

The Circuit Rider

OSWEGO TRINITY UNITED METHODIST

Volume 41 Issue 5

May 2026



May Calendar

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|---|--|
| 3 Freewill dinner at 4:30pm | 23 T-shirt Breakfast at Maria's at 9am |
| 10 Mother's Day | 25 Memorial Day celebrated |
| 13 Communion Service at Morningstar at 10am | 27 Worship Committee Meeting at 1pm |
| 18 Bright and Cheerful at noon | Choir meets on Thursdays at 7pm |
| 20 Ad Council meeting at 6:30pm | AA group meets on Friday evening |

Chancel Servants for May

Altar Guild: Mark and Mary Powell (Marge) **Communion Steward:** Sheila Buske

Nu2U Sale Update

Our April Nu2U and Bake sale was successful, giving us \$1,257.00. We were able to give \$126.00 to Haven of Hope for their homeless ministry. Many thanks to Connie and her hard-working crew, including all of our bakers and donors!

☀️ Bright and Cheerful ☀️

Bright and Cheerful met on April 20th for lunch and cards. We sent 29 Easter cards to members of our congregation, as well as birthday, anniversary, and thinking-of-you cards. We would love to have more people join us each month!



Secret Siblings

Please remember your new 'Siblings' with daily prayers, monthly cards, and a small birthday gift!



Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Linda Lamond | 5 Patti & Jim Shebelske |
| 11 Gloria Gilmore | |
| 15 Zeke Seymour | |
| 19 Melissa Lisk | |
| 20 Gay Battles | |
| 21 Hannah Kandt, Connie LeBoeuf | |
| 26 Chelsea Pittenger | |

Anniversary



If you would like other new dates added, please just send an email to the church office. ☺️ ☺️

Daily Prayers 🙏

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Parishioners, Friends, and Family:

Those with health concerns: Lisa Bartholomew; Brenda Holliday; Carrie Simmons; Angel Simmons; Dave Wadleigh; Mary Seaton and her brothers Glen and John; Nancy Wadleigh; Linda Lamond; Lori Gibson; Bea Holliday; Jean Heagerty; Lisa Langlois and her brother; Leah (Rebecca's sister); Carrie's nephew Kyle; Rebecca's cousins Hannah and Benjamin; Mike Flaherty; Ed Downs; George Valentine; Paula Nelson (Marge Zeller's sister-in-law); Bob (Mark Garlock's father-in-law); Wuxin Shen; Betty Holliday; Nancy Sawyer and family; Donna (Gail's sister); Those in assisted living: Ann Rockower; Judy Lake; Valerie Palmer; Cheryl Coe DeLoff; Zeke Seymour. Please pray for all those who are homeless; all caregivers; and the health and safety of our families and friends.

Community and World Concerns:

Please pray for democracy, and leaders to be merciful everywhere. We ask for forgiveness for the murderous actions taken by the United States at home and across the world, especially the unlawful attacks on Iran and Venezuela. Prayers that this genocide, and the elected officials who caused it will stop. Please pray for those living in fear, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine, as well as in areas of our country. Prayers for all those doing God's work in the world; an end to racism, and the coming of world peace! Prayers for Pastor Ruth in her ministry; and for Alan Kinney, and Pope Leo XIV as they minister to others. Also, please pray for "Haven of Hope", as they reach out to the homeless in our neighborhood.



March 2026 Current Expense Report

Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$4,487.20
<i>(This includes cash paid; plus Trinity's portion of SS & Medicare taxes, & some insurances)</i>	
Program Expenses	\$194.89
<i>(This includes Cash used to further our mission as a worshipping community)</i>	
Operations Expenses	\$3,984.30
<i>(This includes all utilities, multi-peril insurance, office supplies, and copier maintenance)</i>	
Conference Billing	\$1,070.18
<i>(This includes shared ministry and retiree premiums)</i>	
Total March Expenditures	\$9,736.57

Prepared 04/11/26 by Lisa Bartholomew

Reflects March 31 Paychecks

Pastor's Letter

Greetings, Siblings in Christ!

May the peace of the Lord continue to be with you as we enter into the month of May! Mothers, we honor you! We also rejoice remembering those who are no longer with us. Thank you for ALL FORMS of Mother Figures, dear God!

If interested, please come celebrate Mothers with us at the Fulton First UMC on Saturday, May 9th. We plan to meet at the Fellowship Hall to have a **Mother's Day Tea Party and Hat Contest Luncheon 12:00 – 2:00 pm**. Looking forward to a great time of fellowship with games, prizes, lots of fun, good food and great company. ALL are welcome!

Our sermon series for May, "Stories That Matter" will reflect on:

John 14:1-14	May 3 rd	"You Know the Way"
Proverbs 31:25-31	May 10 th	"The Competent Wife"
Luke 24:39-53	May 17 th	"So That They May Be One"
Acts 2:1-21	May 24 th	"Spirit Unbound"

Every **FIRST SUNDAY of the month**, Dan and I desire to share the Communion elements with people unable to be at the church to receive them, so please reach out to let us know you are interested, or someone you know.

Also on May 13th, I plan to bring a Worship Service and Holy Communion to our friends at Morningstar Residential Care Center, 17 Sunset Dr., Oswego at 10 am. My friend Lois Mirabito will be playing the piano and you are welcome to join us as we gather to celebrate our Risen Savior together!

If you want to have a visit with me, my heart and calendar are open to make it happen. You may call the church office and leave me a message, or give me a note reminder with your phone number and address when we meet again. You and your family are very dear to me and I look forward to serving you in all capacities I can.

Please, keep our Bishop, Cabinet, Laity and Clergy members in prayer for travel mercies and Holy Spirit coverage as we get ready for Annual Conference this year. The theme is "Rise Up, Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously".

I have a family event to go to at the end of the month, and will gladly share a brief report of Annual Conference with you the first Sunday in June, as Marge will be covering for me on May 31st.

"Be still and KNOW that He is God; for Him nothing is impossible!"

Blessings, *Pastor Ruth Warner*



N.O.W. Minutes 4/15/2026

Present: Sheila Buske, Pam Hill, Connie LeBoeuf, Marge Zeller, Pastor Ruth (remote)

Excused: Lisa Bartholomew, Brenda Holliday, LaDonna Tucker

Absent: Linda Lamond, Diana McKenna, Dan Warner

Psalm 24:1-2

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of blessings, the universe sings of Your glory. Deepen our gratitude for each other, and for all You have made. Awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other as we seek to do Your will, in our actions and ministry. In the name of Your loving Son Jesus, who suffered and died so that the world may live. Amen.

Glory – “We have no design but to promote the glory of God” – John Wesley.

How have you seen God’s glory in the natural world recently? Spring flowers, stars and planets in the night sky, peepers and geese in the swamps, the snow is gone!!!

Approve Minutes of 2/11//25 – Pam moved, Connie seconded – Approved

Nurture

We continue to nurture those on our email list with “Imagine No Racism” prayers each Monday and Thursday. The Lenten Study, “Final Words from the Cross”, by Adam Hamilton was enjoyed by fifteen participants in March and April. Sunday School was offered by Connie and Sheila, but no kids have attended in the last two months. The BibleKing small group continues to meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 at Burger King, an Easter craft was led by Shana on March 21st, and the Bright and Cheerful Circle meets on the third Monday of every month to write cards for the congregation. Bright and Cheerful sent out 29 Easter cards in addition to birthdays and anniversaries! **Thank you** to all who led and participated in these community-building activities! We invite everyone to attend any or all!

Pastor Ruth plans to offer a grief counseling small group, either in-person or online. Please contact her if interested. Also, Pastor Ruth proposed an idea to invite folks from Trinity UMC and Fulton First UMC to a pot-luck lunch and “get-to-know-you” afternoon on Saturday, June 13th at noon. Trinity will host and provide beverages and desserts, along with assorted main dishes. Save the date!!!

Outreach

Our Free-Will Dinner in March hosted 39 guests with 7 workers. Our May Dinner will feature chili and corn bread. **Thank you** to Marge, and all who help provide free dinners to the community! April’s Nu-2-U Sale, which ran on April 10 and 11 from 9 a.m.–3:00 p.m. and will continue with a bag sale on April 18 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., has netted \$906.00 thus far. **Thank you** to Connie and her tireless crew of workers for making this valuable mission possible! In addition to providing our neighbors with inexpensive clothing and household goods, 10% of the total proceeds will be donated to “Haven of Hope” to assist in their much-needed program for the homeless. And, to reduce the toxic build-up of plastics in our environment and God’s Creation, paper bags will be provided instead of plastic for use at future Nu-2-U sales.

Witness

The “Jesus said” sayings on the outdoor sign board continue to be posted for all to see! Currently, the sign reads, “Jesus said, Love your neighbor as yourself”, and recently it read “Jesus said, You are the salt of the earth.” This was aimed at two different kinds of ice. The Worship Committee met on April 15th. Communion service procedure was discussed, and the committee approved April 26th as Native American Sunday. To spread God’s word on our backs, two T-Shirt events have been scheduled, now that we are enjoying somewhat warmer weather! All are invited to meet at Maria’s Restaurant on West 2nd Street for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on May 23rd, and on July 11th at 1:00 p.m. we plan to gather for ice cream at Bev’s around the loop! Also, stay tuned for a rock-painting craft in the near future.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Closing Prayer – Creator God, help us to always be mindful of the gifts of life all around us. Help us to take care of our earthly home and our brothers and sisters all over the world. Thank you for being the author of life, the giver of breath, and the keeper of every beat of our heart. And thank You for the beauty of creation—in sunsets, animals, forests, and flowers. These glimpses of Your handiwork remind us of Your presence. Give us the grace to love others and Your Earth, as we go out to do your work in the world, in the name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.



Lord, I praise You for the reminder that you value mothers. Thank you that children rise up and call their mothers blessed. Even when moms do mundane and often unseen tasks, help them to remember that they are always recognized and noticed by You. Thank you that even if not in the moments of discipline or the “Nos” that eventually children grow and realize the protection, care, and support from healthy parents.

Thank you for those who recognize us as mother figures in their lives. For those whom we are able to mentor and train up in the ways of God. For the spiritual children You have entrusted to us. Thank you for purpose in raising up the next generation of believers. Thank you for valuing and honoring women who are unable to physically carry babies, but step up in other ways like ministries, adoption, fostering, and mentoring. You are the God over every story and You give us purpose in life.

Thank you for husbands who work alongside mothers to parent and model healthy relationships to kids. For the men who love and honor mothers so beautifully. Who speak highly of their wives and model Your love in the home. Thank you for supporting and being a husband to the single mother who works so hard to raise her kids and love them well. You value her and walk the journey with her. You care for her every need.

Lord, we pray over mothers to realize their great worth today. That in moments of chaos, their souls find rest in You. That in the tiredness of parenting, they can be refreshed by Your presence. That in the moments of tears and pain, they can remember that You catch their tears in a bottle. Help them to see that they are valued and have a beautiful calling in this life. Enable their lives to overflow with gratitude and joy. Give them wisdom in boundaries and clarity in decision-making. Help mothers not to stay isolated, but press in to community. Give them Your grace for themselves and their children.

"As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13) Lord, thank you for a mother's comfort. Thank you that You are our Comforter and You will always be there for us. Even mothers themselves need to be held and safe. Please meet moms and show Yourself as their Comforter today.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 says, "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." God, help mothers everywhere to take this command seriously. Help us to diligently teach your gospel and Your Bible to our children. Help us to regularly incorporate Your Word into our everyday lives so that our young ones can learn about the purpose of life and Your salvation.

Thank you for entrusting mothers with the mission of teaching their children about Jesus' salvation plan and witnessing to the next generation. Amen. ~Author unknown.

Trinity United Methodist Church
45 East Utica Street
Oswego, NY 13126



2026

Worship and Church School: 11:00 a.m. Sundays
315-343-1715

***“Know the Love of God, Grow as Disciples of Jesus Christ, and
Go into the World With the Power of the Holy Spirit.”***

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