

Trinity Spirit



VOLUME 22, ISSUE 6

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



BEHIND THE STORIES | *Resurrection* - PART 2

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the central event of our Christian faith. At the same time, understanding the resurrection has always been a challenge to our human brains. Many people want to know exactly what happened, what did it look like, how did the disciples experience the resurrected Jesus. The biblical stories of Jesus' resurrection are themselves challenging and leave us with many questions.

I believe that the questions we have are okay. Having faith in God means that we do not need to have everything figured out. We do not need to have all of the answers. In fact, I believe that faith grows in the gaps between what we understand and what we believe. I believe in the resurrection, that Jesus is alive, but I cannot claim to fully understand it

The Gospels and St. Paul all proclaim the reality of Jesus' resurrection and the experiences of many who encountered Jesus' alive after the crucifixion.

In John and Luke, Jesus appears to people who do not recognize him at first. Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:14-16) meets Jesus outside the tomb and does not recognize him until he calls her by name. Seven of the disciples go fishing and Jesus appears on the shore (Jn 21: 1ff). He calls out to them and they do not know who it is at first. Peter is the first to recognize him. In Luke (24:13-35) two disciples walk to Emmaus and encounter Jesus on the way. They do not recognize him until they invite him to spend the night and he takes bread and blesses it for their meal. "Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight."

In other accounts, the disciples are gathered together behind closed doors (Jn. 20:19-23; 26-29; Lk. 24:36-43) and suddenly Jesus comes and stands among them, he speaks to them, shows them his wounds, and even eats with them.

St. Paul encounters Jesus on the road to Damascus. His experience is of a light from heaven flashing and the voice of Jesus speaking to him, being struck blind and being given instructions as to what to do next. The people with them also heard the voice but saw no one. (Acts 9:3-7)

Perhaps my favorite resurrection appearance is in Matthew (28:16-20) where the disciples meet Jesus on a mountain in Galilee. Before he gives them the great commission, they see Jesus and we are told "they worshiped him, but they doubted (NRSVue). (Some translations read "but some doubted".) They recognize Jesus, but at the same time they don't fully understand what they are experiencing. This strikes me as realistic, because after seeing Jesus crucified, I think that I too would have difficulty in understanding how it is that he is here again.

All of these accounts attest to the fact that they disciples and Paul had real experiences of Jesus alive after the crucifixion, but at the same time they are not normal human experiences. It is as though Jesus isn't just alive in this life again. I think of it is as Jesus being alive in the resurrection. A type of life which we have not yet experienced and do not yet understand.

And even though we may not fully understand it, we still have the proclamation that **"Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!"**

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Roll

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ROMANS 9:10



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

At Trinity we often find our visitors become family long before they become members. but on Sunday, May 17th, these folks made it official!



Lisa & Kevin Streekstra
TRINITY SPONSOR: Ron Wicke



Annie Wiedmeyer
TRINITY SPONSORS:
CarlEda Skinkis & Alyssa Brockman



Nathan, Kathleen & Izzy Fairchild
TRINITY SPONSOR: Shirl Curreri



Elle Doerr
TRINITY SPONSOR: Heather Peters



CONFIRMATION RETREAT MAY 1-3 | PINE LAKE

Ten of Trinity's 7th and 8th grade Confirmation youth enjoyed a beautiful weekend retreat at Crossways Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca.

Trinity usually offers two Confirmation Retreats per year—one in fall and one in spring. These have been amazing opportunities for group building, relationship deepening, and an increased sense of comfort with the group, as well as an increased willingness to be involved in future learning and discussion.

Thank you all for supporting this opportunity that our youth have held up as one of their favorite parts of our Confirmation ministry.



CAMP CLEANUP DAY

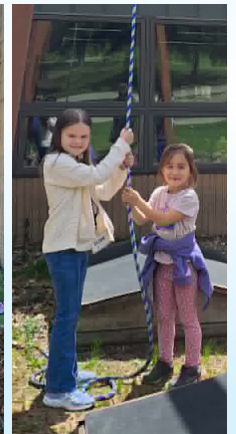
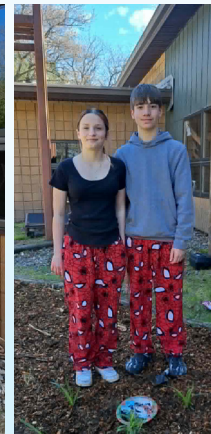
PINE LAKE CAMP | WAUPACA, WI | MAY 2



We had a wonderful time preparing Pine Lake Camp for a summer of fun! We spent the day planting a native pollinator garden, mulching around the playground and cleaning cabins to prepare them for campers. It feels good to give back to a mission that gives so much to our congregation's youth.



Thank you to everyone who helped make this day productive and successful!



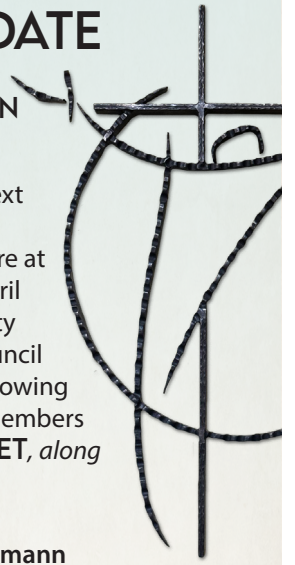


CELEBRATION SUNDAY | MAY 17
 How do you welcome new members and top off another great year of Children's Ministry? *With a traditional Trinity ice cream social, complete with a cherry on top!*



MET UPDATE

MINISTRY
EXPLORATION
TEAM



The MET is the next major step in our transition time here at Trinity. At their April meeting, the Trinity Congregation Council appointed the following cross-section of members to serve on the MET, along with Pastor Robb:

- Jim Barker
- Isabelle Beckmann
- Tom Bergerud
- Alyssa Brockman
- Diane Ferstadt
- Katie Flunker
- Jackie Granger
- Rick Gilbertson
- Pat Hanvey
- Amanda Hull
- Shannon Stadelmayer

The first MET meeting took place May 11, giving the team members a chance to get to know one another, become orientated with their work, and schedule their meeting dates for the summer. Another MET meeting on May 26 will welcome Rev. Kristin Nielsen from the Greater Milwaukee ELCA Synod. Pastor Kristin is the Assistant to the Bishop for Congregations in Mission and is Trinity's synod resource contact person through this process.

While the final product of the MET will be to complete Trinity's MSP (*Ministry Site Profile*), their purpose is to engage the whole congregation in the process of understanding Trinity's vision and mission and the gifts that will be most important for your next called pastor to possess.

Please keep the MET process and members in your prayers.



TAB TOSS DAY | MAY 16

Our family couldn't be more thrilled to share incredible news! Thanks to a community effort between Trinity ELCA Lutheran Church, the Kewaskum School District, family, friends, and strangers—**this was a record-breaking year, collecting a total of 414 pounds of pop tabs!!!** *That is a massive increase of almost 100 lbs over last year!* All adding up to help Keep Families Close to their children while they are receiving medical care. ❤️

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Wisconsin provided us with a place to call home while John was in the NICU. The services they provide to families are second to none. We are happy to shout their praises from the mountain tops!
 —Tiffany Wilson



Thank you

to everyone who helped with this effort!

The 2027 collection starts ... now!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our **Paint & Sip FOR A PURPOSE** nights! Because of your creativity, laughter, and willingness to get just a little messy, our Rainforest Falls VBS decorations are coming to life in the most beautiful way. From painted rocks and leaves to colorful tissue paper flowers (*and of course the snacks and drinks!*) you helped turn an ordinary evening into something truly meaningful.

Together we are sure to "leaf" a lasting impression!

Thank you so much,
 Susie Kelnhofer &
 Alyssa Brockman



LOOK FOR MORE PICTURES FROM THE PAINT & SIP NIGHTS IN THE HERITAGE ROOM CONNECTION CORNER



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SHARING THE LOVE & PROMISE OF GOD WITH OUR YOUNGEST MEMBERS & FRIENDS

We had another fantastic Children's Ministry year filled with so much growth—please see the year-end reflection on page 6-7— but even though the school year may have come to a close for the summer, the fact that our kids are always an important part of our life and ministry never takes a break!

We hope to see you at worship over the summer months and at Rainforest Falls VBS beginning on June 15th—all kids 3 years up to 5th grade are invited along with their friends and neighbors too!

ALL ABOUT YOU the

YOUTH SCHEDULES, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



calling all families, friends and neighbors! REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join us for an unforgettable week of singing, games, snacks, some very special guests from the Rainforest(!), and a whole lot of fun as we explore the Nature of God!

June 15-19 | 9 am - Noon
FOR ALL KIDS 3 YEARS UP TO 5TH GRADE
It's going to be **Vinetastic!**




UM ... I AM SO OKAY WITH EVERYONE FILLING UP PASTOR JIM'S BIN!

Rainforest Falls VBS Sssssnack Drive Challenge

During our Rainforest Falls VBS week we will be hosting a **Sssssnack Drive Challenge**. Kids/Families are asked to bring in individually wrapped snacks—they can be in multi-packs, but the snacks themselves need to be individually wrapped. The **Sssssnack Drive** will benefit West Bend's Casa Guadalupe Multicultural Center, supporting their summer youth programs—and— will also be a **friendly competition** between Trinity's Alyssa Brockman and Our Savior's Pastor Jim. **The "WINNER" will have to hold a REAL, LIVE 16 FOOT 'Rainforest' SNAKE during the VBS closing on Friday!** "Vote" for who you'd like to see hold the snake by placing your Sssssnacks in their bin!

Sssssnacks will be counted as individually wrapped (EXAMPLE: a 10-pack = 10 votes, etc.).
Vote as many times as you want all week long and make a difference for other kids in our community at the same time!!



PINE LAKE

CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES



JULY 26 - JULY 31

The clock is ticking, but there is STILL TIME to register for CAMP! Register at crosswayscamps.org for WEEK 8 to join us! **Contact Alyssa for any additional information or questions.**

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported our campers. **With your help, we have fulfilled all of our congregation's campership needs and have raised over 15 hundred dollars to offset the cost for our 19 campers! Your generosity and support are immensely appreciated.**



DID YOU ADOPT A PLANT FOR VBS!?
If you picked up a plant from us in January—its almost time for them to be put to great use! **Please bring your plants back to church (WITH THEIR NAME TAGS) on June 14th.** We will be arranging them in our decorations to really make the rainforest come alive. **Please pick your plant back up from their week's vacation with us June 19-21.**



CALL for Rainforest Falls VBS decoration SET UP HELP!

We will be turning many parts of the church into a Rainforest on **Saturday, June 13th starting at 9am.** We would love to have some extra hands setting up the displays, building the balloon arch, decorating doors, and MORE to help set the stage for our VBS adventure. Mostly all the props are finished and just need to find their spot. *If you would like to join us for any length of time, we would be thankful for the extra hands!* —Alyssa & Susie

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES 2026



ALEX BERGERUD
WEST BEND EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Alex will be attending UW Eau Claire in fall, with a Sport Management Major focus.



SHELBY BRODZELLER
SLINGER HIGH SCHOOL
Shelby will be attending California Lutheran University in fall to study English and Journalism.



DEACON FALCONER
SLINGER HIGH SCHOOL
Deacon plans to attend UW-Stevens Point in fall to study Finance.



LEXI GEORGE
WEST BEND WEST HIGH SCHOOL
Lexi is planning to attend UWM in the fall to study Mechanical Engineering.



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”

JEREMIAH 29:11



MATTHEW KRAWZIK
WEST BEND WEST HIGH SCHOOL
Matthew is heading to Northern Arizona University in the fall to study Visual Communications and Business



EMERSON KETTER
WEST BEND EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Emerson plans to attend University of Minnesota-Twin Cities working for a major in Political Science for Pre-Law



RIANN MARKIEWICZ
WEST BEND EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Reann, a graduating Junior, will be going to UW Oshkosh in the fall to study Physical Therapy



ALI MICHEL
SLINGER HIGH SCHOOL
Ali will attend Carthage College in fall to study Applied Health Science and Dance



KRISTEN NELSON
WEST BEND EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Kristen is planning to attend UW Madison in the fall to study Engineering



KAITLIN SPARKS
KEWASKUM HIGH SCHOOL
Kaitlin will attend Waukesha County Technical College to study Architecture & Construction and Interior Design



SERVICE TRIP

COMPLETING 8th - 12th GRADES
SAVANNAH, GA | JULY 18-25



Our group will join YouthWorks alongside existing local ministries and organizations to meet ongoing needs. Projects could include assisting with home repair projects, serving at the food bank, partnering with clothing distribution ministries, connecting with homeless organizations or supporting a local therapeutic horse center. In the evenings we'll be able to experience more of the community by visiting the Savannah River front, Tybee Island and First African Baptist Church, where we'll learn about their involvement in the Underground Railroad.

SR HIGH YOUTH there is still a window of time to register for this trip—contact Pastor Robb today!



Sr High Youth & Parent Meeting
SUNDAY, JUNE 21
immediately following the 9am Worship Service



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LITTLE LAMBS

We had a fantastic year and a blessed year-end celebration for **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** on May 17th! During the 2025-2026 Children's Ministry year we learned a lot about many Kings from the Bible . . . King David, Daniel in the Lion's Den, the Three Kings that came to meet Baby Jesus, and finally Christ the King! Our last rotation during this past month specifically focused on **JESUS—the King of all Creation!**

A huge and heartfelt **THANK YOU**

to all the adult volunteers who stepped up to lead rotations throughout the year. *It most definitely takes a village and we simply would not be able to have a Children's Ministry program without you!*

We are also **THANKFUL** for all our Shepherds who show up to work with our Children's Ministry kiddos. *They are such an important part of our program, not only lending a hand to rotation leaders, but becoming mentors and forming relationships with our younger kids!*





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REFLECTION

This year was filled with so much growth in Children's Ministry—growth in myself and how I am coordinating things with our kiddos, growth with how many new friends and faces we are seeing, growth in physical size of our kiddos (*seriously, I am looking at photos from our kick off day this past September and I can't believe how much older everyone looks!*), but most importantly, growth in our connections with one another and our faith. I am continually so overcome by the family we have here at Trinity and how we get to share our faith journeys with each other.

THANKFUL
for all our volunteers
and for
GROWTH

I look forward to what is to come and can't wait to kick off again this September!

Alyssa





FOOD PANTRY

ITEMS OF THE MONTH



GRANOLA BARS

Also, see display in Heritage Room for items for Casa Guadalupe

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

HOLIDAY HOPE FLEECE NO-SEW BLANKET PROJECT

Trinity's no-sew fleece blanket project for the WBHS Holiday Hope Project is back for 2026! The students who receive the Christmas Holiday Hope gift bags really do glow when they wrap themselves in their new blankets.



We provide the fleece and written instructions; you provide the love and labor! A great outreach project—and all of July to complete!

ELF ALERT! | Thanks to the Trinity Comforters who have matched and cut the fleece blankets to size, ready for you to tie! Sign up for fleece kits on SignUP Genius and we will reserve kits for you to pick up at your convenience beginning July 1. This is a great family project, so feel free to sign up to make more than one kit.

We ask that you return the completed blankets by Sunday August 2



Monarch MINISTRY

Thank you to Alyssa Brockman and Suzanne Barker for bringing Monarch Ministry back to Trinity this year!

Monarch season is near!

Watch for adoption opportunity signUPs in the Heritage Room!

**Empathy is the ability to walk in another person's shoes.
... that is, provided they HAVE shoes!**

Trinity Outreach is partnering with Consider the Lilies (West Bend) and Soles for Jesus (Milwaukee) to collect and deliver much needed shoes to persons in need in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Drop **NEW** or *gently worn* **SHOES** in the donation box at Trinity

MAY 31 - JULY 12



Soles For Jesus

More info in the Heritage Room

A SAFE PLACE

to share

**TWO MONDAYS IN JUNE
JUNE 1 and JUNE 29
6:30 PM**

A **SAFE PLACE** *to share* offers us time to share our concerns about the world. *It is not a place for answers, but a place to share and encourage one another as we try to live our Christian commitment in a world that often seems to be very un-Christian.* It is a **SAFE PLACE** because we gather not to condemn or berate, or even to convince—but to listen with respect, share in vulnerability, and support one another.

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS SAFE PLACE — join us!

Citizen Advocates *for* summer
est. 1978



Celebrate summer by joining us for a **FREE & FUN** afternoon of **BINGO** with **PRIZES!**

JUNE 8th

This event is open to the public—all ages and abilities are welcome and encouraged to attend!



**3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
MONDAY JUNE 8, 2026**



Trinity Lutheran Church | 140 N 7th AVE
West Bend, WI —on the corner of 7th & Elm St
USE ALLEY ENTRANCE



Trinity Comforters

BLESSING OF THE BLANKETS

Sunday, May 17th, blankets made by the Trinity Comforters lined the pews and were blessed during worship.



In 2025 the Trinity Comforters created over 360 blankets and 8 bed pillows. They donated their blankets of comfort to Lutheran World Relief, Project Return, Circle of Friends, Family Promise, the Gingerbread House, Immanuel United Church, Bob's Under the Bridge, and Froedtert Hospital/Kathy Hospice patients.

Trinity Comforters meet on Thursday afternoons at 1 PM —*no sewing required to help make blankets!* We are a fun group, sharing stories, prayers, and humor all while creating a blanket that will make a difference in someone's life. ***Come, check us out and share some comfort and joy!*** DONATIONS of Flat cotton sheets -any size- are appreciated!

KOMBUCHA MAKING CLASS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 | 6:30 PM

Kombucha is a fermented, lightly carbonated, sweetened black or green tea drink made with a SCOBY (Symbiotic Culture of Bacteria and Yeast) offering potential health perks like improved digestion, reduced inflammation, and better immune support. It has a tangy, slightly sweet, and vinegary taste.



Rich in antioxidants: Contains bioactive compounds from the tea and fermentation process.

Probiotic source: The fermentation process creates beneficial bacteria for gut health.

May support heart health: Studies suggest it may improve cholesterol levels, especially when made with green tea.

Not recommended for Pregnant or breastfeeding women, young children, and people with certain health conditions (like liver/kidney disease or compromised immune systems).

You will go home with all you need to start making your own Kombucha—complete instructions, plus 2 cups of Kombucha with a SCOBY.

INSTRUCTOR: CarlEda Skinkis

COST: \$10 | SIGN UP IN THE HERITAGE ROOM



Blue Lotus Center May 2 workday volunteers from Trinity



Your continued support of Trinity's Compassion International sponsored child, 13 yr old Kaori makes a difference for her and her family. Scan the QR code to donate.



WISHING YOU

Birthday

BLESSINGS

ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, GOD DANCED, ANGELS SANG AND THE STARS ALIGNED. WE HOPE THAT YOUR BIRTHDAY WILL BE A HAPPY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH BLESSINGS.

Susan Kesy	6 01
Delilah Dehler	6 02
Paulette Bauer	6 03
LaVern Kertscher	6 03
Laura Gruber	6 05
Glen Schweiger	6 05
Tom Bergerud	6 07
Shirl Curreri	6 07
Jim Barker	6 09
Claudia Brehmer	6 10
Mary Seymer	6 10
Krista Gengler	6 11
Pat Hanvey	6 11
Leah McLafferty	6 12
Jarrett York	6 12
Tracey Myrhum	6 13
Carla Gengler	6 14
Aleksander Schweiger	6 14
Bethani Schweiger	6 14
Steve Walth	6 14
Dale Maule	6 16
Bette Zaborowski	6 16
Delores Harder	6 17
Andrew Hull	6 17
Elias Del Campo	6 18
Davis Doede	6 18
Rosemary Fink	6 18
Robert Harter	6 18
Richard Sauer	6 18
Marjorie Meier	6 19
Nathan Shubat	6 19
James Anderson	6 20
Melissa Parchim	6 21
Jared Gassner-York	6 22
Wendy Johnson	6 22
Richard Walsh	6 22
Julia Bruder	6 23
Jacqueline Granger	6 25
Kayla Bruder	6 26
Faith Disterhaft	6 26
Dale Gunnare	6 26
Ron Hinzpeter	6 26
Chase Flunker	6 27
Megan Foyse	6 27
Patricia Harter	6 29
Mercedes Loomans	6 29
Dawn Schicker	6 29
Gino Dominguez	6 30
Patricia Rick	6 30

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 A SAFE PLACE 6:30 PM MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	2 7 PM NA	3 Confirmation YearEnd Celebration	4 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6
7 9:00 CTP Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Liturgical Worship	8 BINGO 3:30 PM MET 6:30 PM MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	9 7 PM NA	10 Community Building MEETING 6 PM	11 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13
14 <i>Evil Men</i> 9:00 CTP Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Liturgical Worship	15 RAINFOREST FALLS Exploring the Nature of God VBS 9 AM-NOON MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	16 RAINFOREST FALLS Exploring the Nature of God VBS 9 AM-NOON 7 PM NA	17 RAINFOREST FALLS Exploring the Nature of God VBS 9 AM-NOON	18 COUNCIL 7 PM Exploring the Nature of God VBS 9 AM-NOON 7 PM NA	19 RAINFOREST FALLS Exploring the Nature of God VBS 9 AM-NOON	20
21 9:00 CTP Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour Sr High Summer Trip Parent Meeting 11:00 Liturgical Worship	22 MET 6:30 PM MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	23 7 PM NA	24 Kombucha Making 6:30 PM	25 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 9:00 CTP Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Liturgical Worship	29 A SAFE PLACE 6:30 PM MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	30 7 PM NA				

Trinity | Contact Information

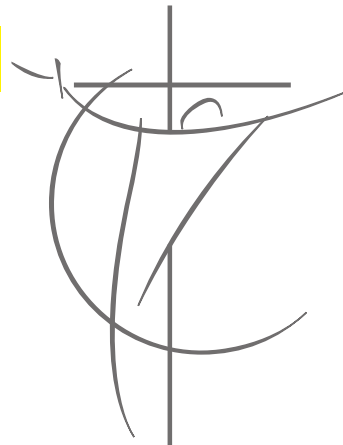
Trinity Lutheran Church | ELCA | Reconciling in Christ | 140 N. 7TH AVE | WEST BEND, WI 53095
262-334-2125 | trinity@trinitywestbend.com | trinitywestbend.com



Interim Pastor Robb Kosky | pastorrkosky@gmail.com

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS | MON - THURS 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
FRIDAYS **OFFICE CLOSED**

- Sue Walker.....Parish Coordinator
swalker@trinitywestbend.com | 262-334-2125
- Alyssa Brockman.....Children's Ministry Coordinator
trinitywestbendcm@gmail.com | 262-343-5557
- Heather Peters.....Music Ministry Coordinator
peters.heatherj@gmail.com | 262-305-7338
- Sandy Poenitsch.....Communication Coordinator
spoenitsch@trinitywestbend.com | 262-388-1616
- Karen Sparks.....Financial Clerk
ksparks@trinitywestbend.com
- Phil Wagner.....Facilities Manager
farmerwagner673@gmail.com | 262-355-5332



Congregation Council Members

- Cheryl Scaffidi, PRESIDENT..... WORSHIP & MUSIC
- Amy Kreutzer, VP..... FAITH DEVELOPMENT
- Greg McMahon, TREASURER..... FINANCE
- Danielle Paswaters, SECRETARY..... FINANCE
- Mike Kappler.....PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY
- James Winkler.....STEWARDSHIP
- Dustin Flunker..... MINISTRY SUPPORT
- Melissa Parchim..... COMMUNITY BUILDING
- Nick Laatsch.....PROPERTY
- Linda George..... COMMUNITY BUILDING
- Tom Bulin.....PROPERTY
- Lexi George | YOUTH REP.....OUTREACH