

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”
June 2019

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Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday, 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,

Soon enough the FIFA Women’s World Cup will commence in France...that’s about all I know. I’m not a soccer aficionado by any stretch of the imagination. I remember it started to gain more popularity when I was in high school: more students started to not just join the team, but pour all their enthusiasm and energy into it. Not that I ever went to a game or anything, but even walking the halls at the high school or sitting around the lunch tables; you could just tell there was something to it for them.

I, also, remember being at my cousin’s house on July 10, 1999. It was for some family gathering or something, but on the television was the United States Women’s National Team going up against China for the World Cup title. Over 90,000 people filled the Rose Bowl in Pasadena that day to watch what turned out to be a 0-0 tie going into a penalty kick shootout. After Briana Scurry stopped one of the Chinese player’s kicks, it was left to Brandy Chastain to, potentially, break the 4-4 tie. What happened turned out to be an eruption that must have registered on the Richter scale in southern California, as the USWNT won the World Cup, and led Brandy Chastain into a celebration that might be borderline material for a pastor to compose in a newsletter article (just Google it, as they say).

Twenty years has now passed since women’s soccer took center stage in this country in a way it never had before, leading more young girls to start kicking a ball all over their back yards and open fields in local parks. Of course, if we’re honest with ourselves, some of us church folk roll our eyes reading or hearing about the sport: not because it, sometimes, brings about 0-0 scores or that the Brandy Chastains and Briana Scurrys don’t tend to develop immediately amongst the young girls just starting to give it a shot/kick. It has just emerged into such a mass hysteria amongst young people that it takes them away from quality family time, studying, just being children...that’s not it. Let’s be honest: we want them in our pews on Sunday



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Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

mornings (if not ours, then, we guess, we'll settle for someone else's, at least), not on the soccer field.

Again, I'm no soccer aficionado, but I have a feeling the sport isn't going anywhere anytime soon. Just watch what happens in France soon enough. And before we release our collective churchy sigh, we must remember we are in the ministry of empowerment. Let's face it, the church hasn't always done so well in that department, especially for women. What the USWNT pulled off in 1999 was the beginning of something special for young girls across this country and the world. The whole "kick like a girl" "throw like a girl" demeaning jabs were torn apart by the Brandy Chastains, Briana Scurrys, Mia Hamms and more.

They didn't just empower women even more on some athletic playing surface. They empowered voices too. The church could always use more of that. And if the church cannot pull off all the empowerment of humanity on our own, we'll certainly take all the help we can get. Even if they don't make it onto the field wearing the red, white and blue, they still just might make it with insistence to excellence in their respective homes, workplaces and even the church. We will most certainly be all the better for it. After all, I have this feeling God tends to work all over the world on Sundays too. Thanks be to God indeed!

In Christ,
Pastor Brad



And all of them
were filled
with the
Holy Spirit

Acts 2:4



We will celebrate Pentecost June 8 & 9, remembering the church's birthday, not to mention that all of us are empowered by the Holy Spirit to reignite the flame in all of God's children near and far away. We invite you to join us for worship that Saturday @ 5pm or Sunday @ 11am, and you can even wear red for the festive occasion!

A special thank you to everyone who donated to Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries in honor of their 50th anniversary of ministry! We have a box full of pocket-sized Kleenexes, combs, deodorant and other toiletry items that will be given to the men's shelter at 2100 Lakeside in Cleveland. Thank you!

Thank You

Prayer Request

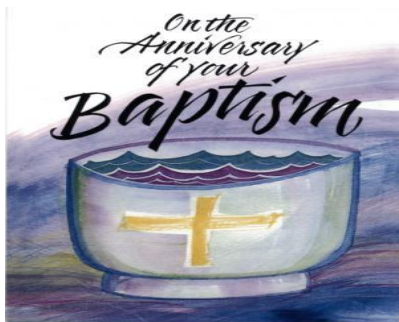


We ask you to keep the following sisters and brothers in Christ in your prayers:

Jenny Bennett	Mary Phillips
Bev Deitrick	Hazel Schwab
Cathy Gallagher	George Tomaselli
Dianne Handlovics	Trudy Weidman
Richard Jakubcin	Mardell Weiss
Paul Loede	Clara Wilcox
Matt Loede	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.

3 Barb Saylor
9 Jan Halishak



26 Evan Schwab

26 Alan & Elaine Siggelkow
29 Bill & Trudy Weidman



Our Monday afternoon Bible study group, beginning *God Breathed*, weekly at 1pm. Newcomers always welcome (with more books available)!



From Pilgrimage to Pentecost

Pentecost didn't happen only once.

The noise intensified. The joy palpable. Community present.

A community that had just met.

A community that came from different countries and different walks of life.

A community that spoke a multitude of languages.

A community of young and old.

A community of people wandering and people searching.

A beautiful glimpse of the kingdom of God.

We all came together for one night while embarking on a longer journey. We came together in flesh. In food. In presence. In song. In bread and wine.

We were pilgrims along the Camino de Santiago in Spain. For this one evening we found a common bond in cooking together and gathering for a meal.

Throughout the 500-mile journey across Spain to reach the town of Santiago de Compostela and the cathedral housing the relics of St. James, pilgrims along the way spend the night in a variety of places. Hostels, hotels, campgrounds and religious institutions.

One community in particular is known for its generous hospitality. It's a community run by brothers from the Taizé community. Every night they invite the pilgrims to prepare and cook dinner. Pilgrims from all over the world chopping, prepping and cooking together. While cooking, stories are shared, lives opened, journeys compared and secrets released. Sometimes the quiet is interrupted by Taizé chants.

When the meal is cooked, everyone gathers at the table to feast. Prayers are offered around the table in the multitude of languages. Toasts shouted loudly as well.

I remember this evening vividly. I remember the fullness of the night—a fullness of hope, food, cheers and spirit. I don't think I'm wrong to believe that the Spirit flourishes in those dinners. That the Spirit binds the people gathered together. That the Spirit offers peace and hope. That the Spirit speaks through us in words and silence.

A multitude of people and languages. Coming together to feast. Coming together to understand one another and to be understood.

That dinner was a Pentecost experience for me. A creating of a community. A sending of a community. A community filled with the Spirit to go out in this world. A community full of the good news that's meant to be shared. A community inspired by the Spirit to bear hope and to witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Pentecost didn't happen only once.

It's still happening.

It's still coming.

The church being brought forth in each of us.

The Spirit working in our lives and bringing us together.

The Spirit wanting us to feast, eat and be filled.

I can't go back to that meal. And even if I did walk again and find myself spending the night there, it would be different. Although no less holy.

The same Spirit that met me in a tiny Spanish village meets me wherever I journey, giving me glimpses of God's kingdom here and now.

- The Rev. Kimberly Knowle Zeller (originally published 5/17/2018 on LivingLutheran.org)

Kimberly Knowle-Zeller is an ordained ELCA pastor, mother of two and spouse of an ELCA pastor. She lives with her family in Cole Camp, Mo. Her website is kimberlyknowlezeller.com.



At our last semi-annual congregational meeting in March, we discussed bringing in a member of our Northeastern Ohio Synod (ELCA) staff to lay out all our options going forward as a congregation. On May 13, our church council met with Pastor Julianne Smith, who is the Director of Evangelical Mission for our local synod.

The time spent together was more so Pastor Julianne getting to know us: asking about our history, the surrounding community, our worship services, what our hopes and dreams are as a congregation going forward. Pastor Julianne is, now, inviting all of us in the Triune Lutheran Church family to fill out a short survey, which you will find below. There is no "right" or "wrong" answer to any of the statements. This only serves as an opportunity for everyone to have their own valued opinion and voice be recognized in how they see their congregation in doing ministry.

We encourage you to fill your own out and turn it in to Pastor Brad by Sunday, June 23 (there will, also, be copies available at the church to fill out). They will be collected and sent to Pastor Julianne for her to compile the results, and she will meet, again, with the council on Monday, July 8 at 6pm. It is important to note that this, or any other council meeting, is not meant to be a private closed-door session. You are more than welcome, and even, encouraged, to come to be part of the conversation with Pastor Julianne on July 8 (and any other council meeting, for that matter).

Again, simply do the best you can in marking what you think best fits how you feel about each statement. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Pastor Brad. If you have more detailed comments, you may write them on the back of the survey. Your church council leaders greatly appreciate your participation!



Congregation Participant Short Survey

This short survey is designed to help congregational leaders understand participant perceptions of key missional areas. Please mark inside the box that best represents your perception of the congregation. *Please do not mark between boxes. (e.g. Marking 1,2,3,4, or 5 is okay. Marking between 3 and 4 or 3.5 is not okay)*

	Poorly		Some-what		Great
How well do these phrases describe your congregation?	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Example</i>			X		
Worship nurtures people's faith					
Deepens people's relationship with God					
A clear sense mission					
Excitement about the congregation's future					
Always ready to try something new					
A positive force in the community					
Works for social justice/advocacy					
How well does your congregation...	Hardly at all		Well		Very Well
Incorporate new members into congregational life					
Seek out and use the gifts of members of all ages					
Build strong, healthy relationships among members					
Manage disagreements in a healthy respectful manner					
Address social concerns (helping those in need)					
Equip members to share their faith with others					
Interact with the local community					
Help members live out their faith in daily lives					

Demographic Information: Tell us about yourself.

Your role in the congregation: Active participant Lay leader Rostered leader called here Visitor

Your age: under 18 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+

Your ethnicity: White/Caucasian African American African National Amer. Indian/Alaska Native
 Asian Latino/Hispanic Arab/Middle Eastern Multiracial Other

After collecting the completed surveys, the congregation's survey administrator can then enter the information at www.congregationalvitalitysurvey.com. Results of this survey will be presented as a PDF report which may be used to complete the new congregational life items on the Annual (parochial) report.

Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting of 13 May 2019

Meeting opened at approximately 6:25 PM with a prayer by Pastor Brad.

We were joined by Pastor Julianne Smith, Director of Evangelical Missions for our Northeastern Ohio Synod (ELCA) for the purpose of discussing the future of our congregation.

Pastor Smith led us in a discussion of our vision for the future, and how we might deal with the present challenge of maintaining our viability. She provided us an assessment to be filled out by all congregation members for follow-up. This will be reviewed at our meeting on 08 July. There was discussion of some possibilities, and Pastor Smith gave us a sheet showing characteristics of a vital congregation and a listing of types of cooperative ministries.

In our regular meeting which followed, Jack reported a checking balance of \$5,094 and a mutual fund balance of \$149,409.

For retractable barricades to restrict access from rented areas, Jack reported plan to try a small one first at the stairs to the basement area before deciding on others elsewhere.

Jack reported the front door lock is, now, fixed and plan to remount Willmann Hall curtain rods, which are loose.

Jack gave us quote of \$495 to repair glass in a window in pastor's office and at the side of the altar. This was approved to be ordered.

Jack gave us quotes for LED programmable signs and discussed the differences in quality of the three quoted. The price range for the three, including installation and procurement of permits, was \$11,275 to \$14,475. We discussed the merits of this type of sign and the value with the lower traffic on West Mill Road, and decided to hold off on any decision pending both further developments in the prospects of our future and possible price-reduction on the signs.

A roof water leak has been noted, but location of water entry is not known. Seems to have happened only with certain wind conditions. Decided to hold back until further observation. A tree in the "playground" area has branches touching the roof; quote for tree trimming will be forthcoming.

Jack reported that a trust from a departed member couple, leaving Triune a bequest. Amount not yet known.

On Memorial Day weekend, Tim Mize will lead Saturday worship and a supply pastor for Sunday.

We discussed the problem that we never know, promptly, when the leadership of the AA groups change, and we don't have, in hand, any written agreement for rental to them. Decided we needed to confirm this and renewed contract language going forward.

Dale reported he put a sign on the dumpster inviting others not to put their trash there.

Pastor reminded us of 11:30 AM starting time for Sunday service 19 May, 2019.

Meeting closed at 8:00 PM

Next Meeting at 6PM Monday 10 June 2019

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

Submitted 16 May 2019

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 WORSHIP @ 5 PM HEIDI BAILEY
2 WORSHIP @11 AM	3 Bible Study @ 1 pm Oaks Service @ 3:15 pm	4 AA @ 7pm	5	6 AA @ 8 pm	7	8 WORSHIP @ 5 PM PASTOR BRAD
9 WORSHIP @11 AM Pentecost	10 Bible Study @ 1 pm Council Meeting @ 6	11 AA @ 7pm	12	13 AA @ 8 pm	14	15 WORSHIP @ 5 PM TIM MIZE
16 WORSHIP @11 AM Father's Day	17 Bible Study @ 1 pm	18 AA @ 7pm	19	20 AA @ 8 pm	21	22 WORSHIP @ 5 PM TIM MIZE
23 WORSHIP @11 AM	24 Bible Study @ 1 pm	25 AA @ 7pm	26	27 AA @ 8 pm	28	29 WORSHIP @ 5 PM TIM MIZE
30 WORSHIP @11 AM						



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.