer Collection

Remember when you cleaned out your closet for the Rummage sale? And now you wish you'd gotten rid of those pants that really don't fit?

Well, we have another opportunity for you to get rid of all the clothing, shoes, purses and other soft items that didn't make it for the rummage sale. These items will all be taken with the other leftover clothing to SAVERS in Brunswick, Ohio, where they will pay us money per pound! So load up those bags and bring them down from 9am-12pm each day, July 1st-3rd, 8th & 9th!

All money received from the sale of the clothing/soft goods will be used to purchase items for the shoeboxes that are sent around the world!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Caring through compassionate listening

Would you like to share your gifts with others through this distinctively Christian caring ministry? Contact Michelle Vanderzyden, Dan Forbes, Robert Birkes, Pam Prezioso or any other Stephen Minister to find out how you can participate in our next class of caring ministers. Stephen Ministers train for 50 hours and serve those struggling with life's challenges. We hope to start our next class this fall. Won't you prayerfully consider if God is calling you into this amazing ministry?

CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

The Director of Christian Development will oversee Christian Education and development for children and youth, grades Pre K - Young Adult.



DIRECTOR OF BEACON AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Our Beacon After-School Program is seeking to hire a gifted individual for our Director role.



ASSOCIATE PASTOR

We're seeking to hire an individual who desires freedom, opportunity, and responsibility to minister faithfully while seeking innovative and successful approaches to connect our community with the Gospel.



APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Please visit our website's job opportunities page or scan the QR-code for a full list of qualifications and full instructions on how to apply.



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

April 2024 Church Services		
DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	CHURCH SERVICES
April 6-7, 2024	121	323
April 13-14, 2024	116	343
April 20-21, 2024	83	291
April 27-28, 2024	94	346

April 2024 Receipts	
DATE	AMOUNT
April 7, 2024	\$13,613
April 14, 2024	\$23,460
April 21, 2024	\$11,218
April 28, 2024	\$27,937

Operating Fund YTD	
INCOME	\$339,223
DISBURSEMENTS	\$502,026
DEFICIT (DATE)	-\$121,735
WEEKLY INCOME NEEDED FOR OPERATION BUDGET	\$29,531

COUNCIL NOTES & NEWS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE UPDATES FROM THE APRIL MEETING

Pastor's Report:

Trinity Council,

It is VBS time here at Trinity, the rooms and halls are filled, as are the hands of our staff and volunteers, and we pray for the hearts of the young people we are serving. All that is full is filled by Jesus. It is what the Lord places into our hearts that we share, and what he places into our hands that we work on. No doubt you are busy as well, the Lord has given us much to do. I pray that you are able to see in the midst of all you are doing that this is all a gift from God. Most churches in America would love to have the ministry and the impact that we are having in our community. We are fortunate that God continues to bless us with valuable and meaningful labor in his kingdom. I pray he strengthens and encourages you day by day in your labor.

In Christ,
-Pr. Kevin

Reports and Items Needing Action:

- *From Pr. McClain:*
 - Pr. Charles Neff will officiate services on the 29th and 30th.
- *From Staff:*
 - Update on JoEllen Smalley: JoEllen is scheduled to be released from the hospital in Houston tomorrow. She is able to walk and eat solid food. She will likely spend the next two weeks in Texas doing some rehab to regain her strength before returning home to Ashland. We will work out her return to work once she is on her way back home.
 - A motion to support the Ashland Symphony Orchestra with a \$4000 annual commitment for three years, following a request for a three-year pledge of support for the Ashland Symphony Orchestra's Pops in the Park Concert, was carried.

Old Business:

- Discussion on Georg Warnecke's interview approval, associated costs, and responsibilities.

Call Committee:

- No new candidates. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 19th to review next steps.

Finance:

- The Finance Committee is starting the planning process to distribute Congregation Members 6-month Giving Statements in July.
- The Finance Committee is asking for the 2025 Budget Staff planning Timeline to be provided and explained, plus provide the detailed staff worksheets as the process moves forward and is completed.
- The Finance Committee proposes inviting Scott Saner from Whitcomb & Hess to present financial figures at the July 9th, 2024 meeting for interested members.

Kitchen:

- Served the lunch/snack bar at our Rummage Sale and made \$600.
- Served the snack bar at the Ashland County Cancer Association and made \$1548 for them with grant money from Thrivent.
- Did serve and will continue to serve lunches for Luther Club and M'N'Ms throughout the summer.
- Serving at VBS as well.

Missions Community Partnerships:

- The committee met on 5/23. Aaron and Amanda Wolfe reported on Grow in Hope Ministries in Uganda. They plan to make a trip to Uganda June 25th - July 13th. They will present at the services and also host a brunch to raise support on the weekend of Sept 8th.
- The Albanian and Slovakian mission teams are finishing their pre-trip trainings and raising the rest of their financial support. Both teams will share about their trips on the weekend of July 28. Prayers are appreciated for the mission trips. Albania: June 26th - July 15th and Slovakia: July 11th - 22nd.
- The committee is asking Ruth Ann Linder and Cheryl Benway to join the committee. Additional names of people who may want to join the committee are welcome.

Nurture:

- Council members and families organized and served at Mitchell Hall for confirmation and senior recognition breakfasts, with kitchen volunteers praised; mothers at Mother's Day services received tulips, and the next meeting is on June 27th.

Outreach:

- Marsha McNutt will replace Kenny Oberholtzer as Outreach Secretary for a year, while Don Schendel takes his place as a voting member on the Outreach Committee.

Personnel/Lay Leader-Kenny Oberholtzer:

- Most congregational surveys are being submitted online, negating the need for Council assistance in compiling them; the Survey Committee plans to meet in late June to strategize summarizing the results.
- Discussions occurred on filling vacant staff positions including Chief Operating Officer, Associate and Youth Pastor roles, and Christian Development, with outreach to Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky for pastor leads.

Property:

- Working on getting quotes on repairs to windows and doors in various locations around the church.
- Paulin will be sealing the south parking lot and repairing cracks and potholes June 27th.
- Downstairs class rooms A, B, C and D are complete.
- Downstairs corridor has been painted and the tile floor is 90% complete.
- Outlets have been installed in alcoves of Jack's Place.

Senior Ministries:

- There were 33 at Luther club last month.

Women and Children:

- VBS is happening now.
- Summer Reading is July 8th to the 19th.

Worship and Music:

- First Garden Service is June 23rd at 8:45. Two others are planned for July 28th and August 11th.
- Choir Camp is set for July 29th thru August 1st.
- A "Rally Day" outside worship service is being planned for Sunday, August 25th at 10am, followed by a Sunday School open house and lunch in Jack's Place. More details to follow.