

The logo for the newsletter, featuring the word "spirit" in a large, white, lowercase, cursive font, with "NEWSLETTER" in a smaller, white, uppercase, sans-serif font below it. The background is a dark blue gradient with a faint, stylized starburst pattern.

The Monthly Newsletter Publication of Triune Lutheran Church
“Set Free to Serve One Another”
July 2018

Address:

4810 West Mill Road
Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Phone: 440-526-3676

Website: triunelutheran.com

E-mail: triune948@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 10AM – 1PM

Worship Schedule:

Saturdays 5PM (contemporary)

Sundays 11AM (traditional)

Ministers.....All People

Pastor.....Brad Ross

Administrative Assistant.....Jan Piskac

Organist.....Edith Schatt

Council President.....Dale Kirk

Council Vice-President.....Bonnie Piskac

Council Secretary.....Bill Weidman

Council Treasurer.....Jack Schwab

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

I try to make it an annual Fourth of July tradition (or at least somewhat close to the holiday): I like to watch the musical *1776*. Part of it is because I was in some musicals during my teenage years. Part of it is because I used to watch it all the time on VHS (it was my favorite musical for awhile). Part of it is because, well, it all came together on July 4, 1776, after all (historians have said the film is a relatively accurate depiction of the Second Continental Congress...minus the singing, of course).

There are plenty of references to God, to say the least, but to say they were all on the same page in how they understood that God would be like saying they automatically agreed with everything that was written in the first draft of the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson, himself, is a complicated one, to say the least, when it comes to his take on God, especially the whole God Incarnate in Jesus Christ part (just read the Jefferson Bible, if you get a chance). And, of course, complications arose (as shown in the musical/film) when it came to the reference of slavery in the first draft of that Declaration. Plenty of God-believers and worshippers in that room in Philadelphia were convinced that God was just fine with how they were running their plantations.

Now we could go on and on over such irony amongst all those men who signed their near death-sentence by putting their names to that Declaration of Independence, but the ultimate irony is how much they *depended* on one another, soldiers, and their own families during those tumultuous times. And while we still celebrate an Independence Day, we also recognize our fair share of *dependence* on one another, our families and friends, troops around the world, civil servants near and far, and on and on...not to mention, of course, an eternal dependence on God. That's part of the life-long journey of faith: recognizing our human reality, and that we truly depend on so much, including what God has already done for us in Jesus Christ, for this life, and for eternity.

- Pastor Brad



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Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Sunday, July 8, following the 11AM worship service to discuss potential approval of parking lot repairs, as required by our church constitution for any costs totaling over \$5,000.

“Frank & Ella” at Blossom with the Cleveland Orchestra



Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald were the undisputed singing stars of their era, and they ignited the stage when they joined forces. Classics such as “The Lady Is A Tramp,” “Come Fly With Me,” “I’ll Be Seeing You,” “My Way” and many more will be performed by Capathia Jenkins, vocalist, and Tony DeSare, vocalist and pianist, at the “Frank and Ella” concert at Blossom Music Center on Sunday, August 19th at 7:00 pm. For those who are interested, we will be joining our sisters and brothers in Christ from the Lutheran Church of the Covenant. Tickets at the senior-discounted rate are \$18.50 each. Simply let Pastor Brad know, and please make checks payable to Arlene Lasher, as she has already reserved a group of tickets. Payments are due to Arlene by July 15th. Join us for an enjoyable evening!

Covenant Farmers Market

The eighth season of Covenant Farmers’ Market runs every Saturday until October 6 (9:30AM-1:30PM). The market is held in the parking lot behind the church rain or shine. In addition to locally grown vegetables and fruit, plants, fresh baked goods, jams and jellies, prepared foods and ready to eat items as well as crafts, books and more. So stop by on Saturday for your weekly shopping needs, to meet new people, and to have a great grilled sausage, chips, and a can of pop for two bucks. We look forward to seeing you there! For general market questions, or even to become a vendor, call the church at 216-662-0370.

Lutheran Church of the Covenant
19000 Libby Rd.
Maple Heights

Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes of 18 June 2018

Meeting opened at 6:03 PM with a prayer by Pastor Brad. Meeting had been delayed from 04 June to enable attendance by all members.

Minutes of last meeting were reviewed, having been approved earlier.

Jack reported a checking account balance of \$4300 and a Thrivent Mutual Fund balance of \$159,569.

Jack reported that the yearly savings resulting from the property tax reduction that was applied for by Almut Zvosec would be about \$2,400 and the three year refund would be about \$7,200.

Jack also reported that the power mower, the leakage in the women's rest room and the leakage in the baptismal font have been repaired.

Jack presented the estimate for extensive parking lot work to be done by Buckeye Surface maintenance. The estimate was reviewed and discussed, being found in line with other known-work by this company. The present total estimate of \$6,852 might be slightly reduced before any final acceptance, but will still be over the \$5,000 limit on what Council can authorize without congregational approval.

It was decided that a special congregational meeting will be scheduled for approval of the parking lot work. Since two weeks notice is required, the meeting will be announced on Saturday and Sunday 23/24 June and be held after the service on Sunday 08 July.

It has been suggested that we have our brassware used in worship refinished and we will further discuss the possibility at the congregational meeting.

Bonnie reported on the unfortunate rowdiness that was experienced at a recent "sweet sixteen" party in Willmann Hall. There were 75 teenagers and six adults, but the young people were not well chaperoned. They wandered over the building, opened the widows and played the music much too loud, and even messed up the carpeting with cake frosting. Broadview Heights police were called in to advise on the noise nuisance.

It was tentatively decided to return the deposit in this case, but that we need to improve the wording of the rental contract to list with the renter's responsibilities the requirement that the conduct of all attendees be monitored to keep their conduct in line. Hence, all of the renter's requirements would need to be fulfilled in order to receive return of the deposit.

We discussed the proposal that another church congregation rent Willmann Hall for a worship service: two issues being the rent to be charged and whether SGCC congregation can clear out in time for a Sunday evening service by another congregation. On rental price, Dale pointed out the extra cost burden on utilities, supplies, and maintenance involved.

Pastor noted that the blue *With One Voice* hymnals have been removed from the pews because of lack of use, and that he and Edith will lead the next worship service at The Oaks of Brecksville on 09 July.

Meeting ended at 7:11 PM

Next Meeting at 6PM Monday 09 July 2018

Initial copies: Dale Kirk, Pastor Brad, Bonnie Piskac, Jack Schwab,
Bill Weidman and to Jan Piskac

Submitted 19 June 2018

When Someone Sins Against You

OK, class, let's take it from the top.

“If another member of the church sins against you, stew about it a good, long while and when you’ve calmed down, gather as many like-minded people as possible to talk about the person who has riled you. Speak endlessly *about* the person but never directly to them.”

The word of the Lord. No? Jesus didn’t say that? Shucks.

Again, from the top.

“If another member of the church sins against you, write a long and pointed angry letter to the person in the wrong, outlining your grievances. Write it, but also actually mail it. In fact, email it. Better yet, consider the “group” email and copy everyone in three counties who may agree with you. Maybe even post your grievances on Facebook.”

The word of the Lord. No? That wasn’t part of his counsel either? Darn it.

Lots of international villains fill the evening news and make us angry. But I suspect nothing raises one’s ire like the proximate “villain”—the neighbor, the co-worker, the church member, the lost friend who has wounded you.

Some of what Jesus says in the Gospels can be filed under “subjective ideal,” even if he didn’t mean it subjectively. However, his words in Matthew 18:15-20 are so blasted *particular*. Notice a few things about these instructions.

First, the *one who’s been wronged* makes the first move—exactly the opposite of how we usually go about reconciliation. Perhaps nursing the grudge, I often wait on the person who’s caused the hurt to step forward, apologize and ask for forgiveness. Sometimes I’m waiting a heck of a long time and the falling-out becomes full-blown. Jesus shifts the responsibility of initiating reconciliation onto the one who’s been sinned against.

Second, the infraction is *named aloud*. This is actually the difficult purpose of the meeting: to be honest about what created the enmity. Sometimes the perpetrator can be oblivious to the damage he or she has caused. “Point out the fault,” Jesus says.

This is difficult advice, risking self-righteousness. “But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ” (Ephesians 4:15). There’s a tendency to speak the truth in anger or speak lovingly and avoid any truth. Holding love and truth in balance is a prayerful challenge.

Third, *this meeting is private*. Jesus describes other steps if the meeting fails, but at first this involves only two people. A human sinner like me often seeks a collaboration of supportive gossip. Jesus instead desires face-to-face reconciliation “when the two of you are alone.”

There are many troubling news stories in the world today that test our faith and discipleship. Our response to such stories is a clear litmus test of our commitment to Jesus and his church.

But another test of faith resides much closer to home—namely, how we interact with people who have wounded us. We have some options. One is to avoid such people forever. Your town (or church) is big enough that you could probably pull that off.

Or you could do something a little crazy, a little countercultural. You could consider acting upon Jesus’ teachings. Living the true spirit of these words is crucifying work—literally. We are offering up our sense of fairness in the matter for the sake of the one who has wounded us. Additionally, the chance always exists that you will not be received with juice and cookies on the other end.

As he hung there that Friday so long ago, setting aside his own innocence on behalf of those who were crucifying him, did Jesus remember this teaching about making the first move? Did he recall these specific steps of reconciliation as he somehow looked down with love upon those who were wounding him?

It’s our move, not theirs.

- The Rev. Frank Honeycutt (Walhalla, SC)

Prayer Request



them.

We ask you to keep the following sisters and brothers in Christ in your prayers:

Jenny Bennett	Trudy Weidman
Richard Jakubcin	Gary Weiss
Hazel Schwab	Mardell Weiss
George Tomeselli	Clara
Wilcox	
Ed Uhlir	Dave Wilcox

If you wish to send any cards, please send them, or drop them off, to the church office, and we will be sure to deliver

6	Joann Loede
15	Heidi Bailey
22	Clara Wilcox
22	Bill Weidman
25	Aaron Bailey
28	Alan Siggelkow



19 Dave & Edith Schatt

The Monday afternoon study/discussion group will begin our next subject, FORGIVENESS, on Monday, July 9. It is an eight-week study and will conclude on August 27.

To order a study book, contact:

The Church Office 440-526-3676 triune948@sbcglobal.net

Hoping to see you then...Bring a friend! Always welcoming visitors and new participants!





July 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u> Pastor George Hrbek	2	3 AA @ 7pm	4 Independence Day	5 AA @ 8 pm	6	7 WORSHIP <u>@ 5 PM</u> TIM MIZE W.H Rented 6:00-12:00
8 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u>	9 Bible Study @ 1 pm Council Mtg. @ 6pm	10 AA @ 7pm	11	12 AA @ 8 pm	13	14 WORSHIP <u>@ 5 PM</u> PASTOR BRAD
15 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u>	16 Bible Study @ 1 pm	17 AA @ 7pm	18	19 AA @ 8 pm	20	21 WORSHIP <u>@ 5 PM</u> TIM MIZE
22 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u>	23 Bible Study @ 1 pm	24 AA @ 7pm	25	26 AA @ 8 pm	27	28 WORSHIP <u>@ 5 PM</u> PASTOR BRAD
29 WORSHIP <u>@11 AM</u>	30 Bible Study @ 1 pm	31 AA @ 7pm				



If you have something you would like to put in the newsletter, please let us know by email, written letter, phone call or stopping by the office.