

Trinity Tidings for June 2026

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Pastor Julie Osterhout ♦ Musician-Carla Seidel ♦ Sexton-Roy Kline

‘See, I am making all things new . . .’



Blessings to all as we close out the Easter season and journey into the “green season” of Ordinary Time. The “green season” is the time after Pentecost. These “Ordinary Times” stretch all the way to Christ the King Sunday when we change over the Lectionary Year and enter into Advent.

It is interesting how the church year connects the days together and guides us through not only the seasons of the year, but the seasons of life.

It is not uncommon for the seasons of life to be compared to Mother Nature’s

change of seasons. We enter into the spring of our lives when we are born, the summer of life in our younger adult years as we build relationships and careers—perhaps begin a family. Then fall comes as we enter into a time of confidence, wisdom, and a few grey hairs. And then winter comes. Sometimes it comes slowly inching into our lives little by little. Other times winter bursts through the front door in ice, wind, and swirls of crystalline snow.

Often winter feels like the hardest season to endure. The biting cold freezes the joints and pains hands and feet. Things wrinkle and turn grey. Our bodies become fragile and thin. And then the day comes when we lie down in the quiet resting snow and close our eyes to the world we know only to open them again to something new and revitalizing. We open our eyes to the light and life of the one who created us and walked with us through every season of life.

But here’s the interesting thing, these seasons of life are really about the physicality of our bodies, when in truth our lives can pass through all of these seasons more than once in a lifetime and not always in a nice linear fashion. Sometimes it’s all about our state of mind and the way in which we are experiencing life that can feel like the stinging bite of winter or the warm breeze of a summer day.

I don’t know about you, but I have noticed the life of the church is like this, too. The church also goes through these life seasons. And just like individuals, the collective state of mind of the whole church family can pass through spring, summer, fall, and winter in similar ways. There is the spring of a new congregation full of fresh ideas and new growth. Then summer rolls in with stable, thriving programs, and sustained prosperity. Then fall comes unexpectedly when growth peaks, programs become less relative, and the church family ages. Finally, winter arrives.

The congregation comes into a time of routine and inactivity as members pass away, growth abates, the building becomes a burden, and money becomes scarce.

And yet, I have seen congregations entering the winter of life, regroup, replan, restore, and renew as they jump into a new spring and summer. (Though it takes risk, and a desire to embrace dramatic change and try new ideas.)

So, what about Trinity? Where are we in the seasons of life? In many ways, it feels like our Trinity church family has already journeyed through summer and is now entering the last days of fall as we have seen so many friends pass away and our financial outlook has caught us off guard. It might feel like winter is approaching, and we wonder if we can weather the blizzards to come.

But here's the thing, I don't think winter is coming (there's a pop-culture reference in there somewhere). Instead, it looks like spring is on the horizon. Rather than girding ourselves for freezing weather, we must prepare ourselves for new growth and new opportunities.

I know, I know, we have every day financial concerns to wrestle with (we need to pay the bills). And while Deacon Carol's legacy will enable growth in new ministry and mission, it cannot pay those bills. But, with God's guidance, the example of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, we will figure out how to clear the financial hurdles set before us. We will develop new ways to provide both sustainability and growth for Trinity Lutheran Church.

Please stay tuned to these new ideas as we offer a series of three Temple Talks over the next several weeks. We will hear about finances, staffing, and new ministry. Most importantly we invite you to remain after worship on these Temple Talk days to ask questions, discuss, and share more ideas about what you've heard in that morning's Temple Talk.

Oh, and, remember, green is the liturgical church color that symbolizes life and growth . . . And right now is the "green season," the season for growth and new life. Let's enter this green season of new possibilities with fresh ideas and new perspectives. Revelation reads, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away . . . And the one seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'" (Rev. 21)

Blessings,
Pastor Julie

Kids of the Kingdom

Sundays During Service



Beginning Sunday, February 1st, a new Sunday School for children ages preschool through 4th grade will be offered. Kids of the Kingdom will meet after the Sunday morning Children's Message. We will meet twice a month in the library. Our time will be filled with Bible stories and activities. On Sundays when we don't meet, children will receive an activity bag to enjoy during worship. Following are dates for Kids of the Kingdom:

April 5, 19
May 3, 17
June 7, 21

July 5, 19
August 2, 16
Fall Schedule TBD

??DiD YoU KnOw??

Welcome to **??DiD YoU KnOw??** Did you ever have questions about the workings of the church or wonder about practices and traditions of the church? Well, each month *Trinity Tidings* will post a **??DiD YoU KnOw??** blurb to cover topics and/or answer questions concerning the workings of Trinity Lutheran Church.

In this first **??DiD YoU KnOw??** we'll talk about the Community Response Fund. **??DiD YoU KnOw??** that the money raised at our annual Strawberry Festival does not go into our general fund to cover operating expenses for the congregation? Most likely many of our guests who come to the festival don't know that the money they help to raise goes into a special fund used to help those in our church family and greater community who are in great need. The CRF can supplement a number of financial needs. In the past, we have assisted people with overwhelming medical bills, who have had house fires, are struggling to pay rent and energy bills, and other similar needs. Though the fund is limited, you and I know every little bit helps.

If you, or someone you know in our church family or the greater community needs a bit of a financial boost let anyone on our Mutual Ministries team know. Mutual Ministries will prayerfully consider all CRF requests. Team members are: Cheryl Machermer (Chair), Kevin Kurtz, Jerry Jarsocrak, Stefanie Steffey, Lindsey Calpino, and Pastor Julie.

Church Council Highlights from May

- Mission Trip changed to September 20-26, 2026.
- Council Retreat outcome: will provide Temple Talks and Congregational conversations concerning financial and ministry opportunities.
- Sixteen people signed up to walk in the Memorial Day Parade. Please clean out both refrigerators in preparation for Strawberry Festival.
- Musicians from Trinity will play at Heritage Society on Flag day June 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm.
- If you are giving electronically and no longer need to use your envelopes, please let Wendell or Barb know.

It's **Student Loan/Grant** time for Trinity Lutheran Endowment Fund. Applications are available from Stephanie Kurtz (snkurtz38@gmail.com). They can be emailed to you or you can obtain a paper form. Your application needs to be returned to Stephanie by **June 7th** in order to be considered for this year. An example of how the Loan/Grant works is if you receive a check of \$3,000 for year one of college, you will need to repay \$1,500 one year after you graduate or stop going to college. Any other questions, please contact Stephanie Kurtz.

Thank You

A huge **Thank You** to the Chancel Choir, Joybells, Carolbells, Joyful Rhythms and Instrumentalists for sharing your time and love of music!

We invite anyone who would like to share special music during the summer worship services to please sign-up on the list in the narthex. Carla is happy to help you select music and work with you. This can be solos, duets, ensembles, instrumental, bells, etc.

The summer is a great time to think about new activities you would like to try in the fall. We always have room for more singers in the choir, for more bell ringers, for more instrumentalists and for more drummers! You do not need to know how to read music to ring bells, play drums or sing in the choir where all voices are always welcome! Please come join us!

Thank you to Mary Jane & Ed Evans for the lovely marigolds given to the women of the church on Mother's Day!

*In
Loving
Memory* 

From the Fellowship Committee, in loving memory of our beloved chairperson, Helen Hummel. We appreciated your excellent leadership and generous hospitality. You will be missed.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Sharon Gring, Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Bob Kohler, Carolyn Kurtz, Janice Lamm, Betty Reber, Ruth Rush, Pat Sickles, Bonnie & Margie Stine.

The Military: John Kurtz.

Family and Friends: Justin Audet, Eleanor Brossman's daughter Kim, Barb Cox, Arline G., Delores Hickernell, Karen Kline, Bronwyn Morgan, Eileen Rhoad, Kirsten S., Pat Zerby, Karen and Linda.

Special Ministries: Our missionary in Tanzania-Stephen Friberg and his Family.

Please let us know when to remove people from the prayer list.

PRAYER CHAIN

For confidential prayers for yourself or other
Call Mary Young at 610-678-4470 to activate the prayer chain.

Thank you for participating in the mission of Jesus Christ through your gifts to Trinity. How gifts may be received: ***Online giving via Trinity's website: www.trinitywernersville.org**



Or scan the QR-code with your phone camera to connect to Trinity's Donate page. There you can securely make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

*Regular mail: 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville 19565

*Vanco Mobile App. using debit or credit.

*To make changes to automatic withdrawal use invite code hpfk34.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
130 S. WALNUT ST. WERNERSVILLE

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

June 13, 2026

3:30 TO 7:30 PM

RAIN OR SHINE



***Featuring... Wood-Smoked Pulled Pork,
Pork BBQ Nachos,
Smoked Mac & Cheese
and Pit Baked Beans***



STRAWBERRIES, ICE CREAM AND SHORTCAKE!

GAMES, PRIZES, COSTUME JEWELRY, RAFFLES,
HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS, ALL THINGS PLANTS

****LIVE ENTERTAINMENT****

4:00 - 7:00 pm — Wayne Thompson, guitarist

(Limited seating for eating; You are encouraged to bring lawn chairs)

All proceeds benefit the Community through
the Community Response Fund



We will be looking for donations of Baked Goods (Sharen Black), Raffle Baskets (Barbara Debiec), gently used stuffies (Stefanie Steffey), costume jewelry (Kathy Bashore) and "All things Plants," plants, garden tools, pots, plant books, etc. (Pastor Julie).

Bring your own chairs to relax, visit, and enjoy the food and entertainment.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$50.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00. If you choose, you may decide how you want to sponsor flowers. There are any number of ways to do that: cut your own when appropriate, provide potted plants or flowers like mums, poinsettias, lilies, etc. . . . You are free to design your own arrangements. As always you may take your arrangements home with you after worship. You may also request we use our own artificial flowers and donate the \$50 to the general fund. Or please feel free to purchase them the traditional way: simply sign up, put \$50 in an envelope, and place it in the offering plate. **Most importantly, you must indicate on the flower sign up if you are going to provide flowers yourself so Barbara knows not to order them from Royer's.**

We need altar flower sponsors for 6/7 and 6/28 and bulletin sponsors for 6/14, and 6/28. Please sign up in the book in the narthex.

Altar Flower Sponsors for June: 6/7-Available, 6/14-Betty & Ray Schaeffer in honor of Harley Schaeffer's birthday & Harmony Wentzel's anniversary, 6/21-Betty & Ray Schaeffer in honor of Devin Schaeffer's birthday, 6/28-Available.

Bulletin Sponsors for June: 6/7-Fellowship Committee in memory of our beloved chairperson, Helen Hummel, 6/14-Available, 6/21-Mary Young in memory of fathers, Fremont Alderman & Charles Young, 6/28-Available.

Helpers for June

Altar Guild: Barbara Debiec

Communion Bread: 6/7-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 6/14-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 6/21-Barbara Debiec, 6/28-Barbara Debiec

Communion Assistant; 6/7-Bob Bashore, 6/14-Jerry Jarsocrak, 6/21-No Communion, 6/28-Dawn Hickernell

Acolytes: 6/7-Barbara Debiec, 6/14-Julie Sutliff, 6/21-Ariana Sitlinger, 6/28-TBD

Lay Readers: 6/7-Elaine Briner 6/14-Stefanie Steffey, 6/21-Pam Guigley, 6/28-Dawn Hickernell

Ushers: 6/7-Lawry, 6/14-Bashore, 6/21- Kurtz, 6/28-TBD

Sound System: 6/7-Scott Franzen, 6/14-Wendell Byler, 6/21-Stephanie Kurtz, 6/28-Owen Wentzel

Counters: 6/7-Hassler/Schappell, 6/14-Raply/Pirl-Roth, 6/21-Debiec/Rinehimer, 6/28-Jarsocrak.

Snacks: 6/7-Sharen Black, 6/14-Available. 6/21-Cherie Giangiacomo, 6/28-Available

Bulletin Assemblers: 6/7-Kathy Bashore, 6/14-Betty Schaeffer, 6/21-Leslie Pirl-Roth, 6/28-Sharen Black

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

Effective 5/1/26, the flowers from Royer's will increase to \$50.00 due to rising shipping costs and fuel prices. These flowers are brought in from South America. If you choose to cancel your sponsorship (those who have already signed), simply cross your name off the flower list.

Church Council Members

Bob Bashore/Stewardship, President 484-336-3638
Cindy Hassler-Schappell/Endowment, Vice President 610-451-6131
Sharen Black/Fellowship 610-678-1713
Beth Byler/Future Ministries 610-781-2161
Betty Lou Franzen/Finance/Strawberry Festival 610-781-8132
Ron Giangiacomo/Property 610-670-1869
Kevin Kurtz/Long Range Planning 610-413-5240
Stefanie Steffey/Mutual Ministries 484-721-1161
Julie Sutliff/Worship & Music/Personnel 610-780-0802