

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

July 2023

LUTHERAN DAY NURSERY VISIT



On Thursday, June 15th, we hosted the Lutheran Day Nursery School at Ryerson Woods followed by a lunch and playtime at our church. What a wonderful afternoon with these energetic children. Thank you to our volunteers for making it a great day.

GUEST PREACHER CHAPLAIN LESLIE HUNTER



On June 4th we enjoyed hosting Chaplain Hunter of Holy Family School and Ministries, as guest preacher at LCHS. As a published author of several books of inspirational poems and prose his presence at LCHS was well received as many stayed afterwards for refreshments and conversation.



A Note from Our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

At our recent council meeting we were talking about our mission statement and the difference between an organization's mission and its purpose. Our purpose is never accomplished, it is a guiding direction, it's something that continues to be desired forever, like loving your neighbor or making disciples. And most church's mission statements are actually purpose statements, because they direct us in a way to live our life as a Christian or as a member of a church, and the purpose never ends. But mission is actually different, because a mission can be accomplished in a specific amount of time. A mission is more tangible and specific and even though different churches may agree on a general purpose, they may have very different missions.

As we work to develop more specificity in our church's mission this summer, I was reminded of a trip that Maria and I made to Florida some years ago, and during our trip we visited the Kennedy Space Center in Florida not that long ago. I remember how we thought we'd just visit for a couple hours, but ended up spending the whole day there and were captured by the various exhibits.

I have always thought that the challenge President Kennedy made to our country to land a person on the moon within the decade of the 1960's was one of our country's greatest accomplishments. To set such a lofty, seemingly unattainable goal, and then accomplish it by having tens of thousands of people working together toward this common mission was truly remarkable. And Maria and I were able to re-live the excitement of these events through re-enactments of the Apollo missions to the moon. It was an incredible experience for me, and to this day I can't help but feel very proud of our people and the United States of America.

As a pastor, I also couldn't help but think of the Church, and the many Bible references to the body of Christ, with each member doing its part to work together to promote God's mission for the world. And I imagined what the Church could do if we were as focused and dedicated to accomplishing a common mission as those at NASA were during the space race.

While at the Kennedy Space Center we also were entertained in an IMAX theater where we saw shows about the Hubbell telescope and the International Space Station. It was inspiring to see astronauts and engineers and technicians from all over the world, working together to build and expand the International Space Station. Once again, an

example of common mission where a person's nation or race or gender or age, made no difference, as people worked together to support and assist each other, and where everyone's unique gifts were appreciated and necessary to accomplish the common mission. And to see the Russians and Americans working together on this project, when for so much of our lives these two nations have been bitter enemies, and in a cold war that threatened the very life of our planet, to see that was so incredibly promising for all of humanity.



The astronauts commented that from up in space the world is so beautiful. And from space there are no boundaries that divide nations from each other. From space it's easier to see how the whole world is connected, and how vital it is for everyone to work together. Perhaps when

we get out of our own self-made view of the world we can begin to see the world as God intended, to see the world as God sees the world. And perhaps then we can see the world as a beautiful, miraculous place, a living community created from love of God, that requires that we live in that love, and that we share with and care for one another.

I pray that we might all get the opportunity to see the world in a different light and that we might all take the opportunity to reflect on what God may be calling us to do, and what life-changing mission we might become a part of. We never know when God might reveal something new to us or what great new adventure God may be calling us to.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim

SMORES & CAMPFIRE COCKTAILS

Who can say no to S'mores? Not these guys. Even some Canadian Wildfire smoke couldn't keep them away from this years s'mores campfire.





Children's Ministry News

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

Join us on **July 23** for a special Family Sunday at church. We'll have Sunday school during our regular time in our 9:30 service where the kids will be focusing on God's gift of nature. We'll have treats and fellowship after the service. Hope to see you there!

Save the date for our annual Backpack Blessing and Kona Ice Truck visit on **August 27!**

FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOLERS:

Our Chicago Metro Synod is planning a mini youth gathering in October. It's called the Boundless Invitational and it's being held in Tinley Park. As information becomes available, I'll share it here, stay tuned!

2023 MCS YOUTH GATHERING

boundless
INVITATION

OCTOBER 20-22
TINLEY PARK, IL

Family Sunday

July 23

Special Sunday School
activity and fellowship
following the 9:30 service

UPCOMING EVENTS



COOL 19TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING.

It is time for COOL's Annual Golf Outing. If you have not signed up yet now is the time to do so. Date: **Friday July 14th** at Bonnie Brook Golf Course.

10:00 am Check In

11:00 am Shotgun Start

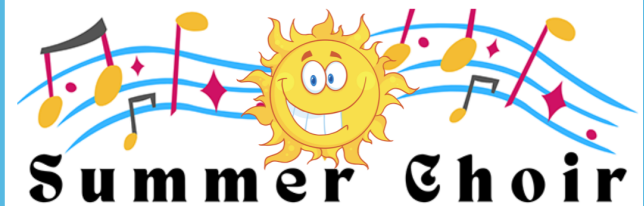
4:30 pm Dinner 50/50 raffle & Prizes

Golf for one includes; Greens Fees with a power cart, Lunch on the Turn, Dinner, and Entry into Prize Drawings. Cost: \$175 per golfer. A dinner only option is also available. Sign up at coolministries.org On the right side of their page you will find a section for payment options.



ASK US

Your Congregation Council wants to be very transparent about what goes on behind the scenes at Holy Spirit, especially when it comes to your contributions. We plan to have Council members available to answer your questions after the 9:30 Sunday service on the third Sunday of each month. We held our first "Ask Us" session on June 18. Our July session will be after the 9:30 service on **July 16**. We'll meet in the library. Looking forward to hearing from you!



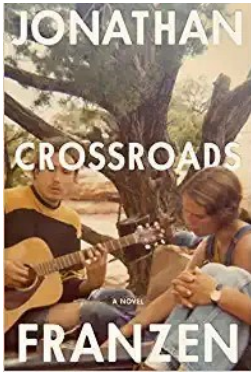
Tune up those voices because we would love to have you join the Summer Choir. Have you ever wanted to give singing a try? This is your chance. No prior membership in choir is necessary. So.... all you wonderful singers hiding in the pews come on out and "Rejoice, give thanks, and sing" with the Summer Choir. We will learn our anthem before the service. Rehearsal begins at 8:30am.

SUMMER CHOIR DATES

Sunday, July 30th
Sunday, August 27th

Contact Karen Jirsa (kmjirsa@comcast.net) for more information

We look forward to hearing the Red, White, and Blue summer choir at the **July 2nd** Service. More choir opportunities await. Contact Karen Jirsa at kmjirsa@comcast.net for more information.



**BOOK CLUB FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER**

15th. Thank you all who attended our last meeting. It was a great discussion. We will meet again in September. This

one is a lot longer than the last but a much quicker read.

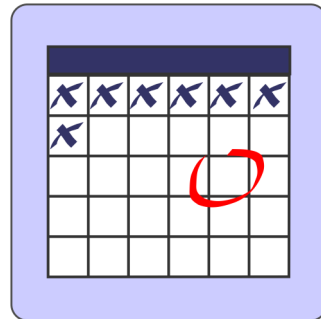
Jonathan Franzen's novels are celebrated for their unforgettably vivid characters and for their keen-eyed take on contemporary America. Now, in *Crossroads*, Franzen ventures back into the past and explores the history of two generations. With characteristic humor and complexity, and with even greater warmth, he conjures a world that resonates powerfully with our own. A tour de force of interwoven perspectives and sustained suspense, its action largely unfolding on a single winter day, *Crossroads* is the story of a Midwestern family at a pivotal moment of moral crisis.

It's December 23, 1971, and heavy weather is forecast for Chicago. Russ Hildebrandt, the associate pastor of a liberal suburban church, is on the brink of breaking free of a marriage he finds joyless unless his wife, Marion, who has her own secret life, beats him to it. Their eldest child, Clem, is coming home from college on fire with moral absolutism, having taken an action that will shatter his father. Clem's sister, Becky, long the social queen of her high-school class, has sharply veered into the counterculture, while their brilliant younger brother Perry, who's been selling

drugs to seventh graders, has resolved to be a better person. Each of the Hildebrandts seeks a freedom that each of the others threatens to complicate.

Jonathan Franzen's gift for melding the small picture and the big picture has never been more dazzlingly evident. than in *Crossroads*.

LOOKING AHEAD SAVE THE DATE



SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, August 27

Holy Spirit will host an outdoor family worship service. We'll enjoy a casual service, followed by a cookout for all! We hope to host the Kona ice truck once again and Pastor Tim will preside over our annual backpack blessing. Stay tuned for more details in the August newsletter.

Don't forget to check out the church library for books and jigsaw puzzles to enjoy. No due dates, no late fines. There are fiction, non-fiction, and some Bible study favorites. Return them at your leisure and feel free to add books you have enjoyed to the shelves.



Highlights From June 2023

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on May 8th. **Treasurer's report** included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$43,309 for April (YTD total is \$129,748) Operating expenses were \$46,184 in March (YTD total is \$148,259). As of the end of April, we have a negative operating budget deficit of \$18,511. We will send out updated giving statements. We haven't sent any benevolence to the Synod due to our current financial situation.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Tim reported it has been a busy month. We kicked off the Capital Campaign, Confirmation, choir director interviews and hosting the North Conference meeting. We still need one more delegate to the Synod Assembly. **Christian Education** reported Sunday School will end for the school year on May 21st. LYFE will end on May 9th. They will host two evening summer family events so stay tuned for more details. **Growth** encouraged members to attend sign up for the D103 Run on Saturday, May 20th and attend the Buffalo Grove Pride parade after services on June 4th. **Human Needs** will be passing around an interest sheet to see if we have enough interest for a blood drive in the

fall. We also need volunteers for the Lutheran Day Nursery visit on June 15th. **Property** reported the faucets in the west end will be replaced. Corcoran Heating has submitted a \$7342 proposal to replace Air Conditioning Unit #5. A proposal was received from Barreca Blacktop to sealcoat the parking lot for \$3538 which is \$380 more than the amount they charged in 2021. **Technology** is working on livestreaming to YouTube and Facebook simultaneously. Worship and Music will be conducting a second interview this week with a candidate for the Choir Director position. **Old Business:** 2026 Capital Campaign is underway! Commitments are due this Sunday! 60th Anniversary celebration will take place after service on May 21st. **Planning** continues for the narthex renovation. **New Business:** A committee was started to begin looking into the 2024 lease for LCNS. We will also start updating the church directory. Next council meeting currently is scheduled for June 12, 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.

IRS Payroll Tax Refund

The church council is pleased to share news that Holy Spirit has received a refund of over \$25,000 from the IRS as part of the Employee Retention Credit program. The ERC offers refunds to organizations like Holy Spirit that continued to pay our employees during the pandemic despite a significant decline in receipts during 2020 and 2021. Special thanks to Daaron Dohler, Joe Labellarte, and former member Carol Greenhut for identifying this opportunity and submitting the IRS paperwork to secure this refund.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP



Jan Schwanke—*President*

Nancy Fencil

Jennifer Prosk

Jeanne Nelson—*Vice President*

Kelly Wittich

Wayne Giampietro

Daaron Dohler—*Treasurer*

Joel Utterback

Andy Eastmond

Kari Davenport—*Secretary*

Allison Wyrwich



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 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 —



We have several 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 information. Tap “Process” to complete your donation. Please scan this QR code with your phone to donate using secure online giving page.



1- Ryan Becker

Pam Labellarte

Darlene Neumann

2- Kami Spoehr

3- Joseph Neela

Sharon Ryan

4- Mary Lou Gilliam

7- Gabrielle Brown

Dominic Cantagallo

9- Chris Miller

10- Elaine Petersen

13- Mitch Prosk

21- Paul Becker

30- Kymm Brown

31- Joshua Neela

Quilters —

The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30. This month's date is June 20th. No experience necessary to join them.

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 — Enjoy the summer

The EXPOS do not meet during the summer. EXPO meetings will resume in September.

Prayer Concerns —

We freshen prayer concerns after 3 weeks, 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.

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! During July we will be studying the book "The Complete Gospels" edited by Robert J. Miller. In this study we'll review all 20 of the known gospels from the early Christian era, offering a fuller and more fascinating picture of early Christian origins including: the Gospel of Thomas, the Gospel of Mary, the Sayings Gospel Q, the Signs Gospel, the Secret Book of James, and the Gospel of Peter. Your thoughts and opinions are valued as we learn from each other. We always close out time together in prayer.

JULY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	7	8 11:00 am Bally Memorial Service
9	10	11	12	13 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	14	15
16 10:30 Ask Us	17	18 10 am Quilters	19	20 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	28	29
30	31					



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

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

More information may be found on our website: www.holyspirit-elca.org



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069
Phone: 847-945-1550
Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED