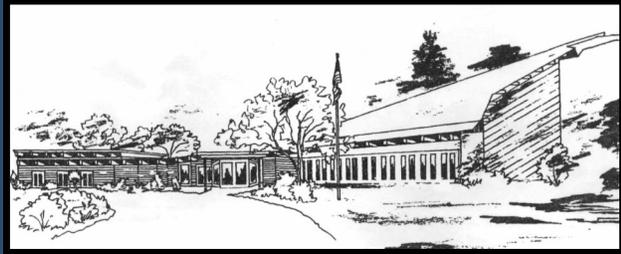
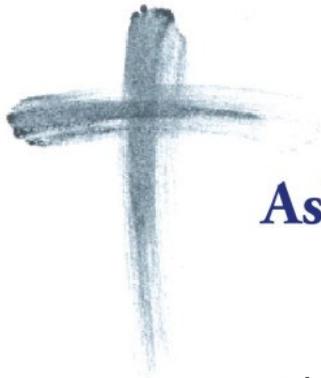




**Lutheran Church
of the Holy Spirit**
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069



February 2023



Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

February 22 at 7:30 p.m.
"Service of Ashes and Holy
Communion":

*Details of Special Lenten Services can
be found on page 5.*

SPECIAL SERVICES

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. Join us on **Sunday, February 19 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.



YOUTH SUNDAY

Join us on **February 12th** as our kids take part in our service. They'll be reading, ushering and greeting folks. We'll be taking up our usual collection for hunger relief.



MARDI
GRAS

MARDI GRAS SUNDAY!

Help us celebrate on **Sunday February 19!** The kids will create parade props during Sunday School and display them throughout the building in our annual parade. Join us in the narthex after the service for treats and fun!

*More news on Children's Ministry can be
found on page 6.*

A Note from Our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

An epiphany is a manifestation or an appearance, a moment of sudden insight or revelation. And in this season of Epiphany, I can think of no greater example than when Jesus invited his disciples Peter, James, and John to have a mountaintop experience, as he was transfigured with brilliant light, and the voice of God said to them, “This is my Son, whom I love, with Him I am well Pleased. Listen to Him!”

The Bible is filled with mountaintop experiences, where people experience the glory of God and receive a special revelation. It is where we receive the tangible, felt presence of God. And it often propels us into greater service for God.

I read recently how astronauts often discover how their life is changed by looking down at the earth from outer space. One astronaut described it by saying, “You look down and see the whole world where there are no borders or boundaries and that the entire world appears as one, connected, and you realize that what you’re seeing in one glance was the whole history of humanity for centuries; the cradle of civilization. When you go around the entire planet every hour and a half, you begin to recognize that your identity is with that whole thing. And that makes a very powerful change inside of you.”

Well, not everyone has access to a rocket that can catapult us up to the proper vantage point, but perhaps we could get a glimpse of all that by skydiving. Above the mountaintops, 14,000 feet above the earth, the world does look very different. And when you leave the safety of the plane, freefalling at 120 miles an hour for about a minute, it is quite a rush! But then the parachute opens and you glide along like on eagles’ wings, and in no time at all you’re back on the ground.

I checked off one of those bucket list items for me, by skydiving for the first time this past month, and it was an experience I’ll never forget. But it also made me reflect on what’s truly important. Is it those mountaintop experiences, those “big-picture” kinds of moments, those moments where we are thrilled to be alive, or is it the moments of stillness and of calm, the times of “being still and knowing that the Lord is God”, somehow knowing that the Holy Spirit is at work in our hearts? Or perhaps what is truly important, but often less recognized, is the many tasks, duties, chores, errands and assignments that fill our days with low-level noise?

The season of Lent provides many opportunities for spiritual mountain-climbing, but we don’t need to skydive out of a plane at 14,000 feet to experience it. All we need do is walk, slowly and steadily, up the side of that mountain looming over us all our lives. We don’t need the lung-bursting strength and endurance of an athlete to do it. All we need is persistence, and the willingness to set aside the time needed to make the ascent. Take as much time as you need; the mountain will still be there.

The 40 days of Lent that we’ll enter into at the end of the month, can be a scarcely noticed string of dates on the calendar, or they can be a season of true spiritual growth. The choice is up to each one of us. “It may not seem so much to climb a mountain you’ve worked around the foot of all your life,” as the poet says. But one thing’s for sure: If you never begin to climb, you’ll never know the glories of the summit.

When Peter and James and John accompanied Jesus up that mountain that one day, they had no idea what was in store for them. But they walked with Jesus and talked with him, they climbed a mountain with Him, and they were blown away by the bedazzling vision. And after all they experienced, after all their preconditions and expectations were suddenly reformed, Jesus was still there for them.



I pray that you will take advantage of the special season of Lent, that you will take some time to take a spiritual inventory of your life, and that you will delve into the practices of prayer and meditation and confession to restore that life giving link between you and your creator, redeemer, and friend. And above all, I pray that you have a special revelation, a mountaintop experience with your Savior, Jesus. Your life will never be the same.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim





LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22 at 7:30 p.m.

"Service of Ashes and Holy Communion":

Joins 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.

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

"In View of God's Mercy"

7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, March 1-22

Lent is a season when we take a look at our lives in view of God's mercy toward us in the sacrifice of His Son on the cross. We, in turn, are called by God, especially during this time of repentance and reflection, to be living sacrifices for Him, displaying our devotion to

Him in word and deed. Jesus helps us see the riches of God's mercy in his life, death, and resurrection. The services in this worship series for Lent focus our eyes of faith on the meaning behind God's mercy made manifest in Christ.

Join us on Wednesday evenings for a time of meaningful reflection and prayer. And we plan on providing a simple meal before the service after a couple years without, so we'll need some volunteers to prepare our meals. This is an excellent family activity that serves many in the congregation, so sign up and make this a part of your journey through the season of Lent.

VOLUNTEER !! VOLUNTEER !!

Volunteers will be needed to prepare our meals for the midweek Lenten Service.

Sign up and make this a part of your journey through the season of Lent. A Sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex.



Children's Ministry News

by Jennifer Williams, Children's Ministry Director -

jennifer.williams@lchschildren@gmail.com



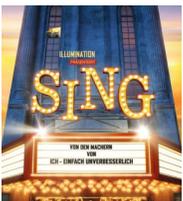
Sunday School

is held

during the 9:30 service, after the Children's sermon.

Children ages three to six (Preschool - 1st grade) take part in engaging Bible-based lessons specially designed for their age and developmental levels. They attend Cherub Choir practice following their lesson.

Children in 2nd through 6th grade attend Bible-centered classes to help them grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith.



Sing has begun. January brought back some of our favorite tunes!

Ask your singer to sing "The Butterfly Song", "The Rock", "Sheep" and "The Lord is My Shepherd" and "Love in a Box". We will be singing at the Youth Service on **Feb. 12, Souper Bowl Sunday**, right after the children's sermon. Be sure to join us!



Sunday School

Our lessons on Sunday's have really been boosted with the addition of our singing practice! The kids both veterans and new have enjoyed the songs. As our program grows we are always looking for new leaders and assistants. Please let me know if you'd like to help!

LYFE

We have been enjoying some activities focused on New Testament stories. The Mustard Seed, Jesus and the Children and The Widow's Mite. Upcoming lessons include Mary and Martha and The Prodigal Son. Our amazing group of kids pack a lot into our Tuesday evenings!

Confirmation

We are hosting a retreat for our confirmation kids on Friday February 10. We hope to see you there!





Highlights for January 2023

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on January 16th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$63,523 for December (YTD total is \$428,823 (including a transfer from the Building Fund for furnace repairs)). Operating expenses were \$41,009 in December (YTD total is \$461,312).

Pastor's report: Pastor Tim reported that an outside group is interested in building use again ('The Heartfulness Institute'). No changes in membership currently.

Hospitality during Christmas Eve services was well received. Capital Campaign will begin in mid March of this year. **CUFF** reported on a new committee notebook.

Finance reported on communications with the incoming Finance Chair regarding bank financials. **Growth** reported that are continuing to sign-up in guestbook as well as through Online QR code link. Individual communication (via email or hand-written card) is occurring with each visitor's shared info.

Human Needs reported that we continue to support PADs with donations in January and providing information about and links to host sites. Food collection is happening in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. **Personnel** reported that office and staff holiday gifts were given. **Property** reported that LCNS is requesting bulletin board approval for the hallways and weather stripping to prevent mice. Corcoran Heating and Air conditioning provided 2023 Service Agreement which seems acceptable and is being reviewed. Utility Service Advisory utility agreement is being reviewed at this time. **Stewardship** reported that Annual

Giving pledges have considerably increased from last year. **Technology** reported that that Live streaming on YouTube is up and running, that a few Council members are now admins for the YouTube page, that we are hoping to link giving QR codes to YouTube Channel, and that Daaron is planning to link YouTube and LCHS' FB Page. **Worship and Music** reported that Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were well attended. 5:00 service was best -attended (over 100 people). Brass is starting up again. Youth Service is on 2/12/23. Discussion about possibly changing Christmas Eve service offerings to two services in the future. **Old Business:** Nominating Committee continues its work on a slate of candidates and that the Fellowship position remains available. Pastor Tim is requesting a fellowship event to occur this winter. **New Business:** Annual Meeting is scheduled for 1/22/23. Council dinner now set for 2/11/23 - Larry Brady to host at his home. **Next council meeting currently is scheduled for February 13, 2023 at 7:30 PM.** All council meetings are open to Holy Spirit members. Minutes and reports of the council are kept in a public notebook in the narthex.



PADs Shelter Volunteer Opportunities

PADs has resumed limited rotating shelter operations, and St. Mark's Lutheran in Lindenhurst has reached out for volunteers on Fridays. More information and sign up is available at www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545aaa728abfb6-friday

Messiah Lutheran no longer is hosting PADs; The Chapel is now hosting a site on the second weekend of the month, as well as other dates, with information available at www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a49ada628a5fc1-pads2#/

First Presbyterian in Deerfield is hosting a Sunday PADs site, with more information available at www.firstpresdf.org/pads

PADs maintains an Amazon Wish List to provide items to individuals and families in need this Winter: This is a quick and easy way to donate exactly what is in need. www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK4KVX8VAV3A?ref=wl_share

CHURCH LEADERSHIP NEWS



Thank you to all who joined us at the Annual Congregational Meeting held on January 22,2023. We had a great turn out and enjoyed seeing everyone.

We are happy to welcome Kari Davenport and Allison Wyrwich as our newest council members. We thank Larry Brady, Ruth Ann Grockis, and Donna Williams for their time serving as council members.

The Fellowship position is remains open, and interested persons should contact Jeanne Nelson at jnelson814@comcast.net

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Jan Schwanke | President |
| Jeanne Nelson | Vice President |
| Daaron Dohler | Treasurer |
| Kari Davenport | Secretary |
| Jennifer Prosk | |
| Wayne Giampietro | |
| Andy Eastmond | |
| Nancy Fencil | |
| Kelly Wittich | |
| Joel Utterback | |
| Allison Wyrwich | |



but you can follow LCHS on Facebook and Instagram.

We have a Facebook community group page and Instagram page. Just search and follow us next time you are on your favorite social media platform.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS are held on the SECOND MONDAY of the MONTH

Guests are welcome at all our church council meetings and we appreciate the input and feedback that comes from all our congregation members. To address the council at one of the meetings please contact Jan Schwanke at bennett95@comcast.net to be added to the agenda. Our next council meeting is February 13, 2023 at 7:30 PM, and meetings tend to last about 2 hours.

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM

WITH IMPROVED SOUND AND VIDEO QUALITY



The Holy Spirit YouTube channel is now where you will find live

streaming of Sunday services. There you can also access saved recordings. Go to our YouTube channel or scan the QR CODE <https://www.youtube.com/>



[@churchinthewoods-holyspiri6256/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspiri6256/streams) Please reach out to Daaron Dohler or Jeanne Nelson if you have any questions.

ON-LINE GIVING AND TEXT TO GIVE

Don't forget we have several new secure online giving options to make it more convenient for members and visitors to donate. Giving is also as easy as sending a text with our new text-to-give feature. Send the amount you want to donate to 844-573-1379. For example, if you want to donate \$100, then text the number 100 to 844-573-1379. You will receive a registration link to enter your contact and payment infor-



mation. Tap "Process" to complete your donation. Please scan this code with your phone to donate using our secure online giving page.

God, your holiness calls us to account for our deeds. Give us such confidence in your love that we may live with integrity, acting with justice and prudence, and caring for the needs of others.



LENT



1- Sandra Swanson
Robert Williams
Kari Davenport
2- Rust Hadley
3- Sue Thompson
6- Mike Duffy
Sara Leska
Abigail Rossiter

7- Susan Falato
Cindy Rossiter
8- Henry Hathaway
9- Brent Dirks
10- Kim McElhinny
Dylan Utterback
13- Will Davenport
15- Hayden Brotz

17- Ciatlin Bittner
Emily Tantillo
Lucy Tantillo
20- Jackie Murphy
23- David Schroetter
Catherine Sultan
24- Lora Dohler
Jason Reeser
25- Jill Pink
Claire Tamalonis
26- Sophie Meilman
27- Rita Adams

Quilters

The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30. This month's date is February 21st. No experience necessary to join them.

Meet & Greet

We reserve the last Sunday of the month at 9:30 AM for a special time of fellowship as we gather as a family of faith to renew, sustain, and form new friendships.

Prayer Group

Our prayer group meets at 9:30 AM every Thursday morning in the Sanctuary as we lift up those in need of prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us.

EXPOS— February 14th at 11:30 AM

The ExPOS will meet on February 14, 2023 at LCHS, room 6 at 11:30 AM. It's a potluck lunch; put your *hearts* into bringing a dish to share for your fellow ExPOS. The clock and your hearts are ticking; don't forget the time, 11:30AM and the date, February 14th!

Prayer Concerns

We freshen prayer concerns after 3 weeks, so the list remains current. Please remember to email Ciara in the church office at lutheranholy-spirit@gmail.com when prayer concerns change or to update your request.

Adult Choir

Adult choir rehearsal takes place on Sunday mornings from 8:45 to 9:15.

Thursday Bible Study — Weekly 10:15-11:30 AM

Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30 for a time of Biblical reflection and spirited conversation! We are currently studying the book "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancey. In this personal and focused reflection on Jesus, Jesus becomes powerfully present, expanding our too-narrow views of Jesus to an understanding of the full promises of the Bible. Yancey's flair for honest, vivid, well-informed, down-to-earthness gives piercing power to the gospel facts about Jesus, helping us see our Savior as he really was, and is. Your thoughts and opinions are valued as we learn from each other. We always close out time together in prayer.



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

AMAZON SMILE DONATIONS UPDATE —

Many of you have used Amazon Smile to support Holy Spirit. You may have recently received an email from Amazon announcing the end of the program. You may also have received an email indicating that LCHS hasn't registered with the program and asking if you'd like to redirect your accrued donations to another charity. **Please do not redirect your funds!** — We are in the process of correcting the situation and all funds, plus an additional final donation from Amazon, will be directed to Holy Spirit. If you have any questions, please contact Ciara at lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com or Jeanne Nelson at jnelson814@comcast.net. Thank you!

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 3

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 9:30am Prayer Group	3	4
5 10:45 Bells Rehearsal	6	7 12 pm Choir Director Meeting 4 pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation	8 12 pm Religious Leaders United	9 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	10 5-9 pm Confirmation Retreat	11
12 Youth Sunday- Super Bowl of Caring	13 7:30 Council Meeting	14 10:30 EXPO 4 pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation	15	16 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	17	18
19 9:30 Jazz Sunday 10:30 Mardi Gras	20	21 10 am Quilters 4 pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation	22 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	23 9:30am Bible Study 10:15am Prayer Group	24	25
26 10:45 Brass Rehearsal	27	28 4 pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30 First Communion Class				

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

January 2023



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

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor

Phone: 847-945-1550

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED