



spirit

NEWSLETTER

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

August 2018

Address:
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Broadview Heights, OH 44147

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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



Find us on Facebook at:
Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Sisters & brothers in Christ,

One of the major transitions for many this month is the (dreaded) one from the beaches and movie theaters and shopping centers to the classrooms or lecture halls and school cafeterias. Now I will be the first to admit I was (and still somewhat am) a bit of a nerd growing up. I didn't mind the start of school. I didn't mind seeing, well, certain people more consistently.

I almost saw a new school year as another challenge to overcome, an annual goal to strive for, in the end. Of course, as high school progressed, and the sights were set on the next academic mountain to climb, the obsession became the straight A's and pulling in a few extra-curricular activities to bolster that college transcript. But in the midst of those transitions came a somewhat different mindset: to actually learn about the world, eventually transforming to learning about God's world, the world God still loves.

We tend to throw around the clichés of “never stop learning” or “learn something new every day,” but sometimes I wonder if we’re more eager to learn in order to win the next argument or prove the opposition wrong with more information in our brain’s back-pocket. We’ve given up the idea of learning about others, other cultures, other lands, other children of God; as if doing so is also learning about how God still works in the rest of the world beyond us.

But, we have enough on our plate, right? We must be concerned with ourselves first. We’ll let God take care of the rest. However, I don’t envision that’s what God had in mind when God claimed us as the present still-learning-disciples through those baptismal waters. We continue to learn to see how we can continue to bring Christ’s love to others. We learn to grow in appreciation of others, whom God does not claim as “others,” but just as much God’s as we are in this life. We continue to learn to grow in adoration of this God, Who evidently is no-where near finished with us yet. Amen (so let it be)!

- Pastor Brad

Prayer Request

8 Brigitte Kiemschies
 14 Trudy Weidman

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

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

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 them.

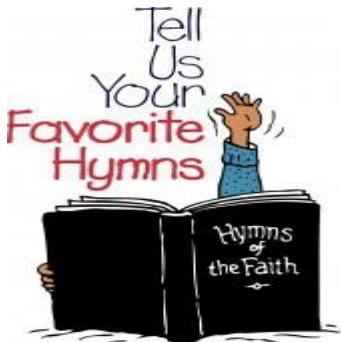


5 Dale & Linda Kirk
 11 Matthew & Meghan Shatt
 14 Howard & Carol Dorsey

The Monday afternoon study/discussion group will continue our subject, FORGIVENESS, and will conclude on August 27.

To order a study book, contact:

Church Office 440-526-3676 or email Triune948@sbcglobal.net
 Hoping to see you then...bring a friend! We're always welcoming visitors and new participants!



On Sunday, September 9, we'll take time during our 11AM worship to sing some of our favorite hymns! So feel free to send us your favorites this month through e-mail, a piece of paper in the offering plate, a phone call or letting Edith or pastor know in-person. Let us make that joyful noise to the Lord in giving thanks for all the wonderful music that makes worship all the better!





Mark Your Calendar

Be sure to mark your calendars for **Thursday, September 13, at 6PM**, as we gather here at Triune to share a potluck meal together. We will also share conversations with one another, spending time with each other, not to mention discussing where we are as the church, and what ideas we have going forward to be Christ's body for the sake of each other and our neighbors near and far away. So, please be sure to join us on September 13!

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, there are also fresh-baked goods, crafts, and an assortment of Avon products. So, stop by on Saturday for your weekly shopping needs, to meet new people, and even 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

“We Pray for the Peace from Above”

Lutheran Legacy of Peacemaking

Editor's note: *With global migration on the rise and cultural polarization increasing, there is a pressing need for peace among neighbors and nations. In this six-part series [from Living Lutheran], “Lutheran legacy of peacemaking,” we’re exploring Lutheran contributions to the Christian tradition of peacemaking. The series will culminate in the September issue in conjunction with the International Day of Peace (Sept. 21).*

In his commentary on Psalm 82, Martin Luther noted that the first responsibility of the prince (today we use the term “public official”) “is to preserve the peace.” The second, he said, “is to help the poor, the orphans and the widows to have justice and to defend their cause; the third is to defend against force and harm and prevent violence, punish rascals and use the sword against the wicked so that peace will be upheld in the land.”

Included in *Luther’s Spirituality* (Paulist Press, 2007), for which I served as co-editor, Luther qualified the third responsibility by saying:

“It is indeed a splendid and needful thing to build strong cities and castles against one’s enemies, but that is nothing when compared with the work of the prince who builds a stronghold of peace and administers it. ... One must keep peace as long as one can, even if one must buy it with all the money that would be spent on war or won by the war. Victory never makes up for what is lost by war.”

In Luther's view, political leaders must ensure peace and just laws that enable families to thrive and economies to prosper. A just and effective government doesn't depend upon the piety of the home, but family values depend upon a well-ordered and just government that protects everyone and preserves the peace. He argued that families and commerce can't prosper without peace and that the church is challenged to proclaim the gospel when there is no peace.

In this commentary, Luther insisted that it's the church's responsibility—especially that of the pastor—to hold political leaders accountable to their vocation. This is contrary to the views of many in our congregations who feel it's "political" for a pastor to publicly criticize those in government. For others, however, politics is public morality, and, according to Luther, it's the job of the pastor to hold public officials accountable.

"For Peace in God's World"

One of the gifts we have as ELCA members is our social statements, which give us guidance as we live out our baptismal promises and callings to strive for justice and peace in the world. The ELCA social statement "For Peace in God's World" (1995) follows the Lutheran theological and biblical tradition of advocating for "a strong presumption against all war." The statement adds: "Support for and participation in a war to restore peace is a tragic concession to a sinful world. ... [A]ny decision for war must be a mournful one."

Thus, while preferring nonviolence over violence, diplomacy over military engagement and deterrence over war, the statement acknowledges that war may be just in exceptional circumstances, especially in defense of a neighbor. According to the statement, the conditions that must be met include:

"Right intention, justifiable cause, legitimate authority, last resort, declaration of war aims, proportionality, and reasonable chance of success. The principles for conducting war include noncombatant immunity and proportionality. The principles for post-war conduct include showing mercy to the defeated and assisting them to rebuild. Justifiable national and international commitment of forces to armed conflicts depend on adherence to these principles."

In order to prevent war and violence, the statement advocates respect for human rights, consistent with a Lutheran understanding of humanity having been created in God's image: "Human rights provide a common universal standard of justice for living with our differences, and they give moral and legal standing to the individual in the international community." In order to preserve the peace, the statement asserts, it's vital that we preserve human institutions, even in their fallibility, that promote human rights, such as the [United Nations](#), the International Court of Human Rights in the Hague and others.

The social statement is clear that preventing war and violence depends on our church and congregations advocating for aid to other countries and people in need, as well as caring for creation, as so many of our current global conflicts are fought over economic disparities and dwindling natural resources.

In our liturgies we pray for the peace of the world. As Christians, we pray for peace—God's peace that passes all understanding—and we know that Jesus commands the peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). As we pray for heavenly peace, God works through the church and through each of us for earthly peace.

As Luther asked in his commentary: "Why am I so foolish as to narrate the benefits of peace and the injuries of lack of peace? I might as well count the sands on the seashore or the leaves and the grass in the woods. Christ himself compares peace to heaven and says, 'The peacemakers will be called children of God.' "

The Rev. Philip Krey is pastor of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Perkasie, Pa., and the Ministerium of New York Professor of Church History emeritus at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

Next: In August this series [in Living Lutheran] will highlight contemporary peacemakers in the global Lutheran church, including companions from Liberia, Zimbabwe, South Sudan and Colombia.

Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting of 09 July 2018

Meeting opened at 6:18 PM with a prayer by Pastor Brad.

Minutes of last meeting of 18 June 2018 were reviewed, having been previously approved.

Jack reported \$5,719 checking balance and Thrivent Mutual Fund balance of \$159,784.

The meeting minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of 08 July 2018 were reviewed, which approved of expenditures for driveway/parking lot refurbishing. There is another bid due for this work, and it was decided that we would wait until Friday the 13th for this bid before ordering the work.

We discussed the inquiry of two other AA groups, presently meeting at another church, about use of our facilities for two meetings a week (one per group). One group estimated at 40 to 50 people, the other at 60 to 70 people. Bonnie reported that they had indicated paying donations to the other church when they had funds to do so. It was our resolve that we should rent on the basis of an agreement for a fixed price per month. We discussed what the price should be in consideration of our high utility costs and other expenses. Jack will make further consideration of what is needed to cover out costs and come back with a recommendation on this.

Jack reported that we will now receive a single billing for computer and phone services, which brings the monthly cost from \$126 to \$101 for a saving of \$25.

Bonnie reported that the congregation, which had inquired about renting Willmann Hall for Sunday evening services, seems to not be displaying continuing interest.

Bonnie also reported that St. Joseph, on Brecksville Road, which rents a hall of capacity similar to ours, has suggested referrals between our two churches when either has a rental inquiry which can not be booked because of being already scheduled or for some other reason.

Pastor reported that the Facebook advertising is being carried on with variations in payments on advice of Facebook support, resulting in lesser cost for some time periods.

Pastor reported an additional vacation schedule of 15th through 19th of November. Other scheduled vacation times for 2018 are reported in minutes of 18 June meeting.

It was decided to have a proposed time for a “church social,” a meeting of all members, both Saturday and Sunday attendees, of 6PM Thursday 13 September 2018, to see if this is agreeable to most.

Meeting closed at 7:11 PM

Next Meeting at 6PM Monday 06 August 2018

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

Submitted 10 July 2018

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 WORSHIP @ 5 PM TIM MIZE
5 WORSHIP @11 AM	6 Bible Study @ 1 pm Council Mtg. @ 6pm	7 AA @ 7pm	8	9 AA @ 8 pm	10	11 WORSHIP @ 5 PM PASTOR BRAD
12 WORSHIP @11 AM	13 Bible Study @ 1 pm	14 AA @ 7pm	15	16 AA @ 8 pm	17	18 WORSHIP @ 5 PM TIM MIZE
19 WORSHIP @11 AM	20 Bible Study @ 1 pm	21 AA @ 7pm	22	23 AA @ 8 pm	24	25 WORSHIP @ 5 PM PASTOR BRAD
26 WORSHIP @11 AM	27 Bible Study @ 1 pm	28 AA @ 7pm	29	30 AA @ 8 pm	31	



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.