

The Monthly Newsletter Publication of Triune Lutheran Church
“Set Free to Serve One Another”
November 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 & brothers in Christ,

I know we would prefer not quite thinking about the Thanksgiving holiday just yet, seeing it is still a few weeks off and all (forgetting the fact certain places we frequent want us to move along to the Christmas holiday already anyway). Nevertheless, something happened recently in the town where I grew up that might make the National Day of Thanksgiving feel slightly different; at least, in that little speck of the country.

Yes, we, too, learned from our Social Studies textbooks about the nostalgic portrayal of pilgrims and Native Americans playing nice together, having a meal, learning from each other, shaping a mutual respectful community, and the rest is history...leaving out some rather brutal details along the way for our Rated-G young eyes. We read such accounts in schools that were built on land once called home for the Wyandotte Nation.

Part of the story so goes in our history of what is called Wyandot County (both honorably and sadly enough) in Ohio, is that a man named John Stewart, a Methodist missionary, came along in 1819 to what is called Upper Sandusky (to this day, this may be the only way the Wyandottes get mentioned at all, when explaining why our hometown can possibly be called *Upper* Sandusky, when it's actually south of Sandusky; for the Wyandotte Indians, it was *up* on the Sandusky River). Stewart was, evidently, different than most of the Christian missionaries, who had their arrogant air of superiority over the Native American tribes. Stewart did not intend to supersede their culture and traditions, and preached compassion and love, as if the Wyandottes and him were the same.

Eventually, with just over \$1,000 of government funding and Native American labor, the Wyandotte Indian Mission was born. The church (which is smaller than our fellowship hall, by the way), also, served as a school, where boys learned about sustainable farming and girls with maintaining a household. What is now called Old Mission Church, still



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

stands to this day (and is even used for worship on Sundays during the summer) on the edge of Old Mission Cemetery that includes burial plots of Wyandotte natives.

And yet, regardless of the relationships established between John Stewart and the Wyandotte Nation, just over ten years after he brought some sense of hope amidst troubling times, to say the least, came the Indian Removal Act. The Wyandotte Nation refused to comply for the next several years (who can blame them?), no matter what men President Andrew Jackson sent to convince them otherwise. Then, as the story so goes, one of their young chiefs was killed, and in hopes of maintaining their tribal identity, or their family intact at all, the Wyandottes began their own trail of tears west. About 6,600 of them now call Wyandotte, Oklahoma, home.

However, last week, the United Methodist Church added another story in the human dignity department, alongside the contribution of their beloved John Stewart: Old Mission Church and three acres of land surrounding it of Wyandotte native burial grounds, are being given back to the Wyandotte Nation. With their ownership, the Wyandottes hope to place the land in a trust through the U.S. government, as well as seeking the National Landmark status. The whole transfer of land, a seemingly miniscule business transaction may not seem like much at all; but it's most certainly something to be thankful for in that little speck of the country.

The T-holiday often turns into a lovely time for families to gather around a table, feasting on unbelievably delicious food, and, perhaps, a tryptophan-induced nap on the couch while watching an NFL game or a recording of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. We don't usually think about the origins behind the holiday; the story has too many unpleasant realities. But, perhaps, these weeks leading up to the T-holiday serve as the perfect opportunity to write new stories, stories that may instill another chapter in basic human dignity. Perhaps it's a phone call to a friend we've lost touch with over the years, maybe it's a letter to a family member who made us lose hope in any kind of dignity anywhere, or even a knock on a door of a neighbor down the street who usually makes us roll our eyes when we drive by, leading to a grace-filled embrace. Thanksgiving might just have another level of spiritual and emotional depth than we ever dare considered before.

I'm not sure the Thanksgiving celebrations in Wyandot County, Ohio, will be all that different this time around. It's not like there will be any difference when they drive by Old Mission Cemetery to their family gathering. Nevertheless, I'm proud of the United Methodist Church. I'm proud to consider them sisters and brothers in Christ, fellow disciples of the Lord who showed us the ultimate compassion and basic human dignity to...well, yes, everyone. Not to mention, he showed us that no overwhelmingly broken story, no sin committed, will separate us God's love in him, yes; but, also, should never make us stop from responding with good, with love, with hope. Maybe that's what his Resurrection was for, too. Thanks be to God, indeed!

In Christ,
Pastor Brad



From all of us at Triune, we hope you and yours have a wonderful Thanksgiving! That we will all take time, not just for one day, but for all the days of our life: to give thanks to God, with our whole heart, for all the blessings that we so often take for granted, including for God becoming one with us in Jesus Christ, our Lord forever!



Don't forget that we fall back one hour on Sunday, November 3!

On November 3, we will take time to celebrate the saints who walk among us daily, and also remember the sisters and brothers of our Triune family, who now rest in glory.



Our next congregational meeting will be Sunday, November 10. We will begin with a potluck dinner at 5pm and go straight into our discussion. The church will provide the plates and napkins. If you plan on joining us, we would invite you to bring along a dish to share (simply let Jan or Pastor Brad know in advance what you would like to bring to avoid ten Jello salads). We hope you can make it!

We will take time on Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24 to offer our own thanksgiving to God! Not to mention, before the chaos of the holiday season ensues, we will remember to always take time to be still and know the goodness and peace of God that surpasses our understanding. Let us give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart!





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

Jenny Adams
Bev Deitrick
Cathy Gallagher
Kelly Gilbert
Richard Jakubcin
John Kurtz
Jean Kurtz
Mary Phillips

Hazel Schwab
Courtney Spencer
George Tomaselli
Martha Wasson
Mardell Weiss
Trudy Weidman
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.

5 Carole Weiss
9 Linda Kirk
22 Cody Schwab



2 Richard & Heidi Bailey
24 Jack & Tina Schwab
24 Robert & Irene Jakubcin



NEW STUDY...

Back to the Bible! After recently exploring several scripture-related topics, we'll be getting back to the basics by delving into Paul's letter to the Romans. The letter summarizes the foundations of Christianity: WHAT TO BELIEVE and HOW TO BEHAVE.



Starting date is Monday, November 18, 1 PM.

We'll have three meetings before taking a break through the holidays and will resume our study/discussions on January 13.

A great way to move into the new year!

All Saints Day

There is a lot of meaning packed into the word all in All Saints. Let's explore the day through this simple word.

All includes some most beloved to us. All Saints calls to mind specific individuals: particular beloved faces, names and memories. On All Saints, your congregation might name in worship your loved ones who have died in the past year, alternating the names with a bell or a sung prayer of thanksgiving. Some congregations set aside places for photos of loved ones among candles and images of other saints. We may be all too aware of the particular names we are now carrying with us toward All Saints this year—names of those who have died in the past months.

All includes those beloved by others. All Saints creates a space that embraces with honor the multitudes of individuals among the beloved dead. We see their faces, say their names, and recognize in the worshipers around us others who carry their own memories and litanies of saints. All Saints sets out a place for all of them—an assembly the book of Revelation describes as “a number no one could count” with saints “from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages” (7:9). All Saints brings into focus our own beloved dead while also stretching our imagination toward the whole company of saints, more diverse and populous than we can fully comprehend.

All are saved by grace. The festival originally honored those who were considered especially holy: heroic figures from the Scriptures and martyrs who had given their lives nonviolently in witness to the faith. However, it is an especially Lutheran accent for the feast to honor not only those who lived exemplary lives, but all who have been baptized into Christ's death. For Lutherans, All Saints resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint, *simul justus et peccator*. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace, apart from our works, that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God.

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We share a mortal, earthy nature with all humans and all living creatures on the planet. Death is an inevitable part of life for all of us. It is part of our citizenship as earth creatures. In the Bible's wisdom literature, the word all is like a bell ringing to remind us of the lesson of Ash Wednesday: *The fate of humans and the fate of animals is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath All go to one place; all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again* (Ecclesiastes 3:19-20). John's Gospel uses seed imagery: *Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit* (12:24). All Saints proclaims a mystery. We remain in communion with those who have returned to the earth ahead of us.

We wait with all creation. All Saints is commemorated when much of the North American landscape appears to be dying down. Days are shorter, tree branches are becoming bare, the air is colder and fields have been stripped of their harvest. November begins a cycle of readings extending through Advent in which the themes of death and danger are in dialogue with our deepest hopes. As the sun sinks lower in the sky each day, our Scripture texts help us seek answers to a searing question: “How can we live in hope and integrity when it looks like the end of the world?” All Saints begins a season in which we contemplate the hopes and fears of all creation, watching and waiting for signs of a new day dawning for all of us.

The themes of All Saints extend into all of Christian life. We call to mind every Sunday the great company of saints as we join their unending hymn around the communion table. We bear witness to new saints being born from the baptismal waters. Perhaps we visit a cemetery on the anniversary of a death or on other church festivals. Many congregations include every week a final petition in the intercessions giving thanks for the lives of saints who died during the week in this or a past year. Some Christians are rediscovering natural burial as a way to honor our return to the earth in hope alongside all living creatures. And every time we see the sign of the cross or trace it on our bodies, we remember the one whose death and resurrection has formed this company of all the saints, hallowing all our lives and deaths.

All Saints reimagines the world—all of it. Even in death, God is making all things new.



Benjamin M. Stewart is the Gordon A. Braatz Associate Professor of Worship and director of advanced studies at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Originally published October 29, 2018 as part of “Deeper Understandings” series (November 2018). This and other resources for the journey of faith available at LivingLutheran.org.

***Veterans Day
Monday, November 11, 2019***



Be on the lookout in future bulletins and the December newsletter for more details regarding our mitten tree as well as the opportunity to donate gift cards, as we support local families in need during the holiday season through the Broadview Heights Human Services Department. In the meantime, feel free to stock up on mittens, gloves, socks, scarves, and other needed warm items for the winter months.

Minutes of Triune Lutheran Church Council Meeting of 14 October 2019

Meeting opened at 6:07 PM with a prayer by Pastor Brad.

Jack reported a checking balance of approximately \$3,300 and a mutual fund balance of approximately \$148,000. Both balances change constantly because of checks clearing and deposit entries in the former and market changes in the latter.

Jack reported that, for the Messinger trust bequest, all required documentation for the establishment of brokerage accounts has been supplied to the law firm handling the trust. This is for direct transfer of stocks and bonds from the bequest to Thrivent. The release of the bequest is expected shortly.

The cash portion of the bequest will be in the form of a check to Triune. It is presently expected that part of the money will be deposited in our checking account, with the remaining balance going into the mutual fund. Final determination on this to be when the bequest is released, and we know the amount.

There was some discussion of possibility of change in internet supplier with accompanying change in email address.

Bonnie mentioned just one present inquiry for Willmann hall rental.

Pastor mentioned that the collected items for Lutheran World Relief have been delivered to the collection location for shipping to destinations and we would eventually be informed of destination.

Pastor reported members' support to repeat the giving of gift cards to selected local families (selected by Brecksville-Broadview Heights Department of Human Resources) as we did last year around the holidays.

Pastor announced he will be on vacation Nov. 16th and 17th with supply pastor on the 17th, and that Congregational Meeting will be 10 November with pot-luck supper starting at 5:00 PM (same as last year).

Pastor asked for confirmation that 5:00 PM would still suffice for worship on Christmas Eve.

Dale and Jack discussed landscaping work they are doing, with help from the Schatts.

Meeting closed at 6:44 PM

Next Meeting at 6PM Monday 09 December 2019

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>TIM MIZE</u>
3 WORSHIP @11 AM All Saints Day Daylight Savings	4 Bible Study @ 1 pm Worship @ Oaks of Brecksville, 1pm	5 AA @ 7pm	6	7 AA @ 8 pm	8	9 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>PASTOR BRAD</u>
10 WORSHIP @11 AM Cong. Meeting @ 5pm	11 Bible Study @ 1 pm Veterans Day Council Meeting @ 6pm	12 AA @ 7pm	13	14 AA @ 8 pm	15	16 WORSHIP @ 5 PM <u>TIM MIZE</u>
17 WORSHIP @11 AM PASTOR HRBEK	18 Bible Study @ 1 pm	19 AA @ 7pm	20	21 AA @ 8 pm	22	23 WORSHIP - THANKSGIVING @ 5 PM <u>PASTOR BRAD</u>
24 WORSHIP - THANKSGIVING @11 AM	25 Bible Study @ 1 pm	26 AA @ 7pm	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 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.