

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069

March 2025

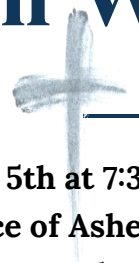
JAZZ Service

Worship at Holy Spirit is blessed with a wide variety of musical styles. We also use seven different worship settings each year, with a wide variety of spirited music. One of the special musical emphases we enjoy is a jazz service that draws on the musical talents of many of our church musicians. Joins us on **Sunday, March 2nd at 9:30 a.m.** as the ever popular jazz service returns. It promises to be a great morning of music as we celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord before the beginning of the season of Lent.

MARDI GRAS SUNDAY

Help us celebrate on **Sunday March 2nd** The kids will create parade props during Sunday School and display them throughout the building in our annual parade. Join us in the gathering space after the service for treats and fun!

Ash Wednesday



— Lent Begins

March 5th at 7:30 p.m.

"Service of Ashes and Holy Communion":

Join us as we begin our Lenten journey with the traditional service of ashes. Lent is a time for a probing consideration of our human condition, including sin and its deadly consequences for both individuals and society. It is also time for an equally intense consideration of the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus Christ and their implications for practical living. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of this journey, as we remember we are dust and to dust we shall return, but also the promise of abundant, everlasting life, as we turn from sin to trust in God. The ashes placed on our foreheads remind us of God's claim on us, now and forever.

YOUTH SUNDAY



More photos on page 7



A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ:

As we enter into the season of Lent and proceed to that sacred time we call Holy Week, I pray that you will enter into a time of reflection and consideration of your life in faith. The two primary emphases in Lent are; to consider our human condition, including sin and its deadly consequences for both individuals and society, and to consider the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus Christ and their implications for practical living. Both involve a sense of repentance, acknowledging the bare truth of our situation, but also offering an opportunity for change, for turning or returning to a life of peace, love, and grace.

In times like these, with so many changes thrust upon us and with so much uncertainty about the direction of our nation and how these changes will affect us individually, as a community, and as a nation; it is in times like these when we must look to Jesus and his teachings to guide us through these uncharted waters. It is in times like these when we must come together as a community to raise our voices together and express our love and compassion for each other and everyone in need. With Christ as our guide no one is left out, no one is left behind, no one is unworthy of the love and respect and dignity of being a child of God.

In these weeks of Lent, one of the themes that is often presented is how God is always doing something new. The prophet Isaiah writes,

“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43:18-19) God is about making a new way, providing a fresh start, encouraging us to look at the world from a new and different perspective, from God’s perspective.

When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:4-42), he offered her water like she had never experienced before. The woman at first was caught up in the social mores and rules that all were to live by. Then she had to overcome her concrete and human understanding of things to capture the new possibilities that Jesus was introducing to her. Eventually the woman embraced the Holy Spirit that Jesus was providing, the “Living Water” so that she may never be thirsty again. Jesus brings new life, reconciliation with God, and true, life-transforming change. And Jesus is inviting us into that new life as well.

Like the woman at the well, we must be open to what may feel like the invitation of a stranger to take a step out in faith. Like the woman at the well, we must be willing to look at things from a different perspective, to even cast away some of our established judgments about things, people, organizations. Like the woman at the well, we must be able to let go of some of our self-serving and stubborn convictions, in order to let God reconstruct us and guide us to a new way. For only then

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can we celebrate like the woman at the well, that there is one, who knows everything we have ever done. Only then can we experience the freedom and joy that comes with new life in the Spirit, and only then can we truly claim our Lord Jesus to be Savior of the world.

As we prepare to celebrate Christ risen from the dead, Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil, let us celebrate his presence in our lives as well. And let's celebrate the life he gives us, for Jesus calls us each by our name. He calls us to be his beloved disciples. He calls us to follow him so that we can do something beautiful with our lives. He calls us to be transformed into the new possibilities, the new life he has prepared for us. He calls us

to be awakened to the miracle of Christ's resurrection and to proclaim the Good News to all.

It is in times like these when we are called to stand up for Jesus and for all of God's children, and to work together to create a better world for us all.

I pray that your Lenten journey will be meaningful and life changing. And even in the midst of our struggles, may you experience the joy of new life this Lenten season that only comes through Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim

A Message From Bishop Curry

Dear siblings in Christ,

Some of you are likely familiar with the phrase, "flood the zone." It's a sports metaphor currently used by politicians to fill the news cycle with so much, so fast, that the chaos causes us to be overwhelmed and distracted.

Through its executive orders and operations, the federal administration has in recent weeks targeted our transgender siblings, refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, Lutheran Social Services, federal employees, the Department of Education, agriculture, DEI programs, and others. People near and dear to us, and those on the other side of the world, are threatened, abandoned, fearful, and feel hopeless.

Even when we do not feel hopeful, we continue to walk with one another—accompaniment is a value we treasure in this synod and in the wider church. Other strengths of our synod include our diversity, our inclusion, and our social justice ministries. Our synod is rich in diversity, including LGBTQIA+ leaders, welcoming congregations, and ethnic-specific ministries. More so, we are committed to further strengthening and expanding our Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging work. These are deep values. Who we say we are and what we do together as people of God, as a synod, matter. Our speech and action spring from our identity as children of a loving, forgiving, and just God—and from our relationships with one another.

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In these difficult days, I am thankful for the church. I hope you are finding strength as you regularly gather around water, word, and meal. While current events flood the zone and overwhelm us, we remember a different kind of flood in which God made a covenant with God's people and brought deliverance and freedom. We remember God's promises to us and the world when we gather at the font to give thanks for baptism (ELW #119):

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the
Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claimed us as [children of God],
Making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

Please continue to reach out to my office—especially my faithful, compassionate associates, our conference deans, and your local congregational staff for care and resources.

I encourage you to participate in local, state, and national coalitions (such as ELCA Advocacy) so together we can move toward action and speak more powerfully. Look also to those closest to you—family members, neighbors, and faith communities—asking how recent events are impacting them. We are bound together and constructive conversations are key to shaping our world.

Together, we will continue to navigate these challenging waters, anchored in the hope and strength of one another and of our faith.

We are the church together,

Bishop Nehiel Curry

“The Parables Of Lent”

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Services

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for “The Parables of Lent”, a special mid-week series of services for the season of Lent. Each service in this series focuses on a biblical parable that connects to Lenten themes. Within each parable's plot is woven a unique message about what we receive through the crucified Christ. You won't want to miss this opportunity to enrich your own stories of faith in Jesus as you journey through the season of Lent.

March 12	The Parable of the Sower and the Seed
March 19	The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Priceless Pearl
March 26	The Parable of the Good Samaritan
April 2	The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard
April 9	The Parable of the Prodigal Son

SELF EXAMINATION & REFLECTION for the SEASON of LENT

Lent is a time of self-examination where solid spiritual disciplines can become a permanent part of our lives. Rather than just giving up chocolate or adding a Bible reading for six-and-a-half weeks, Lent challenges us to drive deeply into ourselves and ask questions such as these: What progress am I making in sharing gladly what I have with others, particularly with the stranger and the poor?

- What attitudes do I convey to those who irritate me? How can awareness of my own need of God's grace enable me to be more gracious to them?
- How has my sense of interconnectedness in corporate worship grown of late, and how can I move ahead in appreciating the contributions and need of other members in the congregation to which I belong?
- Am I as charitable and thoughtful to family members as to others? Or do I "take it out" on my family when life at school or work gets hectic?
- Can I redistribute my long-range personal budget in order to have more money to give away?
- When I hear someone being unjustly maligned, do I speak up to correct the record, or am I a silent accomplice?
How can I more effectively and consistently support legislation and social programs that help the disadvantaged rather than hurt them?
- In devotional acts of prayer and reading, am I increasing my attention span and discovering new ways of listening rather than of talking, of giving thanks rather than complaining?
- As I uncover and attempt to deal with one level of prejudice in my life, what other levels do I find lurking underneath, and how can I confront them?
- In addition to intercessory prayer, what habits can I develop that allow me to be more responsive to the sick, the distressed, and the bereaved, particularly when the needs emerge suddenly and require immediate attention? Can I plan spaces into my life to allow for such unanticipated opportunities to minister to others?
- Am I, by consistent attendance in worship, a witness to others of the worthiness of the God I follow? Or am I, by more sporadic attendance, suggesting that God is worth serving sometimes, but not others?

From: "Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church"

By: Laurence Hull Stookey



Children's Ministry News

Jennifer Williams,
Children's Ministry Director
jennifer.williamslchschildren@gmail.com

Sunday School

We look forward to seeing you at our Mardi Gras Parade on March 2nd. That is this Sunday!!! During Sunday School the children will be preparing their Mardis Gras decorations and we invite you to join us after Sunday Service for the parade.

Children's Special easter event — Saturday April 19th at 11 am

This year we are doing easter a little different. Instead of an Easter egg hunt we will do a Children's Stations of the Cross. Please join us as we learn about Holy Week. RSVP to Jennifer at jennifer.williamslchschildren@gmail.com



CONFIRMATION RETREAT



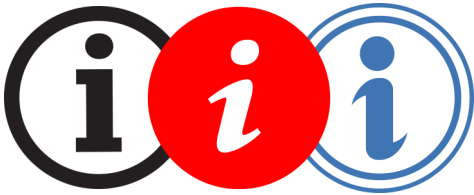


Children's Stations of the Cross

Families are welcome to join us for a special Easter Event. We are hosting a children's version of stations of the cross. Walk through interactive prayer stations and learn about Holy Week.

Saturday April 19 at 11:00am
RSVPs are required for this event





SYNOD ASSEMBLY — Holy Spirit will be sending 3 delegates to the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly on May 30 and 31 at the Q Center in St. Charles, Illinois. This is our annual meeting where we have elections, approve the budget, and learn of all the meaningful work occurring in our synod. This year will be even more compelling as we'll be electing our Bishop. If you are interested in being a delegate for our congregation this year, please see Pastor Tim for more information. We need to register as early as possible to meet the early bird lower cost deadline.

Email & Text Scam Alert — The Village Church of Lincolnshire, reached out to share information about an upcoming workshop they are organizing to address the growing need for awareness and education surrounding email and text scam attempts targeting our community. They are partnering with the Police Department, Fire Department, local retirement communities, and potentially the State's Attorney's Office, as well as the local Library to create a workshop that equips seniors and their families with tools to prevent falling victims to scammers. Everyone is at risk and no

one should feel ashamed for falling victim. We will update you with specific details when they become available, in the meantime here is what we know so far:

When: Late March or early April 2025
(final date TBD)

Where: Village Church of Lincolnshire

Duration: 3–4 hours in the morning

Cost: Free

LAY EQUIPPING EVENT 2025 — Metro Chicago Synod's second Lay Leadership Day will be held on Saturday, March 29th; 9am – 1:30pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Schaumburg.

This year's theme is LEADERSHIP LEAP! Workshops will explore church finance led by Tom Anderson, church governance led by Pr. Erin Clausen, lay leadership & equipping lead by Pr. Justin Baxter, launching from the nest led by Bishop Yehiel Curry, and a Spanish language workshop TBD.

Our guest speaker is Deacon Meghan Sobocienski, executive director of Grace in Action Collectives in Detroit. She'll share practical knowledge of how your congregation can support your community in becoming a center of economic activity through the development of small businesses, worker owned cooperatives, and youth run enterprises.

Along with practical tools, learn the theological and biblical background of church as a key place for building and expanding economic justice. Registration is now open and there will be a nominal fee of \$10.

RETIREMENT DISTRIBUTION REMINDER —

If you are you making a direct charitable donation to Holy Spirit please inform Ciara about the donation. We are not always told who the donation is coming from so please let us know the financial institution, amount, and what fund you wish to have it applied to.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Passion/Palm Sunday, April 13th 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17th 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18th 7:30 p.m.

Holy Week Children's Event Saturday,
April 19th 11:00 a.m.

Easter Morning Worship, April 20th
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Our recent blood drive was a success.
Thank you to everyone who donated.



**THANK
YOU!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 15th

help set up, clean up, or let us know you will be bringing a dessert.
If you are able to help out please sign up
at www.holyspirit-elca.org/volunteer



March 15th at 6:00 pm

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Our corned beef dinner is back again with a new twist! Please join us on Saturday, March 15, at 6:00 PM for a St. Patrick's Day dinner for the entire family. Not only will chefs Corey Kalas and Ryan Hathaway serve delicious corned beef with all the fixings, but there will be some new culinary surprises! Invite your friends and neighbors, bring the kids, and be prepared for a fun evening. A free will offering will be taken.

RSVP link on the church home page or find an RSVP sheet in the church gathering space.

church council MEETING

FEBRUARY 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on February 12th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$34,951. Operating expenses were \$39,038.

Pastor's Report: Pastor has been busy engaging with the youth. The confirmands had a retreat on February 7th and Youth Sunday was enjoyed by all on February 9th. First Communion classes will begin in March. We are looking for delegates for the Synod Assembly being held on May 30-31st.

Christian Education: Sunday School is looking for a few more teachers. Please reach out to Jennifer Williams if you are interested.

Fellowship: The British Wine Butler will be here on February 22nd. Join us for a night of tasting wines and cheeses. Mark your calendar for Corned Beef and Cabbage on Saturday, March 15th!

Property: LCHS signed annual maintenance agreements with Corcoran for the HVAC systems for about \$5300 and Nova for the fire alarms. Nova was also contracted for the 5-year mandatory inspection of the sprinkler

system for \$1600. Thank you to Ron Stocks, Arnie Bilstad and Dick Cantagallo for their work on the electrical.

Worship and Music: Youth musicians were awesome! March 2nd is Jazz Sunday.

Old Business: The Sanctuary Floor Task Force is off to a strong start! They will be submitting a Phase 1 (removal of old floor) proposal to Council during the March meeting. Phase 2 will be selecting and installing the flooring. Please contact Allison Wyrwicz with any questions regarding this exciting project.

New Business: We are still looking for a Council Member for Stewardship.

Next council meeting is scheduled for March 10th at 7PM. All council meetings are open to Holy Spirit members. Minutes and reports of the council are kept in a public notebook in the gathering place.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP



Allison Wyrwicz—President
Jeanne Nelson—Vice President
Kari Davenport—Secretary
Daaron Dohler—Treasurer

Amy Lambrecht	Jeanne Nelson
Mary Lou Gilliam	Andy Eastmond
Jackie Murphy	Mike Pedersen
Kelly Wittich	Ryan Hathaway
	Nancy Fencel

MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30 Jazz Sunday 11am Mardi Gras	3	4 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	5 6:15 pm Bells 7:30 pm Ash Wed Service 4:30 pm Choir	6 9:30 Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	7	8
9	10 7pm Council Meeting	11 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	12 6:15 pm Bells 7 pm Lent Service 4:30 pm Choir	13 9:30 Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	14	15 Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner
16 First Communion New Member Sunday	17	18 10 am Quilters 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	19 6:15 pm Bells 7 pm Lent Service 4:30 pm Choir	20 9:30 Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	21	22
23	24 SPRING BREAK	25 SPRING BREAK	26 6:15 pm Bells 7 pm Lent Service 4:30 pm Choir SPRING BREAK	27 9:30 Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Maundy Thur. SPRING BREAK	28 SPRING BREAK	29
30	31					



1- Bill Lynn
 2- Jonathan Glenner
 3- Diane Cloonan
 Don Hanigan
 5- Peter Miller
 Phil Spoehr
 6- Jodi Dirks

7- Marian McBride
 8- Robbie Williams
 10- Lauren Driscoll
 11- Charlotte Tamalonis
 12- Lynn Driscoll
 19 - Finn Moles
 19- Nick Auer
 Will Nack
 21- Carmaline Spurrier
 22- Tom Adkisson, Jr.

23- Jeanne Nelson
 27- Mary Detjen
 29- Margy Eastmond
 30- Payton Adkisson
 Austin Zehnder
 31- Ryan Hathaway

Quilters — The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. No experience necessary to join.

Adult Choir — Regular Adult choir rehearsal times are as follows: Wednesday evenings at 7:15 PM. Sunday mornings from 8:30.

Bell Choir — Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm and alternating Sundays; Nov 10th and 24th at 10:45am.

Brass Choir — Rehearsals are on alternating Sundays; Nov 3rd and 24th at 10:45am.

Prayer Group — Our prayer group meets at 9:30 AM every Thursday morning in room 3 as we lift up those in need of prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Prayer Concerns — We freshen prayer concerns regularly, so the list remains current. Please remember to email Ciara in the church office at lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com when prayer concerns change or to update your request.

Thursday Bible Study — Every Thursday morning from 10:15 to 11:30 our weekday Bible Study meets, and everyone is encouraged to attend our spirited conversations. Besides delving into the Holy Scriptures, we also study contemporary theologians, our Lutheran roots, and current issues as they impact our lives. During the month of March, we'll begin a new unit studying the book "The Imitation of Christ" by Thomas Kempis. This work focuses on the importance of embodying the teachings of Jesus Christ, emphasizing humility, inner reflection, and a life of devotion to God over worldly concerns. It offers profound guidance in developing a personal relationship with Christ, fostering moral integrity, and achieving spiritual enlightenment. Join us as we develop a deeper understanding of our spiritual journey in light of Christ's example. We always close our time together in prayer.



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is
a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

LIVE STREAM We are in the process of updating our live streaming equipment and for the time being the best option for viewing is our Facebook live page at <https://https://qrco.de/belHPi>



TEXT TO GIVE

Text the amount you want to donate to 844-573-1379.



ON-LINE GIVING

SECURE ONLINE GIVING through Simply Giving. Find a link on our website giving tab or scan the



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