



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



September 2021

SPIRIT DAY

We are excited to kick off a new season at Holy Spirit with a "Spirit Day" celebration! After our 9:30 a.m. worship service on September 12 where we'll install our teachers and leaders, we'll gather together for a time of fun and games, refreshments, and fellowship.

We'll also be distributing a calendar for the church year and have Time and Talent forms to fill out, so you can share how you can serve in our various ministries in the coming year.

It's going to be a wonderful, eventful, faith-inspired year at Holy Spirit, and you'll want to be a part of it! Thank you for all you've done in the past year and let's lift each other up to new heights in the year to come.



A Great Start to a New School Year

Kid's brought their backpacks to worship for a special blessing on August 22.



We Crushed It!

Young and old enjoyed a pleasant morning of fellowship and a sweet treat at the Kona Ice Truck. It was wonderful to see familiar faces and catch up with everyone.



A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

As another school year begins amidst concerns about the spread of COVID-19 and its variants, we find ourselves looking for ways to protect ourselves and our children, and to remain as healthy as possible in the face of this ongoing pandemic. We now have vaccines, and wear facemasks, and practice cleanliness to a greater degree. Medical workers utilize PPE gear to protect themselves against various deadly and debilitating enemies to our physical bodies and are always concerned about the shortage of such personal protective equipment in their constant battle against infection. In many ways, you could say that each of us in our own way, are putting on our own suit of armor to protect ourselves from any harm.

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he used the metaphor of putting on the full armor of God to protect believers from the influence of evil in the world. In Paul's day, a suit of armor would strike fear in a first century Christian. A man wearing iron and leather armor with a bronze helmet on his head, a short sword at his waist and a spear in his hand, would be a Roman soldier, and he could walk through a hostile crowd of ordinary citizens, and all would step aside to make way for him. Partly it was because of his armor, and partly it was because of his sharp weapons, but even more than that, it was the authority this man stood for; the authority of the all-powerful emperor in Rome.

And so, Paul does an extraordinary thing. He tells those first century Christians that they too can be equipped with armor. But this armor is not made of leather, or bronze. It's an armor of the Spirit. And he goes on to describe each piece of armor, a belt of truth, a breastplate of righteousness, a shield of faith, a helmet of salvation, and a sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. But what gives the armor even more strength is the authority behind all this PPE. He says, "***Put on the full armor of God...be strong in the Lord and his mighty power.***"



This is a powerful verse, and it's meant to elicit a sense of awe and reverence for the incredible power of God, and, for the power God can work through us. What if, as we prepare for a new day, we were to envision putting on the whole armor of God, protecting us from any fear or doubt or attack? How would that change our day, knowing that we're wearing a suit of impenetrable armor? How would that effect the decisions we make? Would we be bolder and more confident? Or simply more assured and stronger? How might God guide us if we embraced His protection and power?

As we kick-start a new season with a return to many of our programs and missional objectives, I encourage you to participate in the powerful life of our church and share your faith with others. Our church is stronger and more influential as more share their gifts and give of their time. And you have each been called to be a part of what God is doing here.

I also encourage you to protect yourself and others. Even as the apostle Paul believed that he and the church were besieged by spiritual forces, we too, need to be protected from the influences of our age, which sap our spiritual strength, and keep us from protecting others, especially those who cannot protect themselves. So let us "***be strong in the Lord, in the strength of God's power***", knowing that the greatest power in this life comes from God, and not us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim

Quilters

The quilting ministry meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. No experience necessary to join them.

Meet & Greet

We reserve the last Sunday of the month for a special time of fellowship. Please join us on Sunday, September 26 at 9:30 AM as we gather as a family of faith to renew, sustain, and form new friendships.

Prayer Group

Please join us starting 9/9 in the sanctuary every Thursday morning at 9:30 AM. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed.

EXPOS– We're Baaack!

EXPOS is meeting on Tuesday September 14th 10:30AM. Put on your mask (it's required) and come on down to Room 6 for our first meeting in 18 months. Besides getting reacquainted, we need to plan our activities for this year. So, bring your ideas for things to do or see, and let's plan to have some fun this year.

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

The Thursday Bible Study has a long tradition at Holy Spirit, and we will be **returning in-person on September 9th.**

In September we'll start off the year with some material from the ELCA's study on Future Directions entitled, "Called Forward - Together in Christ". We'll consider the goals the ELCA has for the future, along with Bible references, and explore how they relate to our church and our faith lives. No reading ahead required for this unit, just an open mind with thoughts of the future. Join us for a spirited conversation! We always close our time together in prayer.



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

Children's Ministry News

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

Sunday School

Welcome Back! We are so glad to see you!

We are ready to welcome our Sunday School Teaching team with their installation on Sunday Sept. 12 and our "Class of 2021-22" children in class during Education Hour at 9:30 AM on Sept. 19. Please have your kids join us in the Fellowship Hall. We plan on gathering between services on most Sundays after that.

Tuesday LYFE is back in session! Our fantastic group has met a few times for some "Getting to know you" games and songs. Please consider having your child in grades 2-6th join the fun. We meet Tuesdays from 4:00-5:30 PM. Games, lessons, and other activities happen from 4:00-5:00 PM with Jennifer and Youth Choir with Mr. V immediately follows. This is a great way to build strong relationships for your kids. Email Jennifer for a registration link at any time.



Acolyte Training for kids in 5th—8th grade is on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 5:30 PM. This is a great way for our kids to be a part of the worship experience and live their faith.

First Communion Classes are scheduled for Sept. 21 & 28 at 5:30 PM.



Car Wash Kick-Off is on September 26. Bring your buckets and squeegees along with friends for a morning of service (and food sprinkled with fun). Meet in the youth room for breakfast around 8:30 AM and we'll get to car washing throughout services. We need all hands on deck to make this a success, please let Jennifer know you're coming and RSVP with your favorite flavor donut.

Watch Party

Let's meet in the youth room on Sunday October 24 at 10:45AM for a "watch party". Since our services are live streamed, we can watch, chat and snack all at the same time. Save the date!



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|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1- Fred Biederman | 9- Caroline Tagge | 21- Kathleen Tagge |
| 2- Sally Adkisson | Christine Upadhyay | Ryan McElhinny |
| Anneliese Rudloff | 14- Elizabeth Ayers | 22- Luke Davenport |
| Maria Linstrom | Elaine Theiss | Louise Menter |
| 4- Amy Dohler | 17- Gavin Kasche | Donna Williams |
| 6- Brittany Larson | 19- Samuel Prosk | |
| 7- Arnie Bilstad | 20- Rex Roehl | |

Outdoor Movie Night—Sept 24

Save the date for Holy Spirit’s first outdoor family movie night! Bring the family for fun and fellowship at 6 PM, then a box dinner at 6:30 PM, followed by a movie at dusk.

Kids can wear their jammies and munch popcorn under the stars. There will be no charge for the movie, and dinner will be available for a nominal cost. Come for dinner, come for the movie, or come for both! Details to follow in our weekly email updates. Invite your friends!

<h1>September 2021</h1>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6pm Confirmation Parents Mtg	2	3	4
5	6 Church office closed	7 No LYFE or Confirmation	8 7:30pm Choir 8:10pm Bells	9 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	10	11
12 10:30am Spirit Day ELCA Day	13	14 10:30am EXPOS 4pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Acolyte Training	15 7:30pm Choir 8:10pm Bells	16 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	17	18
19 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Svc 9:45am Educ Hour	20 7:30pm Council Mtg	21 10am Quilters 4pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm First Communion Class	22 7:30pm Choir 8:10pm Bells	23 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	24 6pm Outdoor Movie Night	25
26 9:30am Meet & Greet Youth Car Wash 10:45am Quilt Blessing	27	28 10am Quilters 4pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm First Communion Class	29 7:30pm Choir 8:10pm Bells	30 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study		



ELCA Day

September 12 is ELCA Day of Service. In connection with the ELCA's efforts for all congregations to pursue a service activity, we will be collecting school supplies for needy families, with donations going to Fremont Township and Holy Family Ministries. Donations of school supplies (or gift cards) can be dropped off in the narthex on September 12 Day of Service to culminate our school supply drive.

Due to your generosity, we surpassed our goal of 5 Chromebooks!

Live Streaming Worship Services

Do you take a lot of pictures with your cell phone? Do you spend time on YouTube? Are you interested in making movies? Then we'd love for you to share your gifts with us as we begin using our new equipment to live stream our worship services and other events. We have a new camera and video software that's actually a lot of fun to work with, and offers all kinds of creative ways to share our church with the virtual world. If you'd like to join our team please contact Pastor Tim or the church office. **Attention High Schoolers!!** You will be paid \$25 per Sunday for taking on this mission.



ADULT CHOIR and BELL CHOIR RESUMING

Get ready to add your voice or musical talent to our inspiring choirs as we resume rehearsals and performances after a long break. Rehearsals will resume on Wednesdays beginning September 8th. The Adult Choir will meet from 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. and the Bell Choir will begin at 8:10 p.m. Join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord!

Worship Schedule Changes

Through the summer we have had one worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Beginning September 19th, we'll return to our pre-COVID-19 regular worship schedule of two services with our education hour in between. On special event Sundays, we'll have one service at 9:30 a.m. like Spirit Day, Sept. 12, Reformation Sunday, Oct. 31, and Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 14. As things develop we'll continue to make whatever necessary changes are required, and appreciate your flexibility as we work to satisfy all these needs. Join us each week as we celebrate the Lord's Day with faithful, inspirational worship.

8:30-9:30 Holy Communion Service
9:45-10:30 Education Hour
10:45-11:45 Holy Communion Service



church council **MEETING**

Highlights from August 9

The monthly Church Council meeting was held via Zoom on August 9th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$25,753 for July (YTD total is \$266,536) (These amounts include the second PPP loan and Endowment Committee funds for technology). Operating expenses were \$35,110 in July (YTD total is \$239,233).

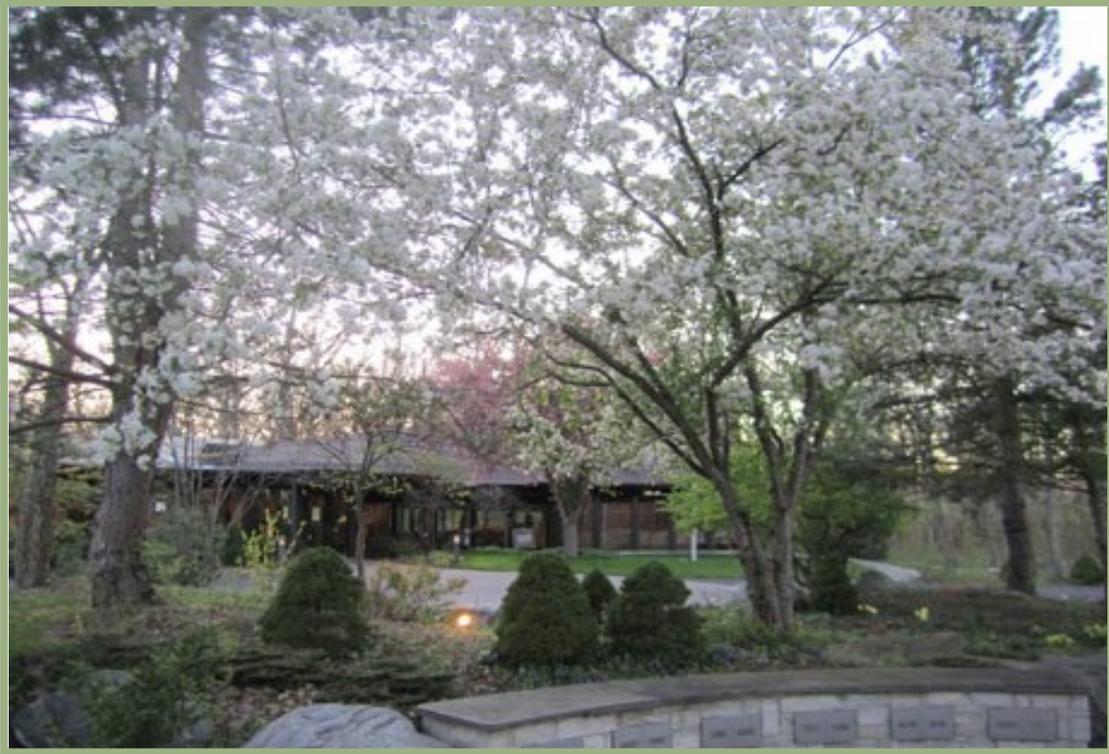
The Pastor's report: Backpack blessing with return to school celebration is August 22. Rally Day with Sunday School kick off is scheduled for September 12. Volunteers are needed to assist with service recording. Camp Lincolnshire has concluded. Lincolnshire Nursery School will resume after Labor Day. Music Institute has resumed building use and lessons, and other approved building uses have commenced. As more activities resume and in-person worship attendance expands, mask recommendations remain in place, and masks are strongly encouraged to protect all, especially our younger members. **Growth** reported that Yard signs and other signage have sparked interest in our congregation and participation in worship and activities. Follow up with new families is underway. **Christian Education** reported that Itty Bitty Bible Camp was a great success and has concluded. Backpack blessing and celebration will include Kona Ice. Tuesday LYFE will resume August 24. Rally Day with Sunday School kick off will be held on September 12, with Sunday School classes resuming on September 19. Outreach to teachers is underway. Jennifer Williams continues efforts to engage youth in activities. **Human Needs** reported on efforts to collect monetary donations with a goal of raising \$1,000 to donate to Holy Family Ministries for the purchase of 5 Chromebooks. September 12 is ELCA Day of Service, and we will culminate a school supply drive. In October we will collect and package college student treat boxes. Planning is underway for the upcoming PADs season. **Stewardship** reported on ongoing plans for the upcoming stewardship program including updated Time and Talent forms; Commitment Sunday will be November 14. The offering envelope order is being planned. **Fellowship** reported on plans for an event on September 25. **Worship and Music** reported that worship service ushers and an altar guild volunteer are needed. Mask wearing at services is strongly encouraged. A Flutopia concert has been proposed for December 18. **Property** reported that the SWALCO textile recycling unit will be installed in a few weeks. Music Institute has returned to the building and will be reminded of building use and security responsibilities. Pest control efforts have been completed. A work day is scheduled for August 28. **Technology** reported that worship services continue to be recorded for the YouTube channel, with the appreciated assistance of Ryan Hathaway. Absent volunteers to record services, individuals will be recruited with compensation. **New Business:** Jan Schwanke has agreed to serve as interim Fellowship chairperson and was appointed to that position. The calendar for the upcoming year was discussed.

Next council meeting is currently scheduled for September 20th 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.

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

September 2021

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED