

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

**August 2023**

## **FAMILY SUNDAY**

On July 23 we had a nature themed Sunday school. We read the story of creation and then made several different bird feeders to hang outdoors.



**MARK YOU CALENDAR AUGUST 27TH !!!**

- ◆ **OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES**
- ◆ **BLESSING OF THE BACK PACKS**
- ◆ **CHURCH COOK OUT**
- ◆ **SUMMER CHOIR**

Details on page 6

## *A Note from Our Pastor*

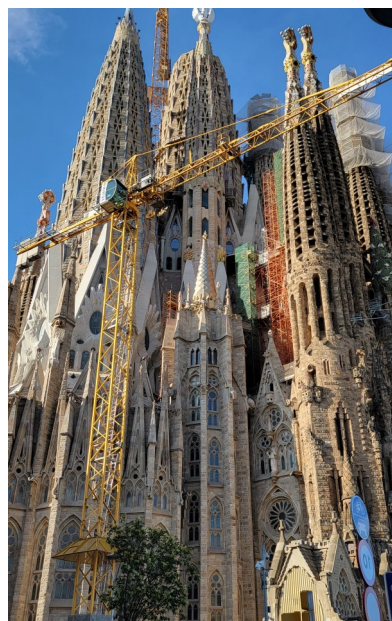
Dear friends in Christ,

As Maria and I fulfilled a lifelong dream of visiting Spain and the homeland of Maria's Father's family, we had many wonderful experiences. Strolling around the streets of Madrid with thousands of others after midnight on a weekday, singing Spanish songs with a famous folk band while touring the best food and drink sights, and we went sailing in the Mediterranean, off the coast of Barcelona. We even took a dip in the sea and then had to swim after our boat, ask Maria about that one.

We also enjoyed the wide variety of foods from tapas (a variety of appetizers served in a series together), to paella (traditional rice dish), to the Spanish love affair with cured ham. And of course, we toured the famous sights like the Prado Art Museum, the Royal Palace of Madrid, and the Alhambra, the great Moorish palace and fortress in Grenada. And as we learned more intimately the history of Spain, we learned of the influence of the world's great religions, primarily Christianity and Islam, and visited their great landmarks as well.

We saw the largest Gothic Church in the world and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cathedral in the world in Seville, and the Sagrada Familia Basilica in Barcelona, when finished, will be the tallest church in the world. These great monuments to the faith with their cruciform shape, stained glass windows, beautiful sculptures, intricate woodwork, are both powerful and beautiful. They are awesome architectural wonders, and the construction of these mammoth buildings takes generations. The Sagrada Familia is still being built and will not be completed, they project, until the 2080's.

I enjoyed traveling through time as we experienced these ancient wonders, but I found it strange that the one I sort of reacted to, was the one that was unfinished, the one that was a "work in progress." Don't you hate it when that word — *unfinished* — gets attached to your projects? A job at home, for example, takes much longer than you planned or expected, and your "work in progress" constantly reminds you of the work still required. These unfinished projects seem to stand in judgment of us, reminding us that while we may have plenty of ideas and ambition, we're not so good with follow-through.



Of course, it's one thing to have unfinished jobs around the house; it's quite another thing to realize how unfinished we are as individuals – how far short we fall of the goal of being the persons God calls us to be. Given that the New Testament uses the word “saints” to refer to living followers of Jesus, we could refer to ourselves as “Saint Tim the Unfinished,” or “Saint Maria the Unfinished”. We sometimes acknowledge that we are works in progress by saying that we are “Christians under construction.” This expression can be useful terminology for letting ourselves off the hook, but it is also a way to express that the Christian life is not an arrival point but a journey.

Paul reminds us in Philippians: “*I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ*”. Paul’s point is, the completion point of our spiritual life is not until the end, and even then, it only comes with God’s help. In the meantime, however, we should not let the spiritual shortcomings in our lives derail us from going on toward perfection in love, from growing in Christ, and gaining spiritual maturity.

In the Philippians passage, Paul goes on to say that his prayer for the believers in Philippi is that their “*love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help them to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ they may be pure and blameless, having produced*

the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God". In other words, by the end of their journey, they will be completed in the full sense, with God's help.

Now Maria and I will not likely live to see the completion of the great church in Barcelona, but we can be certain that Christ will never rest in helping us reach our completion. So, as we continue our faith journeys, no matter where they may take us, let us put our faith in the one who aims to perfect us, and work with him each day to see it to completion.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Tim*





# Children's Ministry News

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

## **JOIN US FOR OUTDOOR WORSHIP ON AUGUST 27**

- ◆ Backpack Blessing
- ◆ Kona Ice Truck Treats
- ◆ BBQ

## **Tuesday LYFE Begins: Tuesday August 29**

All children in grades 2-6 can come for friendship, fun, lessons, activities, games and participation in our Youth Choir on Tuesday afternoons!

## **LCHS SPIRIT DAY: SEPTEMBER 10**

Show your church spirit as we kick-off a new season together!

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS: SEPTEMBER 17**

All children in preschool through grade 6 can enjoy breakout lessons and activities immediately following the children's message during our 9:30 services.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TEACH SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS YEAR!**

Help our youngest members develop their love for God and our church community by being a Sunday School teacher. Have some fun and get to know some great families as a bonus! We host Sunday School during the 9:30 service. Materials and curriculum are provided by Jennifer Williams, our Children's Ministry Director. We typically operate on a rotation so you can expect to teach 1-2 Sundays a month, with flexibility to identify Sundays that won't work for you. We'd love to have the option of splitting our younger and older kids into two classes at times this year, so more volunteers would help us make this happen!

Thank you!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARK YOU CALENDAR AUGUST 27TH !!!**

- ◆ **OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES**
- ◆ **BLESSING OF THE BACK PACKS**
- ◆ **CHURCH COOK OUT**
- ◆ **SUMMER CHOIR**



Please join us for a fun family event on Sunday, August 27. We're planning on lovely weather so we can have one of our popular **outdoor worship services** at 9:30. We'll enjoy a casual service, followed by an **old-fashioned cookout** in the parking lot, You don't need to bring a thing. The menu will include hotdogs and hamburgers with all the sides. There will be activities for the entire family. Returning this year will be the **Kona Ice truck**. We'll proceed, rain or shine, A free will offering will be taken. Looking forward to seeing you then!

Want to help? Please contact Jennifer Williams (jennifer.williamslchschildren@gmail.com) OR Jan Schwanke (bennett95@comcast.net).



## **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

Sunday, **August 27th** at 9:30 AM service.

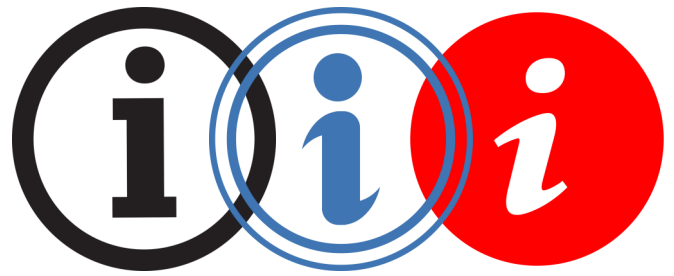
The new school year is almost here! Bring your backpack to church for a special blessing. Teachers should bring their planners, book bags, etc. to receive a blessing, as well.



## **SUMMER CHOIR**

What an amazing job our summer choir has done. There is one more summer choir date and you can still get in on the action. Our last Summer Choir will be on **Aug 27th**. Practice will be at 8:30 before service. Contact Karen Jirsa for more information and come on out for this last chance to sing in the summer choir. kmjirsa@comcast.net





**CHURCH LIBRARY** Did you know we have a church library. Come check it out. You will find many 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.



### LIVE STREAM

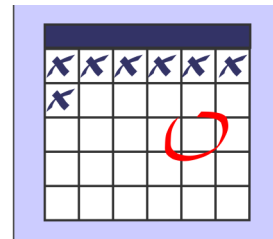
WITH IMPROVED SOUND AND VIDEO QUALITY



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](https://youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspiri6256/streams)

Please reach out to Daaron Dohler or Jeanne Nelson if you have any questions.

### COME HELP OUT



**WORK DAY** August 19th 8 am to 1 pm

### 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.



THE CHURCH COUNCIL DID NOT MEET IN JULY.  
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AUGUST 14TH

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

**Quilters —**

The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00. This month's date is Aug 15th. 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](mailto: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 —**

Thursday Bible Study will not meet during the month of August. Meetings will resume Sept 7th.



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



## CATCHING YOU UP ON THE “CATCH THE SPIRIT” APPEAL

One of the important ways Holy Spirit keeps our ministry growing and accessible to both our congregation and the greater community is by supporting the capital needs of our building through a separate fund. For the 2023 to 2025 time period, we created the “CATCH THE SPIRIT” building fund appeal to support and sustain our ministry for the next three years.



The congregation’s response, since our kick-off dinner for “CATCH THE SPIRIT” on April 22, 2023, has blessed Holy Spirit with the following:

- A total pledge amount of \$289,260, over the next 3 years,
- With a total of 34 members making pledges,
- 16 members increased their pledge in 2023 vs. the prior appeal in 2020.
- 9 pledges came from new members/donors representing 26% of total pledges received.

The total amount pledged, \$289K, is sufficient to pay our monthly interest and mortgage obligation for the 3-year period, but is about \$25K short of prior appeals. For a first and an immediate post COVID appeal when household incomes are being stretched by continuing price increases for almost everything, we have done well to reach \$289K.

A GIANT THANK YOU goes out to all who volunteered in the planning, preparation, and follow through in support of “CATCH THE SPIRIT” and those members examining their finances, praying and making a pledge to support “CATCH THE SPIRIT”!

Al Edwards  
Co-Chairperson  
847-309-0370

Allison Wyrwicz  
Co-Chairperson  
704-491-4446

### 2023 CATCH THE SPIRIT COMMITTEES

LEADERSHIP	COMMUNICATION/ CREATIVE	DINNER/ EVENT	INVITATION SUNDAY	PRAYER
Pastor Tim	Jason Wyrwicz	Jackie Murphy	Barry Nelson	Joleen Gleasman
Daaron Dohler	Jeanne Nelson	Nancy Fencil	Nila Bilstad	Carolyn Raymond
Wayne Giampietro	Mary Lou Gilliam	Ryan Hathaway Kelly Wittich		Carol Duprey

# AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 9:30am Prayer Group	11	12
13	14 7:30pm Council Meeting  VHHS & STV 1st Day Back	15	16  DFHS 1st Day Back	17 9:30am Prayer Group	18	19 8am to 1pm Work Day  
20	21  D109 1st Day Back	22	23	24 9:30am Prayer Group  D103 1st Day Back	25	26
27 Blessing of the Backpacks Service 10:30 am Church Picnic	28	29 4 pm LYFE	30			



- |    |   |     |                                  |                   |                                 |
|----|---|-----|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1- | Patti Schroetter  | 12- | Julie Kasche                     | Rozanna Shambrook |                                 |
| 7- | Al Ohm<br>Helen Sieland   | 13- | Jennifer Prosk<br>Jenny Williams | 24-               | Lisa Ayers                      |
| 8- | Sandy Kalas<br>Karin Leska<br>Kimberly Weller<br>Patrick Cantagallo | 18- | Rob Sieland<br>Ajay Upadhyay     | 28-               | Bruce Leska<br>Andrew Shambrook |
|    |   | 20- | Conrad Dick                      | 30-               | Ruth Ann Grockis                |
|    |   | 21- | Mike Pedersen                    | 31-               | Brian Driscoll                  |

# *HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS*

More information may be found on our website: [www.holyspirit-elca.org](http://www.holyspirit-elca.org)



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

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**