



GIVE Thanks

30 DAYS OF GIVING THANKS CHALLENGE

Beginning November 1 through November 30

What better what to celebrate God, but in a spirit of Thanksgiving! Join us for 30 Days of Giving Thanks. Each day list 10 blessings in your life that you are grateful for and why you're grateful for each blessing. Start a journal, to capture all that you are grateful for. You may even want to add how that makes you feel to be so blessed.

I am truly grateful for _____. I am truly blessed to have _____. I am so happy and grateful for _____. You could be grateful for your home, your family, your friends, your work, and your pets. You could be thankful for the sun, the water that you drink, the food that you eat, and the air that you breathe, without any of them you couldn't be alive. You could be grateful for the trees, the animals, the oceans, the birds, the flowers, the plants, blue skies, the rain, the stars, the moon, our beautiful planet earth. Please don't be restricted by what you think you should be grateful for, but let your gratefulness simply flow from your inner self. You already know you have much to be thankful for. To help you feel more grateful to God, you may want to follow the prompts given below for each day of the month, and let them guide your journey of gratefulness. They will serve you well. We give thanks to God, and our gratefulness can transform our lives. Thank you for your choosing to be grateful!

1. First 10 Blessings that come to mind
2. Best things that happened today
3. Closest Relationships
4. Health and your Physical Body
5. Money and Financial resources
6. Work, Vocation, Place of Employment
7. Circumstances, both the Positive and Negative Ones
8. Food and everyone who helped prepare it
9. Financial Goals you have accomplished
10. People you encounter in everyday life, that perform services
11. For a New Day and what that means
12. People who made a difference in your life
13. For what you want or desire most right now
14. For your ability to make changes

A Note from Our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

As we enter the month of November, we often anticipate the holiday of Thanksgiving, where we gather with friends and family to feast and give thanks for another blessed year.

We have much to be thankful for; our church, our family, our material wealth, our national security, our freedoms, our health, but above all we must give thanks for a gracious God who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. I encourage everyone to take on the challenge of 30 Days of Giving Thanks during the month of November to build an attitude of gratitude and a true appreciation of life and every aspect of it. We have such great models of Gratitude and Thankfulness in the Bible to emulate. The Apostle Paul, for example, had learned the true meaning of thanksgiving. In the midst of great adversity when he was imprisoned in Rome, separated from friends, unjustly accused, brutally treated, if anyone had a right to complain, it was this man, and yet his words rang out with praise and thanksgiving. "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord," he wrote, "always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:19-20)

Imagine that! Always giving thanks for everything – no matter the circumstances! Thanksgiving for Paul was not a once-a-year celebration, but a daily reality that changed his life and made him a joyful person in every situation.

Thanksgiving, the giving thanks to God for all His blessings should be one of the most distinctive marks of a believer in Christ. We must not allow a spirit of ingratitude to harden our heart and chill our relationship with God and with others.

We've probably all heard stories of people who were wealthy and successful, the envy of their friends and business associates. Individuals who seem to have everything that anyone would want in life, and yet are miserable inside, with an empty place in their heart. We have also heard of others who live very humbly, with almost nothing in terms of worldly possessions and yet these persons have a radiance about them. They live a life with meaning and purpose, for even though they may not have much, they had learned to be thankful for everything God had given them. The Apostle Paul knew this as well when he declared, "I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want" (Philippians 4:12). A spirit of thankfulness makes all the difference!

In many countries a special day is set aside each year for thanksgiving. But for Christians, every day can be a day of thanksgiving, as we are "always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May you have a joyful, thankful, and abundant month this November, as you feast, celebrate and give thanks to God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim

TAX TIME COMETH

While we are still many months away from April 2024, the end of the year is approaching rapidly. You may want to consider contributing some shares to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

As you look toward the end of the year and the special needs of our church budget, you might consider the timeliness of certain contributions now.

Stocks that you have held for a long time and that have very low basis cost may be especially attractive as charitable gifts. Stock gifts have double value because they often avoid capital gains tax and they result in an income tax deduction for charitable gifts.

Few people contribute to the church just for the tax advantages yet it is a consideration for when you might want to make a contribution.

Please be sure that if you make a transfer to the church, you notify our office so we can be sure all is completed in an orderly manner and proper credit is received.



30 DAYS OF GIVING THANKS CHALLENGE

Continued on page 1

15. Healing in relationships
16. Miracles of Health and natural healing
17. Generosity and the good it provides
18. Things on your To-Do List
19. All who have gone before us for our benefit
20. Your Heart and your ability to Love
21. Magnificent Outcomes coming your way
22. The world around us, the miracle of life on our planet
23. The air that you breathe
24. People you care about
25. Things that now remind you to be grateful
26. Mistakes that have become blessings
27. For Yourself
28. The good that happened today
29. Your faith in God that inspires gratefulness
30. Your gratefulness of the past 30 days

Special Worship Services

All Saints Sunday

November 5, 9:30 AM

We will remember all the faithful who have gone before us into the Church Triumphant.

Stewardship Service

November 12, 9:30 AM

We are called to share with others the gifts God has blessed us with, we will be making our financial commitment to Jesus during worship. We hope all to have all members and regular worship attendees present.

Jazz Service

November 19, 9:30 AM

Worship at Holy Spirit is blessed with a wide variety of musical styles. One of the very special services is the jazz service that draws on the musical talents of a number of our church musicians and a crowd favorite—the LYFE Choir. Join us for what promises to be a great morning of music.

Thanksgiving Service

November 23, 9:30 AM

We have a lot to be thankful for, especially during this challenging year. Let us worship together to praise God for all the wonderful blessings. Invite family and friends to “Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever.”



Planning for Advent and Christmas

Hangin' of the Greens Sunday, November 26

On Sunday, November 26 after the 9:30 AM worship service, we will be getting the church ready for the Advent and Christmas seasons by putting up the Christmas tree and decorating the church. This event will be fun for the whole family. Mark your calendar to join us!

Advent Wreath Making Sunday, December 3

Join us for this favorite family event on Sunday, December 3 after the 9:30 AM service.

Mid-Week Advent Worship Wednesday evenings—December, 6th, 13th, and 20th
Wednesday evening in the midst of the rush of preparing for Christmas, take time to also receive Christ. On the first three Wednesday evenings in December we will have a Taize service at 7:00 PM. This half-hour contemplative service will bring peace and focus as we center on Christ, the light of the world, who comes to heal us, redeem us, and dwell with us.

Christmas Program and Sing-Along Sunday, December 10 at 10:45 AM.

Don't miss the kids performing in this delightful annual program.

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

3:30 PM - Service of Candles and Communion with special music

5:00 PM - Family worship with Candles and Communion with the Christmas Orchestra, Youth and Cherub Choirs

10:00 PM - Candlelight Communion Service with special music and featuring the Adult and Bell Choirs



BELL CHOIR — Ringers needed! We are reviving Holy Spirit's Bell Choir, but we need you! Bell Choir is open to High School age and up. No experience necessary however you must be able to count to four, preferably with your toes as your hands will be busy. If you are interested in being a ding-a-ling contact Karen Jirsa - call or text: 847-858-4755, email: kmjirsa@comcast.net

ADULT CHOIR VOICES NEEDED —

Come join the Adult Choir. No previous choir experience needed. Rehearsals are held Wednesdays 7:00–8:00pm, and Sundays 8:30–9:15am. All you lovely singers hiding in the pews are invited to join this lively and fun group. Questions? Contact Karen Jirsa, call or text: 847-858-4755, email: kmjirsa@comcast.net

Oktoberfest

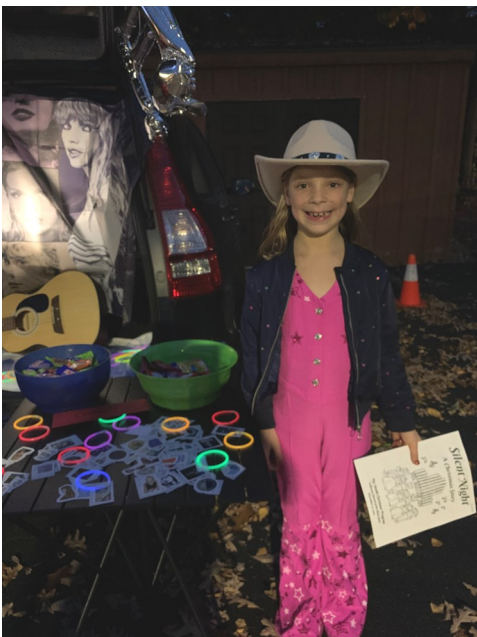


OKTOBERFEST
Another great turn out and
loads of fun at the LCHS
Oktoberfest



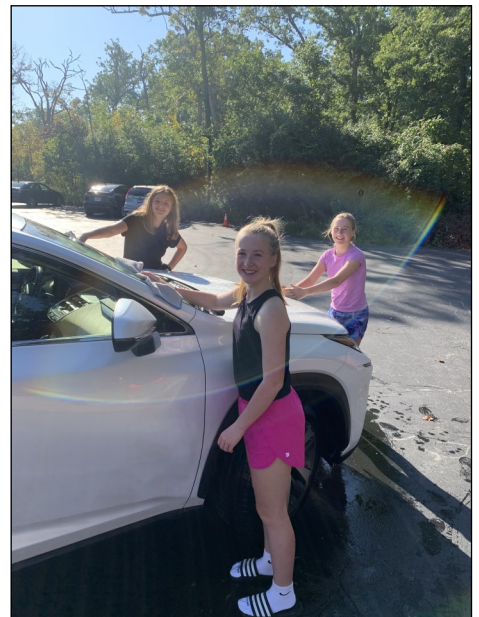


TRUNK OR TREAT



YOUTH CAR WASH

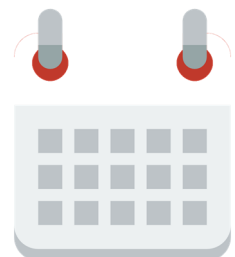
Thanks for making
our Car Wash a
success!



SAVE THE DATES

Hanging of the Greens — November 26th

Advent Wreath Making — December 3rd





Children's Ministry News

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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



SUNDAY SCHOOL —

Our Sunday School program has had a strong start! We begin each week with joyful singing with Mrs. Fencil. The kids then move into creative lessons taught by our team of volunteers. They are focusing on the Old Testament as well.

CONFIRMATION —

We had our first Confirmation Retreat! The kids played games, focused on bible lessons, enjoyed pizza and completed the service project of filling the college care packages.

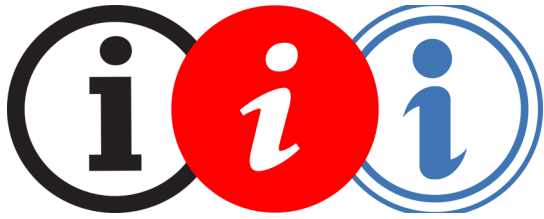
The kids gathered in the youth room for our first "Watch Party". We shared notes, thoughts on the sermon and donuts of course!

CONFIRMATION RETREAT



ENJOYING THE FALL DAY





BOWLING —

Saturday November 4
Come young and old,
spares and turkeys,
join us for a fun filled
afternoon of

fellowship as you showcase your bowling talents. We have initially reserved four lanes for Saturday November 4 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Lake Side Lanes, 900 S Lake Street, Mundelein. We will need a head count by November 3 so we can accommodate all our bowlers with talent to spare. Watch your email for a sign up link. A sign up sheet will also be posted in the Narthex.

HOLY SPIRIT CHRISTMAS EVE BAND —

Dust off those instruments. The Band is getting back together for Christmas Eve service at 5PM. There will be ONE Rehearsal on December 17 after the service. Music will be available after Thanksgiving. Please join us if you have played at least one year even if it was a long time ago! Please RSVP Nancy Fencel at nfencel@gmail.com to sign up for your place in the famous Holy Spirit Christmas Eve Band!



THANKSGIVING BASKETS —

This year we are sponsoring 10 families for Thanksgiving at the Vernon Area Food Bank. Please help us make this holiday special for local families by donating items by Nov 5th.



A link to sign up can be found on the church website at www.holyspirit-elca.org/ volunteer. Any questions please reach out to Jill Pink at Jill.Pink@hotmail.com

EXPOS — The Expos group will be meeting here at the church on Tuesday morning, November 14th at 10:30. Mary Lou Gilliam will be entertaining us with a Storytelling Session. Most of you know that Mary Lou is a very talented professional Storyteller and this promises to be a delightful experience. Please mark your calendars and let Chris Miller know via email at chrnil40@att.net if you will be attending. Thank you.

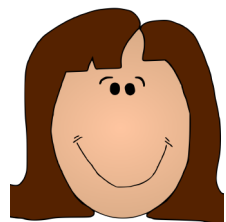
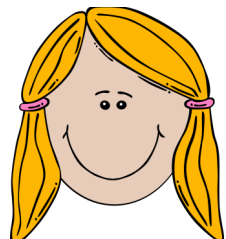
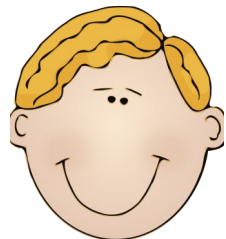


Thank you Jerry Mason for this wonderful photo of Bill Shambrook, Janice Edwards, Judy Shambrook, and Carolyn Raymond at last months Expos visit to the Botanic Gardens.



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY —

A new pictorial directory is coming! At our Church Council meetings we've discussed the need for a new directory. However, most families aren't interested in buying formal portraits these days. So we are publishing our own directory featuring YOU and YOUR FAMILY! The holidays are coming. College students will be home, families will be gathering, and lots of phones will be snapping photos. Please choose a special one to submit to the church office by January 15 along with your current phone numbers, address, and email address. We want everyone to be included so we can all get to know each other better. This will be for the use of our congregation only.



If you would like to help with this project, please talk to Jan Schwanke or email her at bennett95@comcast.net.

WORK DAY — Our next work day at the church is scheduled for Saturday November 11 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. We appreciate your time and will put it to good use. This could be a great family service project! So, join us as we work to keep our facility and grounds in excellent condition.

CHURCH COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR AND EXPERIENCE —



As you consider what gifts you return to God, please consider the experience and talent God has given you. What can you share with your Holy Spirit family? Have you considered serving on our Church Council? If you would like to find out more, please contact a member of this year's nominating committee: Wayne Giampietro (wgiampietro@giampietrolaw.com), Jen Prosk. (jep7513@gmail.com) or Jan Schwanke (bennett95@comcast.net). Any Council member would be happy to chat with you.



TRIVIA NIGHT

— It is never too early to mark your Calander

for the annual LCHS Trivia Night. This years event will be on January 20th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your friends and start putting together a winning team today.

church council MEETING

OCTOBER 2023
HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on October 10th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$55,553. (YTD total is \$333,445). This included \$14,037 from the Endowment fund, \$4,319 from Tamarack for the summer camp, \$6,014 from LCNS and \$800 from True Hope Church. Operating expenses were \$29,394 (YTD total is \$336,546). Thanks to a positive response to our latest appeal to catch up on contributions, our operating deficit has been reduced to approximately \$10,000."

Pastor's report Pastor Tim reported we are back in full swing.... choir, Sunday School, LYFE, Confirmation, and prayer groups. The Visioning Task Force is working on a new Purpose Statement and mission strategies to support it. **Christian Education** will be hosting Trunk or Treat on October 24th . We need more cars so please let Jennifer know if you can join us. Human Needs had a successful blood drive. We collected 12 units! **Property** is thankful for Ron Stocks and Arnie Bilstad for their help with the parking lot lights and removing the old coffee makers. **Worship and Music** is still looking for people to join Bell and Adult choir. **Old Business:** Talks continue with LCNS on their upcoming lease. We are exploring options for making our own pictorial directory. **New Business:** Jen Prosk, Wayne Giampietro and Jan Schwanke are the Nominating Committee for 2024. Council is looking into options for a new pictorial directory.

Next council meeting is scheduled for November 13th, 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.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP



Jan Schwanke—*President*

Nancy Fencil

Michael Pederson

Jeanne Nelson—*Vice President*

Kelly Wittich

Wayne Giampietro

Daaron Dohler—*Treasurer*

Jennifer Prosk

Allison Wyrwicz

Kari Davenport—*Secretary*

Andy Eastmond

Jackie Murphy



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Stewardship Sunday

Is Coming

November 12

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's stewardship committee has selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Stewardship Sunday, November 12, we are

asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

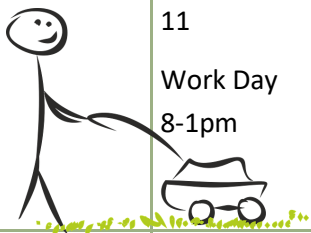
Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Stewardship Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our pastor or leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship. We will encourage participation in Stewardship Sunday events through the Stewardship team and governing council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Stewardship Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Stewardship Sunday events.

Stewardship Chairperson,
Wayne Giampietro

NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7pm Choir	2 9:30 am Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	3	4 Bowling Fellowship Event
5 All Saints Sunday	6	7 10:30 am ExPOS 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	8 7pm Choir	9 9:30 am Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	10 	11 Work Day 8-1pm
12 Stewardship Celebration and Thanksgiving Baskets	13 7:30 pm Council Meeting	14 10 am Quilters 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	15 7pm Choir	16 9:30 am Prayer Group 10:15 am Bible Study	17	18
19 Jazz Sunday	20	21 No LYFE No Confirmation	22 7pm Choir	23 9:30 am Thanksgiving Service	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 Hanging of the Greens	27	28 4:15 LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	29 7pm Choir	30		



- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 5- April Neumann | 11- Cole Dirks | 25- Joleen Gleasman |
| Kaia Ciechowski | Paul Saydak | 26- Aaron Rudloff |
| 8- Phil Bettiker | Luke Smith | Benjamin Rudloff |
| Robin Saydak | 18- Mary Miller | 27- Larry Brady |
| 9- Katie Bally | 21- Carol Duprey | 29- Logan Steinberger |
| Ellie Kasche | 24- Tom Weglarz | 30- Janet Adkisson |
| | Steve Linstrom | |



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

Quilters — The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00. This month's date is November 14. 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 — Our Senior's group, the Experienced People of Spirit, will be meeting here at the church on Tuesday morning, November 14th. Mary Lou Gilliam will be entertaining us with a Storytelling Session. Most of you know that Mary Lou is a very talented professional Storyteller and this promises to be a delightful experience. Please mark your calendars and let Chris Miller know via email at chril40@att.net if you will be attending. Thank you.

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

Thursday Bible Study — Thursday Bible Study meets from 10:15 to 11:30 am. and everyone is encouraged to attend. Besides delving into the Holy Scriptures, we also study contemporary theologians, our Lutheran roots, and current issues as they impact our lives. We are currently studying Philip Yancey's best selling book, "What's So Amazing About Grace". If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does mercy? Join us for some spirited discernment and conversation! We always close our time together in prayer. .

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.

LIVE STREAM  **YouTube**

SUNDAY SERVICE LIVE STREAMED



Go to our YouTube channel [youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspiri6256/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspiri6256/streams)

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Text the amount you



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HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

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

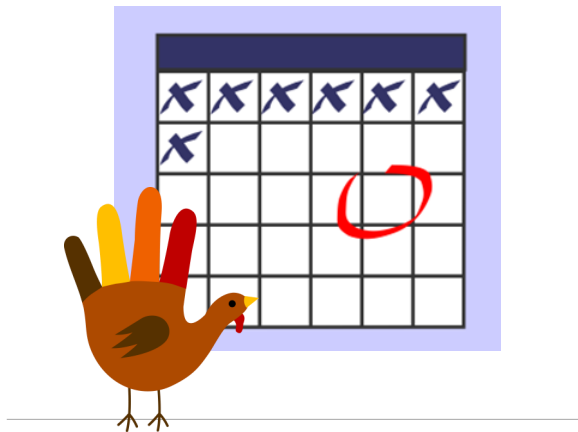
Looking Ahead

Hanging of the Greens November 26th

Stewardship Celebration November 12th

Jazz Sunday November 19th

Trivia Night January 20th



Church office will be closed
on Thanksgiving Day
Thursday the 23rd & Friday
the 24th.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED