

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”
September 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

A few weeks ago I succumbed to a procedure on a hernia. I guess such things are going to happen in this thing we call life. There wasn't all there much to it. For most surgeons nowadays, this is mere child's play in comparison to what else they have to face on an operating table. The pain has been relatively minimal, but obviously the surgeon along with post-op nurses and the entire medical establishment (including the one I'm married to) are conspiring against me amidst these follow-up weeks to minimize any masculinity I once had: these dreaded restrictions of no lifting/pulling/pushing anything 10 lbs. or more. That "man card" has pretty much been revoked for a while, and I pretty much have no choice (unless I don't mind going through all this again, not to mention not minding putting the one I'm married to through it again as well).

I know we often refer to the stubborn "male ego" that makes us men rather insistent on doing whatever we want in spite of common sensical directions (because we obviously know what we're capable of, including our bodies, more than anyone else on the planet), but I'm thinking most human beings don't appreciate any kind of restrictions encroaching on our precious freedom of doing-whatever-the-h---we-want-with-our-life mindset.

We never liked it during our younger years: these dictatorial adults telling us to eat our vegetables or no dessert, do the homework or no play, behave or wallow in self-pity in our room. They, obviously, did everything they could to take away any "cool card" we held amongst our friendship club.

Then when we were under the impression we finally managed to achieve some sense of independent living, in the sense of living however we wanted (including eating desserts whenever we wanted in spite of modern marvels in healthy-eating habits, amongst other things). However, we still had all these restrictions with all this money being taken out of our paychecks, or only driving to a certain speed, and on and on we could go. We obviously don't need some sense of law



Find us on Facebook at:
Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

and order to ensure the general well-being of human beings. We know how to take care of it ourselves, right?

And finally, when it comes to our sunset years of life, we are not going to appreciate when these “young kids” come along and tell us we have to leave all our independence behind to move into a place that’s supposed to provide better care for us and whatever other sugar-coating for our general welfare. Regardless, on whatever stage in this thing we call life, we don’t dislike restrictions, we *despise* them.

I wonder if sometimes we Jesus-followers almost consider the whole “love your neighbor” thing as a restriction, of sorts. It cuts in on our fun, after all. It means we have to spend a little more time on others than being able to enjoy ourselves. God just seems to be so obsessed with the general welfare of all people.

Of course, that doesn’t just stop with us personally. It carries over to congregational life as well, because the whole “love your neighbor” thing isn’t just the neighbor two pews down on the left on the other side of the street...I mean, aisle. God might as well be one of those dictatorial adults who tells us we better do our ministry/service chores before we can play outside, or better love those “others” as ourselves or we’ll be sent into this guilt-ridden self-pity in the deepest room of our soul.

It’s not meant to be that way. We’re supposed to actually want to do those things. It’s supposed to be somewhat natural, that we want to care for each other; not just to make ourselves feel good, but because we want to shape better neighborhoods and communities, and we want to care for any child of God, because, well...that’s God’s child too, just like we are, in the end. It’s not meant to be restrictive, cutting in on our lifelong obsession with freedom; it’s meant to be freeing, oddly enough. It’s almost like re-living the Resurrection in our own life, to experience first-hand how pain/suffering/injustice/self-righteousness/sin rut amuck can still be taken down with the Holy Spirit still running on all cylinders inside of us.

Nevertheless, we’ll go through this whole thing called life stressed out and frustrated over all the restrictions, some that are blown completely out of proportion by us professional manipulators, and some that are down-right embarrassing against God’s children. And through it all, God will continue working to help us realize that the Resurrection is meant to be an on-going holy activity in all the circumstances we face: to make us rise above them for our own benefit as well as for the mutual benefit of all sisters and brothers in Christ we meet in this...*holy* thing we call life. Amen (so let it be)!

In Christ,
Pastor Brad



On Thursday, September 13, we encourage you to join us at Triune, as we gather together as a family in Christ to spend time together, share a meal as well as conversations about where we are as Triune Lutheran Church, and ideas we have going forward. If you do plan on joining us, simply let us know at the church office, and, if you’re able to bring something to share for this potluck meal, please let us know that too (we don’t twenty Jell-O salads, after all!) We also encourage to BYOB (beverage, that is). We will take care of plates and utensils. In the end, take some time on Thursday, September 13, starting at 6PM, to spend time with your Triune family! Please contact the church office, if you have any questions.

For the Sunday after Labor Day weekend, September 9, we will take time during worship to sing some of the favorite hymns of the Triune family. So come ready to sing praises to this God who inspires us to sing with all our heart!



Prayer Request



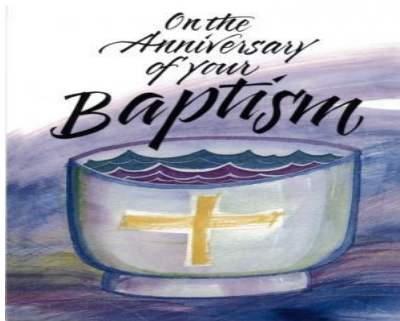
We ask you to keep the following sisters and brothers in Christ in your prayers:

Jenny Bennett
Cathy Gallagher
Richard Jakubcin
Hazel Schwab
George Tomaselli

Ed Uhlir
Trudy Weidman
Mardell Weiss
Clara Wilcox
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 them.

- 1 Becky Murphy
- 3 Elaine Siggelkow
- 5 Irene Jakubcin
- 16 Edith Schatt
- 25 Tim Mize
- 27 Hazel Schwab



- 17 Aaron Bailey
- 19 Jack Bailey

Your God is Too Small is the book which will be the next focus of the Monday study group. We'll begin on September 10 at 1 PM in Willmann Hall.

Come join in the thoughtful and lively discussions!
For a book, contact Norelle Gress.

ngress@sbcglobal.net

440-526-8473



Hoping to see you then...bring a friend!
We're always welcoming visitors and new participants!

Covenant Farmers Market

The 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, among a variety of other items from week-to-week. 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!

Lutheran Church of the Covenant
19000 Libby Rd.
Maple Heights

A "New Normal"

This article was written by Mark Holmerud, Bishop of the ELCA Sierra Pacific Synod, in regards to the ministry of Lutheran Disaster Response for the work amidst the Carr Fire burning in Northern California that began on July 23, 2018. As of his writing (August 9), it was the fifth most-destructive fire in state history, with seven fatalities reported and more than 177,000 acres burned. Tens of thousands had been evacuated.

A "new normal." That's how Gov. Jerry Brown described the 17 fires that are currently burning throughout California. Nevada has had similar increases in fires over the past few years. State fire officials describe increases in the number of fires each year and in the size and incidents of "erratic behavior" of these fires. We have all seen the destruction that has been visited on Santa Rosa and Napa, Yosemite, Lake and Mendocino counties and now in the Redding area.

Last Monday, I met with Bob Swartz, pastor of St. James Lutheran in Redding, and together we attended a briefing by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("Cal Fire") on the fire burning west of Redding. It provided residents in the area the latest information about where the fires were burning as well as information about evacuation orders. Many of the people in the room had already lost their homes; many others had no idea if their homes were still standing because they hadn't been allowed to return to evacuated areas. Emotions in the room were very high as people tried to deal with the devastating losses so many had suffered, including the loss of seven lives. I imagine similar briefings for people with similar emotions and a sense of loss are being held in other places around the state.

Another part of the "new normal" Gov. Brown referred to is not only about the occurrence of fires but about the aftermath of these fires and how people and communities are affected for years after the fires. It will take many years for communities to recover from the losses we have seen. And this is where Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) truly makes a difference. It is said that LDR is one of the first agencies to show up at a disaster and the last to leave. We have seen this over the years in the wake of fires, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and other disasters.

Please hold in prayer the people of Redding, Yosemite, Lake and Mendocino counties and other areas where fires are now burning. Please also remember to hold in prayer the people of Napa and Santa Rosa and other areas where fires of past years are still having an effect as the people of these communities try to rebuild their lives. Thank you for the way you already have made your continuing prayers and financial support our "new normal" as people of God called to be the presence of Christ for those in need.

To make a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response, please go to ldr.org.

You may also call: 800-638-3522 Monday-Friday 9AM-6PM.

Or you can send a check payable to Lutheran Disaster Response with U.S. Wildfires in the memo line.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

100% of designated gifts to the US Wildfires will go entirely to relief efforts

Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting of 06 August 2018

Meeting opened at 6:10 PM with a prayer by Pastor Brad.

Minutes of last meeting of 09 July 2018 were reviewed having been previously approved.

Jack reported checking account balance of \$5,382 and Thrivent Mutual Fund balance of \$155,146. and reported, also, that our property tax refund has not yet arrived.

Jack reported that the additional quotation for parking lot refurbishing that we are awaiting has not arrived, and it was decided to allow one more week for receipt of this before ordering the work.

Bonnie reported that there is no present expectation of any merger of AA groups with which we are presently engaged for potential building rental so we must consider, separately, the rental of meeting space for both the group of 50 to 60, which is looking for Tuesday meetings, and the group of about 70, which is looking for Friday meetings. So, we must consider rental charges to cover these usages.

Our problem with rental charges for these groups is that, as Pastor pointed out, usage of this sort is often considered an outreach for useful social purposes; yet we cannot realistically afford to suffer a financial loss. We discussed the various costs that are increased, particularly with fairly large meeting groups. These costs include the required additional cleanup, utility cost increase, rest room and kitchen supplies, and, in consideration of these costs, we will try to arrive at a charge which, at least, prevents a financial loss.

It was suggested that we might use a six or twelve-month contract so as not to have the rental price not covering too long a period before being reconsidered.

Pastor reminded us that 09 September has been announced as a "favorite hymn sing Sunday" with the expectation that members will pick their favorite hymns beforehand.

It was decided that the Saturday service on 22 September will be cancelled because of a wedding on that day with invitation for those affected to join for worship the next morning.

The 13 September church social was discussed as to what members might bring for a pot luck meal by contacting the church office beforehand to inform what they might bring to avoid too much of a certain item.

Pastor announced he will not be in our office any of the week days of the 13 August 2018 week.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Next Meeting at 6PM Monday 10 September 2018

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

Submitted 07 August 2018

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>TIM MIZE</u>
2 WORSHIP @11 AM	3	4 AA @ 7pm	5	6 AA @ 8 pm	7	8 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>PASTOR</u> <u>BRAD</u>
9 WORSHIP @11 AM Favorite Hymn Sing	10 Bible Study @ 1 pm Council Mtg. @ 6pm	11 AA @ 7pm	12	13 Pot-Luck @ 6pm AA @ 8 pm	14	15 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>TIM MIZE</u>
16 WORSHIP @11 AM	17 Bible Study @ 1 pm	18 AA @ 7pm	19	20 AA @ 8 pm	21	22 W.H. Rented NO WORSHIP SERVICE
23 WORSHIP @11 AM	24 Bible Study @ 1 pm	25 AA @ 7pm	26	27 AA @ 8 pm	28	29 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>TIM MIZE</u>



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.