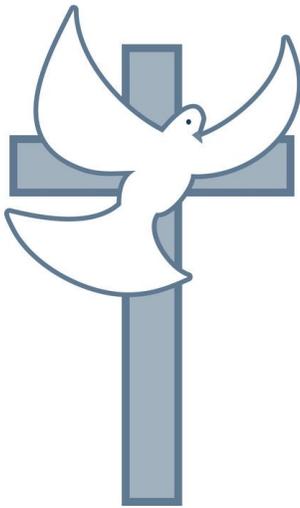


Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069



April 2023

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER



PASSION/PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2 AT 9:30 A.M.

A Sunday morning that begins with Palms and climaxes in the passion of our Lord. Join the choir processions with palms and praises.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6 AT 7:30 P.M.

On this night we hear Jesus' command "Do this for the remembrance of me" and respond by gathering as He did with His disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7 AT 7:30 P.M.

A service that moves from light to darkness as we reflect on the meaning of Christ's last hours and words, His suffering and death.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8—HOLY WEEK CHILDREN'S EVENT AT 11:00 A.M. Meet us in the Atrium for the Easter story and activities followed by an egg hunt!!! Bring your friends!

EASTER MORNING WORSHIP APRIL 9 AT 8:30 A.M. AND 10:45 A.M.

Celebrate the resurrection and the promise of new life.

EASTER BREAKFAST APRIL 9TH AT 9:30—10:30 A.M.

A special tradition at Holy Spirit is the gathering of the community for breakfast between services on Easter morning. You are invited to join us from 9:30-10:30 a.m. It's always an incredible breakfast and a great way to celebrate Easter with your church family.

CHILDRENS EASTER EVENT Saturday April 8 at 11:00am.

We'll share the Easter Story and have an Easter Egg Hunt!



A Note from Our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

As we continue our journey through the season of Lent to that sacred time we call Holy Week, I pray that you will participate as fully as you are able in the life of Jesus and his disciples, as we remember Jesus' celebrated entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the last supper with the disciples on Maundy Thursday, the pain and suffering of the cross on Good Friday, and the glorious resurrection to new life that Jesus brought to all who believe in him on Easter. For many of us, Holy Week is the most powerful week of the year to experience the grace, love, and joy that Jesus has brought to our lives.

In these weeks of Lent, one of the themes that keeps being presented over and over is one of change, and 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 always 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, 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, and 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. May you have a deeply meaningful and transformational Holy Week. Christ is Risen! Our Lord is Alive! Alleluia!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim



Highlights From March 2023

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on March 13th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$18,829 for February (YTD total is \$49,125) Operating expenses were \$33,498 in February (YTD total is \$70,547).

Pastor's report: Pastor Tim reported we will be celebrating 14 new members on March 19th. We still need delegates for Synod Assembly. **Christian Education** reported that Sunday School will possibly split into two groups in the fall. If there is enough interest and volunteers, we might bring back VBS.

CUFF hosted a trivia night. It was a huge success with 43 people in attendance. Easter Breakfast will be organized by Ryan Hathaway and Corey Kalas.

Growth reported we will be a sponsor for the D103 5K. **Human Needs** is collecting items for Housewarming Kits for PADS clients moving into new spaces. Please check the sign up for a list of items.

Property reported that keeping the roof shoveled seems to help with the leaks. D-Wing will be out to repair a trouble spot on the roof and will also do a check of other trouble spots. Corcoran is preparing a schedule for replacing the other furnaces.

Technology reported the laptop used for live streaming was struck by lightning. We are back on Facebook until it is replaced. **Worship and Music** reported the kids are having fun with the Phoenix Choir (formerly known as the Cherub Choir). Lenten services have been well attended. Old Business: 2023 Capital Campaign planning is underway. Volunteers are needed for the 6 committees. **New**

Business: Continuing Resolutions were reviewed. Council also approved continued support for Reconciling in Christ.

Church Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month. Our next council meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2023, at 7:30 PM, and meetings tend to last about 2 hours. All council meetings are open to Holy Spirit members 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.

We want to keep all members updated on our 2023 contributions and expenses throughout the calendar year. We are ever grateful for the faithful donations, both financial as well as time and talent, that allow Holy Spirit to continue our mission serving our members and the surrounding community. As of February 28, 2023, our congregation has given nearly \$50,000 of Benevolence offerings and we've received an additional \$10,000 from groups that use our building for a total operating income of \$60,000. However, our operating expenses through February are just over \$70,000, so we have a negative operating balance of \$10,000. We've also received over \$4,400 in Hunger Offerings which is all donated directly to ELCA World Hunger, COOL food pantry, and the Vernon Area food pantry. Your regular stewardship contributions are vital so we can continue to minister to our congregation, community, and synod. Please contact the church office if you'd like to setup electronic donations through Simply Giving or to make a donation of stock, bonds or other financial securities.

"CATCH THE SPIRIT"

ANNOUNCING THE 2023 BUILDING APPEAL



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

Remember the story Jesus told about the wise and the foolish men who each built their houses on different foundations. One on solid rock and one on sand. Well, 23 years ago a solid foundation was laid and a building addition was built here at Holy Spirit. But it was not just a building. It was a place of mission and ministry. A resource for touching lives, guiding and instructing in the faith, and providing the community with a gathering place for arts, education, fellowship, and so much more.

But just as in all discipleship, there is a cost. So every three years the people of faith at Holy Spirit are called upon to share in the cost of paying for and caring for the holy space God entrusted to us. Between now and May 15, we are going to once again, "Catch the Spirit" of what God has done and will do through our support of the 2023 Building Appeal.

We have learned, over the years, that the success of our past appeals was because we did not just address financial needs, but also celebrated the mission and ministry that Holy Spirit proclaims and does. It is our hope that the "Catch the Spirit" appeal will draw our whole faith community together in worship, prayer, and renewed commitment. As a part of that process we want to invite all our adult members to gather for our "Catch the Spirit" dinner on Saturday April 22 at 6:00 p.m. This year the dinner will take place at the church, so mark your calendars now to set that evening aside.

Just as every member is vitally important to the life of our congregation, please join us in discovering how God is guiding us to use our gifts and resources, as we celebrate and anticipate our church's mission and ministries.

Children's Ministry News

HAPPY SPRING EVERYONE!



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

WE ARE IN THE HOME STRETCH FOR OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING FOR THE YEAR SO LET'S FINISH STRONG.

Sunday School

I'd like to give a huge shout-out to our Sunday School team!

Without their guidance and leadership, dedication and creativity our program would never be so successful.

We need a few new leaders for next year. If you might be interested please let me know. It's a commitment of about once a month and all materials are provided.

Tuesday LYFE

Our dedicated crew of Tuesday LYFE goers has been amazing!

We'll be examining the stories of Jesus healing 10 and Lazarus over the next few weeks.

Our last class celebration will be May 9th.

Confirmation

Celebration of confirmation will be Sunday May 7th.

VBS NEWS

I'd like to revive our VBS program this summer and I need your help! It's set to take place July 31-Aug 4 from 9:00-noon (approx.). In order to make this happen I need commitment from at least 12 adults to assist daily with crafts, games, snacks, set-up and clean-up etc. and 30 children to participate.

I recently sent a survey to families about summer programming needs so please take a minute to fill it out. If you think you can help/participate please email me or catch me in church to let me know. I need commitments by May 1 so planning can take place. Questions? Please reach out.





SYNOD ASSEMBLY
DELEGATES

Holy Spirit will be sending 3 delegates to the Metropolitan Chicago Synod assembly scheduled for Saturday June 3 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. If you are interested in serving our congregation and the synod in this capacity, please see Pastor Tim for more information and registration.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

APRIL 30 — A Sunday of support for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

Sunday, April 30th is "Good Shepherd Sunday" and this year Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) has designated it as a "Giving Sunday" for all their important ministries. One in 30 people in Illinois have been impacted by the services LSSI provides and they are the largest social service agency in the state, currently serving nearly 100,000 people. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, cared for his sheep by feeding them, healing them, and reconciling them to them-

selves, their families, and their communities. Through LSSI, the love of Jesus continues to transform the lives of people in need. We will be taking up a special offering on this Sunday for LSSI, so please consider giving generously to the vital ministries that Lutherans provide for our community.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 4 We will have a special Prayer Worship service to commemorate the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. The Prayer Group and Caring Community Team invite everyone to join in prayer for our nation and all of God's creation on the day when churches across the nation join together to pray for God's mercy, and guidance.



PADS HOUSEWARMING KITS
COLLECTION

PADS provides families in need with food and shelter in their time of need. Their mission is to help those families get back on their feet and

continue living an independent life. Many of the PADS clients move into their new homes with very few personal items. To make this exciting time more enjoyable, we will be collecting NEW items to package as Housewarming Kits. These kits will include a few basic items for the kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom to help the PADS clients create a brighter future for themselves.

How can you help?

Sign up to purchase and drop off new items from the list by visiting www.holyspirit-elca.org/volunteer.

Donate money or a gift card (Target, Walmart or Amazon) and let Kari do the shopping for you. Please label your envelope, "Housewarming Kits," and drop off in the front office or in the donation plate. The end date for this collection has been extended. All items are now due to the church — **Sunday, April 23rd**. If you have any questions, regarding PADS please contact Kari Davenport.

773-844-7542.

karikdavenport@yahoo.com

LCHS WORK DAY There are always cleaning and maintenance tasks that need to be performed at our wonderful facility. But we need everyone to pitch in as they can. Join us on Saturday April 1 between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm and lend a hand. If you're looking for service hours or a family service project, this is a great option.

60th ANNIVERSARY OF LCHS This year we'll be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of our congregation! On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 1963, the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit was officially organized as a congregation of the newly formed Lutheran Church in America. This year on Sunday, May 21st we're planning to celebrate the continuing ministry of our congregation. Please put this date on your calendar, and look for opportunities to participate and volunteer, as we prepare to remember the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a promising future.

Egg Hunt and Family fun for Easter Saturday April 8 at 11:00am. We'll share the Easter Story and have an Easter Egg Hunt!

We need you! It takes a lot of eggs for an egg hunt! Please donate 1 dozen filled plastic eggs to church by April 2nd. There's a box in the narthex for the collection. Fill the eggs with packaged Skittles, Starbursts, M&Ms etc. (no loose candies). Thank you!



EASTER BREAKFAST HELP NEEDED We need 6 people to set up on Saturday, at 12:30 p.m. 10 people to set up and serve on Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10 people to clean up at 10:30 a.m. Sign up in the Narthex or got to this link: Please be generous with your time to make this a huge success. Visit www.holyspirit-elca.org/ volunteer for a link to sign up.

GRADUATION 2023 We would like to rejoice with those members of the congregation who are completing a course of study at the middle school, high school, college or graduate school level. In order to have accurate information about your achievements we would appreciate parents or students filling out the information below and returning it to the church office so that we might publish it in future newsletters.

Name _____

Phone _____

School Graduating From

Degree _____

E-Mail _____

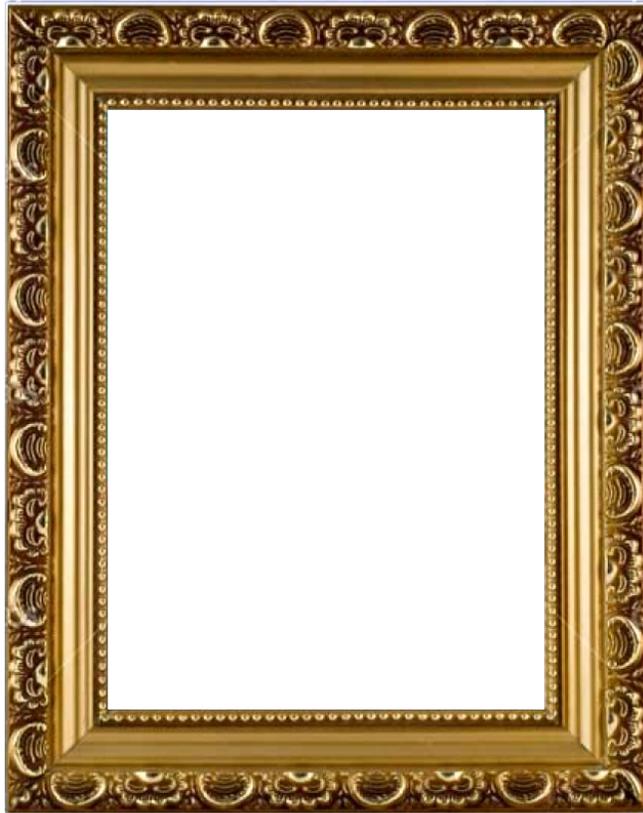
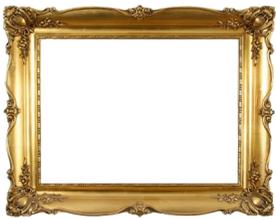
Future Plans _____

You can also e-mail these details to Ciara at lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VBS...yes! July 31-August 4, 9:00-12 noon Plans to bring VBS back are in the works. In order for it to be a success we need you! Please email Jennifer if you'd be willing to lend a hand in any way OR your children will be attending.



What happens when you are too busy having fun at trivia night?



No one remembers to takes pictures for the newsletter.

Over forty members and their guests came out for Trivia Night last month. It was a fun evening and we look forward to next year as we continue this annual fellowship event.

Welcome! new members

On March 19, we were delighted to have a number of new families and individuals join our Holy Spirit family. Please watch for these new members and help them feel welcome.

- ◆ Steve and Emily Adloff, Claire, Camden, Cole
- ◆ Bryan Burseth and Kelley Gyllenhaal Burseth, Jack, Graham
- ◆ Jerry Mason
- ◆ Terry and Sue McCoy
- ◆ Tommy Rudd and Madelyn Kreegier

We also want to recognize those who joined recently and who might not have been recognized due to worship restrictions during COVID:

- ◆ Leo and Sandy Ditewig
- ◆ Joleen Gleasman
- ◆ Steve Linstrom
- ◆ Kate Nack and Jon Nack, Will, Tyler
- ◆ Jill and Pat Pink, James, Samantha, Ali
- ◆ Mike and Katie Tantillo. Jack, Anna, Emily, Lucy
- ◆ Anna Witbeck
- ◆ Trisha Zehner, Austin, Tyler



Quilters

The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30. This month's date is April 18th. No experience necessary to join them.

Meet & Greet

This month's meet and greet will be held on April 23rd following Sunday service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship.

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—

EXPOS will be held on Tuesday April 11th at 10:30am. We are planning on viewing and discussing the movie "The Man Called Otto" this month.



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

Prayer Concerns

We freshen prayer concerns after 3 weeks, so the list remains current. Please remember to email Ciara in the church office at luther-anholyspirit@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! On March 16th, we'll begin a new study on 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.

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://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 —

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



A P R I L 2 0 2 3

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Church Work Day
2 Palm Sunday	3	4 4 pm LYFE	5	6 9:30am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 7:30 pm Good Friday Service	8 Holy Week Childrens Event at 11 a.m. Easter Breakfast Setup at 12;30
9 Easter Sunday Services at 8:30 & 10:45 9:30 Easter Breakfast	10 Office Closed	11 10:30 EXPO 4 pm LYFE	12	13 9:30am Prayer Group	14	15
16	17 7:30 Council Meeting	18 10 am Quilters 4 pm LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	19	20 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	21	22 "Catch the Spirit" Capital Campaign Event at 6:00p.m.
23 Invitation Sunday With Meet & Greet	24	25 4 pm LYFE 4:30 Confirmation	26	27 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	28	29
30 Good Shepard Sunday						



- 10- Greg Olson
- 22- Collin Becker
- Daaron Dohler
- 5- Joel Utterback
- 23- Katie Bittner
- 6- Chris Wittich
- 25- Rory Fencil

FLOWERS & EASTER LILLIES



Each year our sanctuary is made more beautiful by the special gift of flowers in abundance for Easter. You are invited to share in this seasonal beauty by ordering spring flowers to decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning.

Please complete the order form and return with payment of \$20 per plant to the church office. You are welcome to take your flowers home following the second service easter morning.

Name _____

Number of Spring Flowers @ \$20.00 each _____

Email Address _____

Given to the glory of God and in memory/honor of _____

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

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor

Phone: 847-945-1550

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED