

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

My two oldest nieces will be graduating from high school at the end of this month. First of all, “that shouldn’t be allowed!” That seems to be the normal reaction in the whole “Never grow up!” dreamy mindset of Peter Pan and the like. We, also, don’t want to be reminded of our own respective ages: those of us who will be sitting in the stands remembering when they were babies (obviously that was just like yesterday or not too long before that).

Of course, with their impending graduation came the wonderful, beautiful, stress-free process of deciding what’s next. College visits, e-mails, phone-calls, living room debates, family gathering side-conversations, all of which make the entire experience incredibly pleasant for teenage girls and parents alike. With most high school graduates (and I suppose it turns out to be the case with most of us *children* of God), there seems to be this idea that there is only *one* perfect... whatever: college, job, place to live, etc. So, with my two nieces, they each had to find the *perfect* school for them. There was, obviously, only one right and fully-correct answer, as if it was just a continuance of some standardized-test fill-in-the-blank. Fill in another circle for an institution to spend the next few years of your life, and the rest of it might just go down in shambles.

Perhaps there’s some hyperbole there, but I’m not so sure if its far off not just for graduates, but many of us. The whole “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord” (Jeremiah 29:11) mindset, sometimes, gets us into trouble. It’s often read at Confirmation ceremonies, as if it’s the beginning of big-kid decision-making, that young people better get right, or...who knows what God will do? As if God isn’t going to be as much with them if they go to A college or B university or C technical school or D workforce.

God is going with them regardless. God is with us, no matter what. Sure, some decisions could be made to better our life, our families, and strangers. But even when mistakes are made, God’s grace is still amazing. — Pastor Brad



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Triune Lutheran Church



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

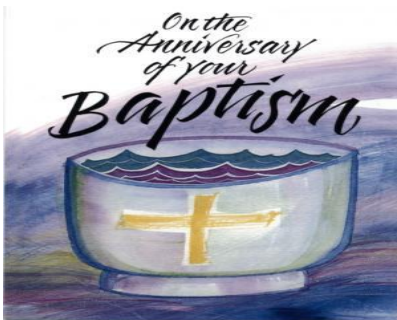
Prayer Request

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

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

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 Charlotte Jackson
- 5 Jack Bailey
- 13 Evan Schwab
- 17 Dale Kirk



- 1 Carol Dorsey
- 11 Matthew Schatt

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





We are continuing our collection for the men's homeless shelter led by our own Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry. LMM's Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside is the largest shelter in the state of Ohio, serving up to 350 men per night with an additional 30-60 beds available at partner overflow sites.

So, in honor of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry celebrating 50 years of ministry, we invite you to join us providing certain needed resources for the men: pocket-sized Kleenex, combs and men's deodorant. Of course, many toiletry items are needed, but we will, also, be asking for such items in the fall for the Lutheran World Relief personal aid kits. You may drop off your donations through the rest of May at the church as you come for worship or during the designated office hours. Thank you, in advance, for being part of this pivotal ministry of the wider church for those in need!



A prayer for Mother's Day

Lord, we remember the mothers
who have gone before us.
**For their love, sacrifice, struggle
and joy, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember the mothers of
Scripture who are a part of our story
as we are a part of your story.
**For their courage, faith, love and
fierceness, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember those who have not
given birth to us, but are mothers to us.
**For their gift of themselves that they
have given, we thank you.**

For the women who struggle with
fertility, for those women whom
society labels as less in their childlessness,
for those women who have lost children.
**For their tears, for their strength,
for their wisdom, for their lives,
we thank you.**

In your name we pray. Amen.

by Claire Schoepp



To My Mom with Love

Editor's note: This letter celebrates God's gift of motherhood, but we are also mindful that for some, Mother's Day is complicated. Let us remember in our prayers neighbors among us who ache to become mothers, who are motherless, who have lost children, who cannot become mothers, who were hurt by their mothers and others for whom this day is painful.

Dear Mom,

I've been thinking about how to honor you this Mother's Day, how I could express my love for you. You know you raised your only daughter with a love for reading and writing, so it's only fitting I gift you a letter.

I'm sure you expected this, but this year Mother's Day feels different. It's my first as a mother myself (and your first as a doting grandmother), and I am so overwhelmed by the range of emotions I have: I'm grateful, joyful, full of love and even a little sad, but mostly grateful.

I'm grateful for God's gift of motherhood, a role you know I longed for last Mother's Day.

I'm grateful for my 3-month-old son, whose presence has brought new meaning to my life.

And mostly, I'm grateful for you.

For all the sleepless nights you endured, the dirty diapers you changed, the endless games of patty-cake you played when my brother and I were infants

For the long, lonely months you mothered us on your own—away from family—while dad was deployed

For every load of laundry, dish washed, rug vacuumed

For joyful summers at the library, in the pool and on long car rides to visit far-flung family

For Christmases and Easters spent playing the organ and directing the choir at church then rushing home to host a lovingly prepared family meal

For teaching us to read and sing and write and play and love and pray

For all the sacrifices I'll never know you made to raise us well

Mom, thank you.

Also, I'm sorry for all the times I forgot to say thank you growing up. I'm sad it took becoming a mother myself for me to begin to comprehend the depth of your love and service to our family. Was this what your first Mother's Day as a mother felt like too?

I wish I'd known this sooner because being a mother is the hardest and most rewarding thing I've ever done.

Since giving birth to my son I've noticed a fundamental shift in the way I think about my identity and purpose. After 31 years I'm seeing the world anew through the lens of a mother *and* writer *and* wife *and* daughter.

And yet ... what hasn't shifted, what's anchored me during this time of transition, are the beliefs and values you instilled in me: To love others as God loves us. To set aside time for worship, prayer and thanksgiving. To serve others. To give.

Mom, the greatest gift you've given me—in addition to the gift of life—is the gift of faith. No one can really make anyone believe, of course, that's the work of the Holy Spirit, but you kept my brother and me rooted in a nurturing Christian community during our formative years.

You took us to choir practice and church each week and kindled in us a love for Lutheran liturgy and hymns.

You took us to Sunday school and confirmation and gave us opportunities to learn about a God who loves us more than life itself.

You modeled for us a quiet, strong faith in your Christ-centered living. Because of you, I grew up at church, and because of God's grace, I am saved.

This Sunday we'll be together at church again, this time to celebrate my son's baptism. I know we've both been looking forward to this special time during which he will be welcomed into the body of Christ.

Though he won't fully understand it now, we'll remind him again and again of his baptism as he grows older and more mature.

Through baptism, God claims us as a mother would her children—and this is good news we can celebrate with everyone on Mother's Day. The Bible is rich with images of God as a mother. My favorite? God says, "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem" (Isaiah 66:13).

This passage reminds me of you and all the ways you've comforted me growing up. Chicken soup when I was sick, a hug when I was scared or sad, and loving words when I was having a down day. Your unconditional, constant love for me continues to reflect the love of God.

As I traverse the ups and downs of motherhood, my constant prayer is this—that I, too, can reflect the love of God in the way I care for my son.

In love and gratitude,

Your daughter

Erin Strybis is a content editor for Living Lutheran and member of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Chicago. When she's not writing, editing or chasing her toddler, she loves practicing yoga or getting lost in a good book. Find more of Erin's stories on Instagram (@erinstry) and her blog, www.erinstry.com. (originally published 5/13/2017, LivingLutheran.org)

May 2019

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		8	9 AA @ 8 pm	10	11 WORSHIP @ 5 PM PASTOR BRAD
12 WORSHIP @11 AM Mother's Day	13 Bible Study @ 1 pm Council Meeting @ 6	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 TIM MIZE
26 WORSHIP @11 AM	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	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.