

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”***  
***March 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,

So, keep this on the down-low, but I didn't know about the whole making the ashes for Ash Wednesday from the palms of Palm Sunday thing until a few years ago. And (again, keep this on the down-low) soon after I found out about this insider-church trick, I tried to be the cool pastor and have the youth group help. Let's just say, common sense isn't always my strong suit (hardly ever, actually): we engulfed the palms a little too close to the kitchen (no, nothing else caught on fire beside the Hosanna-waving palms), and so we needed to run some fans for a while to push the leftover smoke aroma into the outer darkness.

Regardless of how get there (or perhaps, just for the sake of lack-of-common-sense pastors), it's probably better to do such things as a group. It's better, for starters, that we celebrate Palm Sunday with as much of a crowd as possible to give even the slightest sense of the chaos that ensued in Jerusalem. Yes, it's better for others to be part of the ritual of turning those Hosanna-waving palms into the dust-enfacing ashes of Ash Wednesday; simply for the sake of those others being part of the church inner-workings.

Even with Ash Wednesday: we often envision the night as the beginning of an individual's journey confronting their sin, finding their own personal way of getting closer to God; whether they take away something (chocolate, meat...or be as specific as possible to minimize the 40-day hardship, like thyme seasoning, or something) or add on something (devotion, write a letter, etc.). Not to mention, most Ash Wednesdays we hear, "whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you" (Matthew 6:6). All well and good, but there is still something to the communal element.

When those palms-turned-to-dust ashes are emblazoned on your forehead, you will join the others whose faces are smeared just as much, just as much imperfect as you, just as much in need of God's grace as you. And the journey we



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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

we take the next forty days, regardless of addition-or-subtraction emphases, we do not do so alone. There will be struggles during those forty days (and not just because of what we add or subtract), and those smeared-on faces will be there to help us just as much from March 6-April 21, 2019, as any day before or into the future. The ashes tend to remind us that we are of the same brokenness, on the same journey with God walking beside us, of the same Palm Sunday joys and Ash Wednesday notes.

Regardless of how deep the ashes we may feel on our forehead, regardless of how great a burden we may feel for whatever reason during those forty days (or before/after, for that matter), God is not unleashing us into the outer darkness. The light has already been unleashed long before March 6, 2019. It was emblazoned into us through the One Who rode victorious on Palm Sunday, and the Great News still remains: “the darkness cannot overcome it!” No matter how hard we may try those forty days, we cannot possibly get closer to God than where God already is: in each of us, even through a Good Friday death. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,  
Pastor Brad

We invite you to join us as we begin the journey of Lent together at Triune on March 6 at 5pm. We will take time to not only confess our sins and receive the imposition of ashes, but to still taste and see the ultimate Good News beyond the ashes of death through the body and blood of Christ brought to life in holy Communion. We encourage you to come that we may go boldly forward through Lent together!



Our sisters and brothers in Christ of The Lutheran Church of the Covenant will be hosting midweek Lenten services using a prayer and music setting of Holden Evening Prayer. These Wednesday evening worship opportunities begin with a soup supper at 6PM.

March 13 @ Covenant  
March 20 @ Covenant  
March 27 @ Covenant  
April 3 @ Master  
April 10 @ Master

The Lutheran Church of the Covenant  
19000 Libby Rd., Maple Heights

Lutheran Church of the Master  
860 Northfield Rd. Bedford

**Please let Jan or Pastor Brad know if you will be attending the suppers by Tuesday.**

**This way we can give them a head count. Thanks!**

# Prayer Request

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

Jenny Bennett	George Tomaselli
Bev Deitrick	Ed Uhlir
Cathy Gallagher	Trudy Weidman
Richard Jakubcin	Mardell Weiss
Jeff Nash	Clara Wilcox
Mary Phillips	Dave Wilcox
Hazel Schwab	

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.

4 Emily Zvosec  
5 Bev Deitrick  
13 Meghan Schatt  
22 Gary Weiss  
28 Matthew Schatt



21 Bill & Bev Deitrick

**Congregational**  
**MEETING**  
please join us!

Mark your calendars for this Sunday, March 3, for our next congregational meeting. Like last time, we will gather at 5pm, starting with a pot-luck meal before continuing with the meeting. As always, we will provide the dinnerware, but just let us know if you plan on attending, and, if so, if you plan on bringing something to share (don't forget to bring your own beverage as well). This is a great way to re-connect with each other and to go over anything needed to discuss for our church family!



Our Monday afternoon Bible study group, continuing *Your God is Too Small*, weekly at 1pm. Newcomers always welcome (with more books available)!

### ***As Goes Jesus, So Goes Life (John 11:1-45)***

Jesus does two incredible things in John 11.

He weeps at death. He calls forth life.

Jesus must know, somehow, that he has the power to raise Lazarus to life. But before he calls his friend from the tomb, he stops to mourn. There it is, John 11:35: “Jesus began to weep.”

Even he, “the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25), bends to acknowledge the profound loss death brings, the powerful way death destroys, the immense grief death can bring. Death is no little thing to move some kind of spiritual magic wand at so that—presto!—it can be gone.

Death works against life. Death works against God’s deepest will for God’s people.

So Jesus wept.

But he doesn’t stop there. He, the resurrection and life, calls forth his friend to the same. “Lazarus,” he says, “come out!” (John 11:43). Death grumbles for once-and-for-all victory, but Jesus won’t let it be. His voice is stronger, surer. Love will not let loved ones go, especially the love at the very heart of God.

Jesus’ call, “come out!” is the very voice we will hear in our own call to resurrection and life. And it is the call we hear today, to live with resurrection on our lips and with life in our hearts, even as we weep and place friends, brothers, sisters, wives, husbands, children, parents, grandparents in the way of death.

Over years of ministry, I have seen the people of God live with this profound hope in countless ways. But probably none more powerful than this: Ron, a parishioner, had lived large but loved—and death had taken him too soon. I listened as his mother, his sister, his brothers wept, telling me stories of his youth, his childhood, his coming of age.

One of them, I don’t remember whom, asked if we could have communion at the graveside service. Such a gift, for the faithful to ask. So, we arranged to have a little table present, and the elements set out.

And we put Ron to rest—but then heard this: The voice who would call him to resurrection and life speaking in these words: “broken for you” ... “shed for you.”

There was weeping—but not, as St. Paul puts it, a grief “without hope.” Jesus will have the last word, with Ron, with all his beloved. Jesus, who knew the depth of what it is to lose a loved one, but who cried at the tomb, “come out!”

- The Rev. Karen Bates Olson (Resurrection Lutheran Church; Tacoma, Washington)

## Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting of 03 February 2019

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

Meeting notes of last meeting of 07 January 2019 were reviewed. These had previously been submitted for approval and several changes were made by pastor including correction of balance of our mutual fund. Corrections made before inclusion in the "Spirit," so the published version is correct.

Jack reported our checking account balance at \$3,165.15 and our mutual fund at \$142,099. He also reported that our property tax refund from Cuyahoga County has still not arrived and he will make further inquiry on this.

Jack reported that there is no apparent damage to piping or otherwise after our very cold spell.

Bonnie reported Willmann Hall rental reservations for Saturday and Sunday 04 and 05 May. She also reported two inquiries as to weddings for, otherwise, non-churched people here at Triune, which were referred to Pastor Brad.

There was discussion of organization of the project for personal care kits through Lutheran World Relief. In hand, was information emailed to us by pastor.

It was decided to organize 45 kits with responsibility divided to three persons for each of the five item categories. This would mean each person volunteering to supply enough for fifteen of one of the categories.

A sign-up list will be made up so that participants can sign up for their portion of a category group.

The assembly of the kits will be by a group effort. The collection of the items will be during the season of Lent and the date of assembly of the kits will be after Easter; exact date not yet determined.

Pastor instructed us as to how shipping will be handled by LWR. Although we will not be informed in advance as to destination, we will be informed later as to where they were sent.

After congregational meeting last fall, our council meeting for that month was the day after and, since we covered all current considerations well at the congregational meeting, we cancelled the council meeting. The timing is the same for our March congregational meeting (03 March). So, we have scheduled the council meeting again for the day after, but this is tentative and might be cancelled or delayed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.

**Next Meeting at 6:00 PM Monday 04 March 2019 (tentative schedule)**

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

Submitted 05 February 2019

# MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <a href="#">WORSHIP @ 5 PM</a> <u>TIM MIZE</u>
3 <a href="#">WORSHIP @11 AM</a>  Congregational Meeting & potluck @ 5pm	4 <b>Bible Study @ 1 pm</b>  <b>Council Meeting @ 6 pm</b>	5  AA @ 7pm	6  Ash Wednesday @ 5PM	7  AA @ 8 pm	8	9 <a href="#">WORSHIP @ 5 PM</a> <u>PASTOR BRAD</u>
10 <a href="#">WORSHIP @11 AM</a>  Daylight Savings (Spring forward 1 hr!)	11 <b>Bible Study @ 1 pm</b>	12  AA @ 7pm	13	14  AA @ 8 pm	15	16 <a href="#">WORSHIP @ 5 PM</a> <u>TIM MIZE</u>
17 <a href="#">WORSHIP @11 AM</a>  St. Patrick's Day	18 <b>Bible Study @ 1 pm</b>	19  AA @ 7pm	20  1 <sup>st</sup> day of Spring	21  AA @ 8 pm	22	23 <a href="#">WORSHIP @ 5 PM</a> <u>PASTOR BRAD</u>
24 <a href="#">WORSHIP @11 AM</a>	25 <b>Bible Study @ 1 pm</b>	26  AA @ 7pm	27	28  AA @ 8 pm	29	30 <a href="#">WORSHIP @ 5 PM</a> <u>TIM MIZE</u>
31 <a href="#">WORSHIP @11 AM</a>						



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.