

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

The Monthly Newsletter Publication of Triune Lutheran Church
“Set Free to Serve One Another”
July 2022

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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.....Heidi Bailey
Council Treasurer.....Jack Schwab

Siblings in Christ of Triune,

Greetings! Although I'm sure Sunday, July 3, will be a day of barbecues and other celebrations, or perhaps, preparing for the fun activities the next day; July 3 is also the time when the church recognizes good 'ole Thomas... aka Doubting Thomas, for many. Nevertheless, it's rather interesting that one of the Scripture readings applied to his special day is Ephesians 4:11-16:

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. (NRSV)

So, when connecting that line of thinking to the story in the Gospel of John, after the Resurrection, in which Thomas (in)famously says, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe" (20:25), can such a dubbed-Doubting Thomas be part of the "building up the body of Christ?" Can we who have questions, who have our fair share of doubts, who aren't so sure about the earthly, let alone Divine, things; can such not-fully-certain us be part of the "building up the body of Christ?"



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Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

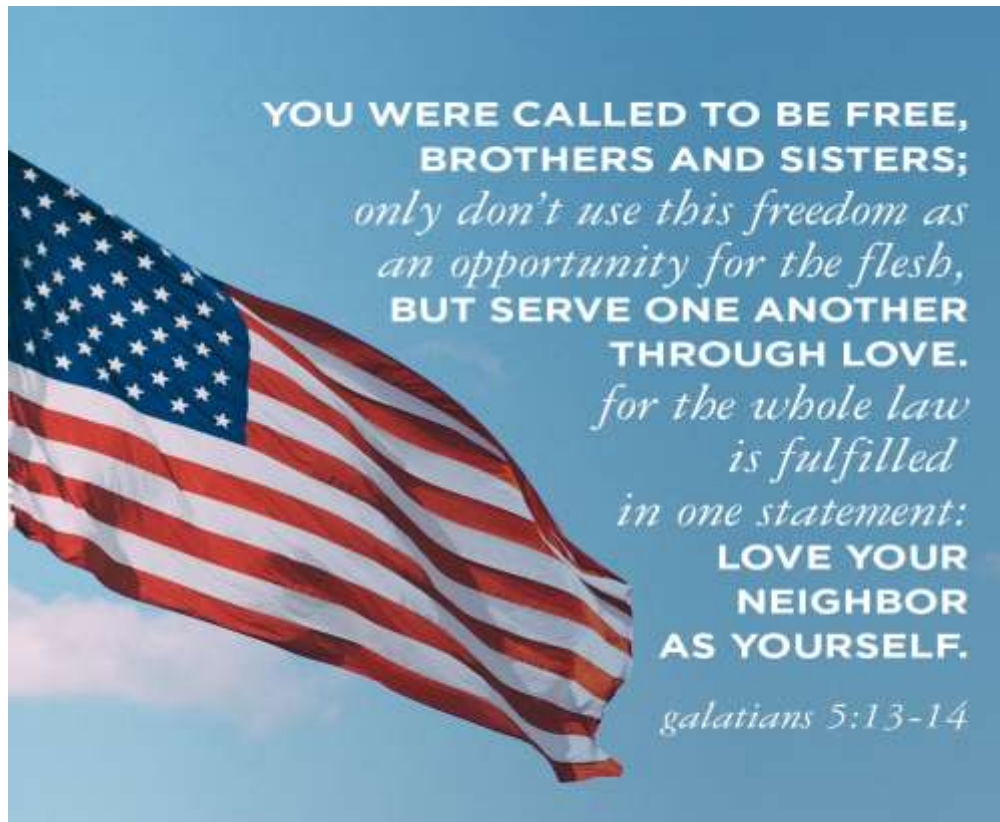


Building Up the Body of Christ Eph. 4

Isn't there something to be said about "speaking the truth" about our questions and doubts "in love," not only in the sense of wanting to dig deeper into this mind-boggling never-ending-grace God, but wanting to reassure all the rest of us Thomases that yeah...it's okay to not have this all figured out. We don't have to reach a certain level of intellectual knowledge or unflinching trust to be grafted into the precious body of Christ. God has already knitted all us questioners and doubters together with a love that can never be taken away from us in Jesus Christ. And even though we are part of that family in Christ, we will be "tossed to and fro" with our uncertainties about eternity, about God's presence in the world, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" and more. Nevertheless, God's holy knitting of all us essential ligaments will not be torn apart.

Not all of us have the gifts to be a Thomas, who supposedly ends up going to India to spread the Great News of hope and new life in Jesus Christ, but we still have been fully equipped with the Holy Spirit to make an impact on the all-around "body's growth in building itself up in love." *In love*, for sure: no judgement, no guilt, no shaming, for having questions or doubts. No looking down upon our siblings in Christ for being human. Granted, we can encourage one another to do better in how we treat children of God near and far away, but we encourage *in love*, to be sure. It remains a work in progress, but a most *holy work* in progress, so that we ligaments do not resort to tearing each other apart, but building one another up with the same resilient love that took on sin and death and won the victory for us all, in Jesus Christ, our still-Risen Lord. Thanks be to God, indeed!

In Christ,
Pastor Brad



We ask you to keep the following siblings in Christ in your prayers:

Denny Dancak	Gloria Roderick
Niki Grigsby	Dennis Schatt
Jan Halishak	Annie Slaughter
Richard Jakubcin	Stacy Szendel
Dan Maldovan	Mardell Weiss
Jill Maldovan	Clara Wilcox
Rachele Abbs O'Malley	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.



15th Heidi Bailey
22nd Clara Wilcox
22nd Bill Weidman
25th Aaron Bailey
28th Alan Siggelkow

19th Dave & Edith Schatt



The Monday Discussion Group
We'll be taking a break for the month of July, but in August, we'll continue our discussion of "DISAPPOINTMENT WITH GOD: Three questions no one asks aloud" by Philip Yancey.

Celebrate Independence and Dependence

Have you heard of Christmas in July? Marketers, church camps and Australians (whose winter occurs during our summer) sometimes capitalize on this playful trend. For instance, they offer Christmas sales and festivities on July 25.

As long as we're talking about upending the calendar, why not celebrate the Reformation this month or next? During high summer, Reformation themes ripen in ways quite distinctive from the leafless, chilly days of October.

Rather than face historic church changes and reflect on internal sin and grace while dressed in a fall jacket, "Reformation in July" exposes us to the unforgiving summer sun. By the end of this month we'll be seven months past the making of New Year's resolutions. It already shows—in our too tight shorts and too loose disciplines.

Yet as our skin and sin sweats (boldly), God's boundless grace shocks with a profundity of growth that we can't tame, even with garden shears. In summer, armed with pie shells and canning jars, we attempt to preserve God's infinite fruitfulness. Is there a better time to teach our children about God's abundance than in a month when watermelon juice drips down their chins?

By observing Reformation this month, we balance the pride of independence that we celebrate on July 4 with Martin Luther's theology of dependence. He taught that every day is dependence day, for we can do nothing apart from what God is doing through us.

For all the things we can save in July—from time at work on Fridays to money on back-to-school items—we can't save ourselves. God invites us into another reality in which we remember that we are loved. With that love we are freed to focus on what God is doing in every season of our lives...

How will you celebrate the Reformation this summer? By hosting farmers' markets of love, where we share bumper crops of cherry tomatoes and God's forgiveness?

Did Luther and his compatriot reformers lie awake on humid July nights imagining the Reformation? If so, their sleep sacrifices awakened in us a new day—no matter when we celebrate it.

Originally published July 4, 2016, on LivingLutheran.org, where you can find this archived article and other resources for the journey of faith.



Mary C. Lindberg is a Seattle-area parent, pastor and former teacher.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



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JESUS
 MIRACLES
 DOORS
 TOUCHED

TOGETHER
 SIGNS
 LIFE
 THOMAS

DOUBTING
 SHOWED
 HANDS
 SIDE

RECORDED
 BELIEVED
 DISCIPLES
 LOCKED

July 2022

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