



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



March 2022

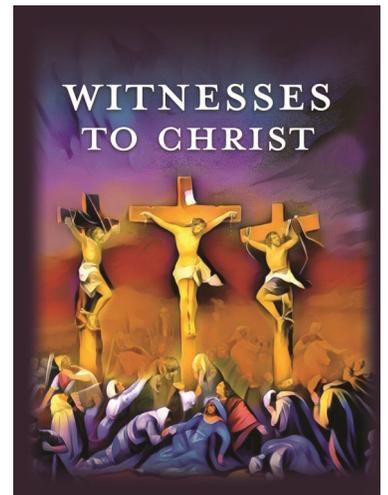
Mid-week Lenten Worship Services

"Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion"

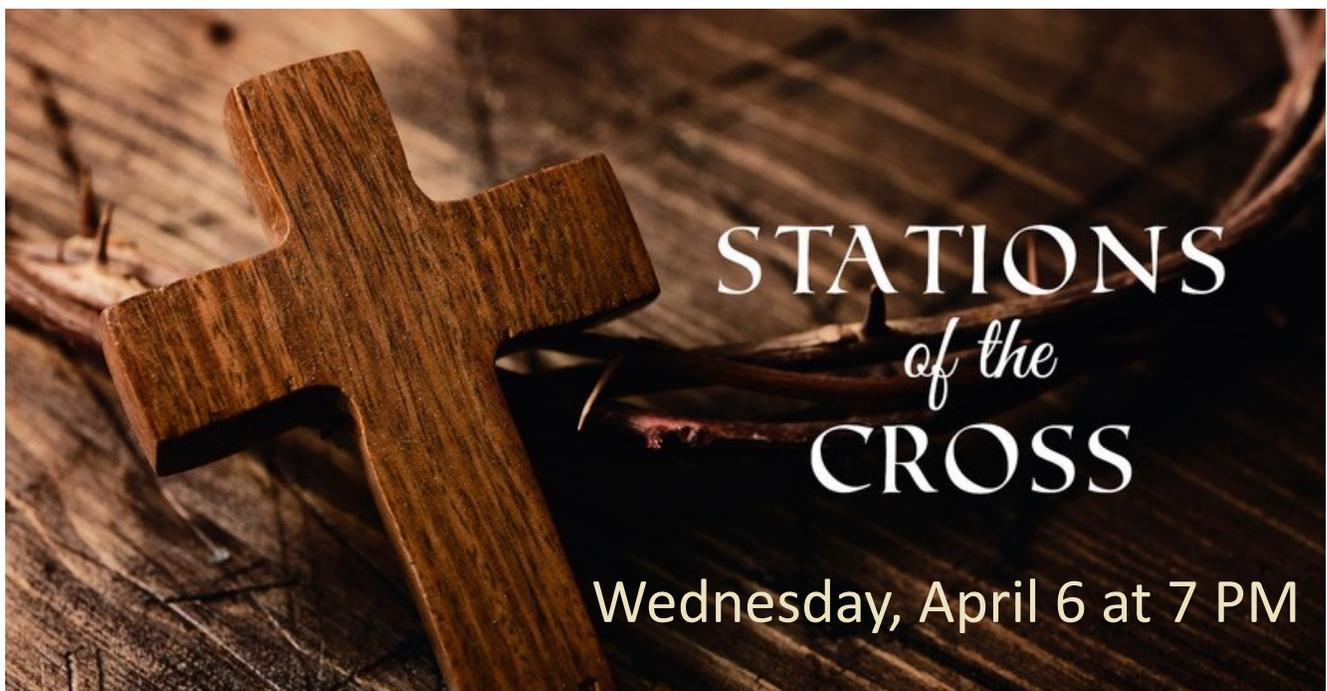
Wednesdays March 9 thru 30 at 7 PM

This year's series paints a stunning portrait of Jesus through the eyes of those whose interactions with Jesus lead us to meditate on His Passion as recorded in the Gospel of John.

Our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those who were present as part of Jesus' journey to the cross. Along the way we'll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, and sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus three times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and others. John tells us he wrote his Gospel, *"so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."* (John 20:30-31)



Join us at 7:00 PM on Wednesday evenings, beginning March 9th, for an encounter with Jesus.



STATIONS
of the
CROSS

Wednesday, April 6 at 7 PM

A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Our Thursday Bible study class has been studying the minor prophets, as they are called, which compose the last twelve books of the Old Testament. It's been eye-opening to see how the prophet's call to repent and return to the Lord from 2,500 years ago is still so relevant today. The same things that draw us away from our commitment to God today, were written about in Biblical times. I guess human nature hasn't really changed that much. People still focus on themselves and their idolatries rather than serving God, and people continue to exploit others and ignore the needy, rather than loving their neighbor as they love themselves.

All of the prophets we've been studying warn of the consequences for turning away from God, the consequences for not remaining obedient to the law, and the outcomes for failing to do this are often quite dire. The prophets don't paint a pretty picture of what will come next. But there's always the opportunity to turn things around, for the prophet's fundamental objective is to reconcile God and mankind. And despite all the potential for ruin and destruction, on the "Day of the Lord", God will restore the people and peace and harmony will prevail.

Like the journey of the Prodigal Son, who after falling away from his Father and failing in his plan to live life on his own terms, decides to return, no matter the consequences. And to his surprise, the Father welcomes him home with a heart filled with joy and celebration.

The prophets, thus, provide us with the guidance we need as we enter into the season of Lent:

“Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.” Joel 2:13

As we look forward to another chapter in the life of our congregation, and in particular to the season of Lent, we will have many opportunities to contribute to our growing and spirit-filled church, and I encourage everyone to get as involved as you are able. I would also like to invite everyone to participate in the spirit of the season of Lent. In observing these 40 days, many have practiced the ritual of “giving up something” for Lent. I have heard of people giving up just about everything; chocolate, red meat, smoking, going to the movies, just about anything has probably been given up for Lent at one time or another. Another recent approach to Lent has been “to take on something” for Lent. Some have taken up devotions or Bible reading, visiting someone who is ill, making time for meditation, or increasing their prayer life.

All these things have merit to them when we connect them to what God is calling us to do and be. Whether we are giving something up or taking something on, there can be benefits, and some may last long past Easter Sunday. So, I invite you to not only consider the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus Christ, but also their implications for practical living. Our Lenten disciplines are not meant to be temporary deletions or additions, but spiritual exercises that may permanently alter us, that we may move closer in conforming to the mind of Christ and be more effective in ministry on behalf of the world.

As an example of a self-reflection or self-examination, I have included in this newsletter some questions that I think should cause us to pause and reflect on our lives, and perhaps consider new ways of believing and serving. I pray that your Lenten journey will be meaningful and life changing, for we all know that new possibilities are always offered to us when we return to the Lord our God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim

Quilters

The quilting ministry meets on the third Tuesday of every month. No experience necessary to join them.

Meet & Greet

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

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. Join us as you are able.

EXPOS—March 8

We will visit the Dunn Museum to tour the museum and view the special exhibit of Ansel Adams' photographs. We will meet at the museum located at 1899 W. Winchester Rd. in Libertyville. Admission is \$1.50 for Lake County Seniors \$3.00 for others, payable at the door. Bring your lunch and we can eat at the museum. There are a few tables in the museum's vending area.

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

This Bible study explores various Christian topics and provides meaningful opportunities to apply scripture to your daily life. We are currently studying a unit on John Goldingay's book on Daniel and the 12 Minor Prophets. We don't often hear as much from the final twelve books of the Old Testament, but Goldingay brings these prophetic words alive with an attentiveness to contemporary life. Join us as we delve into how our faith informs our dealing with the challenges of today. 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 Laurie in the church office at lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com when prayer concerns change or to update your request.



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

We've been in full swing this winter! Our break-out sessions during the 9:30 service have been great. Please continue to join us, we love seeing you there!

Continued thanks to our team of Sunday School volunteers. We couldn't learn about God's Word without you.

Tuesday LYFE

Our group has been diving into Old Testament stories through drama activities. The kids wrote scripts, designed sets and created sound effects for these stories. Our favorites were Joseph and his brothers and Daniel in the Lion's Den. All kids in grades 2-6 can join us any time.

Committee needed:

I'd like to host an Easter family activity on Saturday April 16. I'm looking for a team to make this happen. If you're interested please let me know by March 13. (jennifer.williamslchschildren@gmail.com)

An Irish Blessing

"May God grant you always...

 A sunbeam to warm you,

 A moonbeam to charm you,

 A guardian angel so nothing can harm you.

 Laughter to cheer you,

 Faithful friends near you,

 And whenever you pray, Heaven to hear you."



- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1- Bill Lynn | 8- Robbie Williams | 23- Jeanne Nelson |
| 2- Jonathan Glenner | 10- Lauren Driscoll | 27- Mary Detjen |
| 3- Diane Cloonan | 12- Shirley Lease | 28- Tim Kelley |
| 5- Peter Miller | Lynn Driscoll | 29- Margy Eastmond |
| Phil Spoehr | 19- Chuck Heyward | 30- Payton Adkisson |
| 6- Jodi Dirks | 21- Carmaline Spurrier | 31- Ryan Hathaway |
| 7- Marian McBride | 22- Tom Adkisson, Jr. | |

MARCH 2022

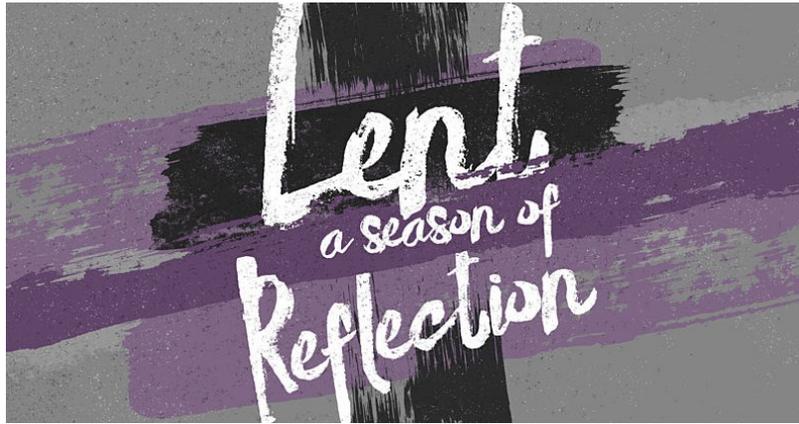
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 4pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm 1st Communion Class	2 7:30pm Ash Wed Svc 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	3 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	4	5
6	7	8 10:30am EXPOS 4pm LYFE 4:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm 1st Communion Class	9 7pm Lent Svc 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	11	12
13 9:30am First Communion	14 7:30pm Council Mtg	15 10am Quilters 4pm LYFE 4:30pm confirmation	16 7pm Lent Svc 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study	18	19
20	21	22	23 7pm Lent Svc 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24 9:30am Prayer Group	25	26 8-1pm Work Day
27	28	29 4pm LYFE	30 7pm Lent Svc 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	31 9:30am Prayer Group 10:15am Bible Study		



Join us as we begin our Lenten journey with the traditional service of ashes. Lent is a time for a probing consideration of our human condition, including sin and its deadly consequences for both individuals and society. It is also a time for an equally intense consideration of the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus Christ and their implications for practical living. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of this journey, as we remember we are dust and to dust we shall return, but also the promise of abundant, everlasting life, as we turn from sin to trust in God.

Watch the LCHS Facebook page for daily Lenten Devotions starting on Ash Wednesday.





SELF EXAMINATION & SELF REFLECTION for the SEASON of LENT

Lent is a time of self-examination where solid spiritual disciplines can become a permanent part of our lives. Rather than just giving up chocolate or adding a Bible reading for six-an-a-half weeks, Lent challenges us to drive deeply into ourselves and ask questions such as these:

- What progress am I making in sharing gladly what I have with others, particularly with the stranger and the poor?
- What attitudes do I convey to those who irritate me? How can awareness of my own need of God's grace enable me to be more gracious to them?
- How has my sense of interconnectedness in corporate worship grown of late, and how can I move ahead in appreciating the contributions and need of other members in the congregation to which I belong?
- Am I as charitable and thoughtful to family members as to others? Or do I "take it out" on my family when life at school or work gets hectic?
- Can I redistribute my long-range personal budget in order to have more money to give away?
- When I hear someone being unjustly maligned, do I speak up to correct the record, or am I a silent accomplice?
- How can I more effectively and consistently support legislation and social programs that help the disadvantaged rather than hurt them?
- In devotional acts of prayer and reading, am I increasing my attention span and discovering new ways of listening rather than of talking, of giving thanks rather than complaining?
- As I uncover and attempt to deal with one level of prejudice in my life, what other levels do I find lurking underneath, and how can I confront them?
- In addition to intercessory prayer, what habits can I develop that allow me to be more responsive to the sick, the distressed, and the bereaved, particularly when the needs emerge suddenly and require immediate attention? Can I plan spaces into my life to allow for such unanticipated opportunities to minister to others?
- Am I, by consistent attendance in worship, a witness to others of the worthiness of the God I follow? Or am I, by more sporadic attendance, suggesting that God is worth serving some times, but not others?

From: "Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church" By: Laurence Hull Stookey



LCHS HELPED VITALANT PROVIDE THE GIFT OF LIFE

The Vitalant Blood Drive was a great success! Thanks to all who participated. LCHS members, along with non-members from the community, donated 19 units, benefitting 57 lives. Anyone interested in donating who was unable to participate on January 30 can contact Vitalant directly by calling 877.258.4825 and provide group code ORDOLS06. Vitalant has asked us to host another drive in August...stay tuned!



Support PADS in 2022

With winter in full swing and people experiencing homelessness in great need, PADS donation drives are ongoing. Many thanks to everyone who generously donated.

Items can be dropped off in the Narthex at any time. Alternatively, donations can be made to PADS' Amazon Wish List (https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK4KVX8VAV3A?ref_=wl_share). PADS has requested specific items for donation to serve individuals receiving emergency shelter. If you are able to help, please consider donating any of the following:

Hand sanitizer

Latex gloves

Jewel, Walmart, and gas station gift cards.

Non-perishable, microwavable meals (Easy Mac, Barilla pasta, Hormel Completes, ramen bowls), bread, peanut butter/jelly, fruit cups (with pull tabs), chips/pretzels/snacks, bottled water

Reusable shopping bags

Men's and women's sweatpants and sweatshirts

To learn more about PADS' current needs, please use the following link: www.padslakecounty.org/in-kind-donations/

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Williams at rdjrwilliams@att.net

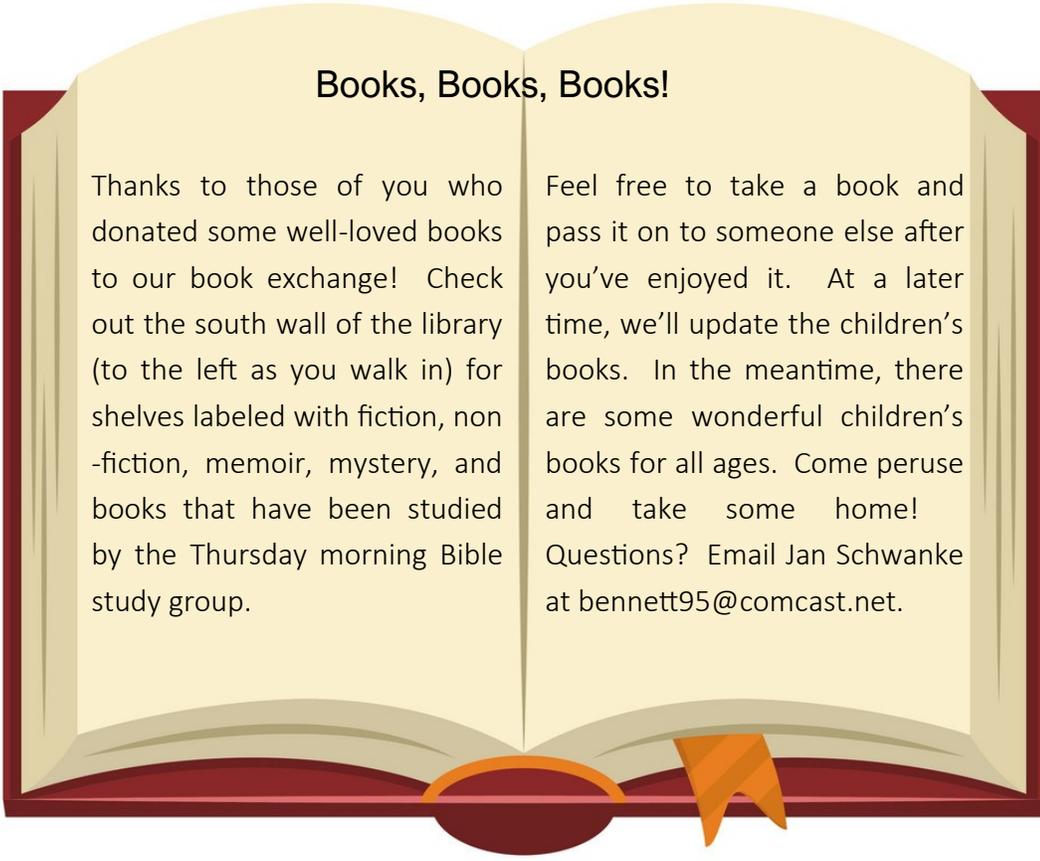


VOLUNTEERS

CALLING ALL HELPING HANDS

Church Work Day

Saturday, March 26 8 AM—1 PM



Books, Books, Books!

Thanks to those of you who donated some well-loved books to our book exchange! Check out the south wall of the library (to the left as you walk in) for shelves labeled with fiction, non-fiction, memoir, mystery, and books that have been studied by the Thursday morning Bible study group.

Feel free to take a book and pass it on to someone else after you've enjoyed it. At a later time, we'll update the children's books. In the meantime, there are some wonderful children's books for all ages. Come peruse and take some home! Questions? Email Jan Schwanke at bennett95@comcast.net.

Congrats to our kids for a fantastic Youth Sunday! They did an awesome job! Thanks to your generosity we were able to raise about \$800 for World Hunger!

CELEBRATING OUR KIDS!





church council MEETING

Highlights from February

The monthly Church Council meeting was held via Zoom on February 14th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$34,909 for January (YTD total is \$34,909 (including a transfer from the Building Fund for furnace repairs)). Operating expenses were \$46,237 in January (YTD total is \$46,237).

The Pastor's report: Youth programming and involvement has been exceptional, including a Confirmation retreat and Youth Sunday, and other youth involvement in church activities. Event services with a single service on Sundays, such as Youth Sunday and Jazz service are proceeding very well and have been well received. One service at 9:30 on Sundays will continue. Lenten services will begin in-person in March, with in-person Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. Meet and greets will resume on the final Sundays of the month, beginning this month on February 27, Jazz Sunday and Mardi Gras. Plans are underway for Easter brunch. **Christian Education** reported that Youth Sunday was well-attended and very successful. Mardi Gras activities will be February 27, and children's and youth choirs will sing during Jazz service. First Communion classes are scheduled. Sunday school and LYFE are proceeding very well. Thursday Bible Study continues. Plans for a springtime Mental Health First Aid program are underway. **CUFF** reported on ideas for monthly fellowship activities in 2022, beginning with a trivia and wine night. **Finance** reported that the line of credit renewal process is underway, and signature cards for accounts are being finalized. **Growth** reported that Jen will send written notes to new families, including families who celebrated baptisms. Jen provided increased signage for the Blood Drive and included an announcement in the D103 newsletter. Handwritten cards are being prepared to reach out to members and congregants. Jen is working on Holy Week-related signage. **Human Needs** reported that the Vitalant Blood Drive proceeded on January 30; 19 units were collected, benefitting 57 lives, and many non-members donated. Vitalant was very pleased and inquired about a future drive during the summer; Donna will discuss a late August date with Vitalant. PADs donation drives are underway with many members generously donating items, which Donna has delivered to PADs. PADs donation drives and deliveries will continue in March. **Long-Range Planning** reported that focus group meetings are being conducted, collecting feedback about church mission, engagement, activities, and enhancements. Daaron will prepare a Survey Monkey survey for consideration. **Property** reported that Joel spoke with the company that had approached us about a cell phone tower, but the company representative indicated that opposition in the village calls the plans into doubt. LCNS has spoken with Joel about one of the women's bathrooms; Joel has concluded that there does not appear to be any safety issues, and he is working on addressing any necessary repairs. LCNS has raised concerns about cleaning services. The current cleaning lady has become unreliable, missing many days; we are looking at solutions, including possible replacement or an additional cleaning service provider. Joel has spoken with several providers for quotes. Joel has a locksmith coming in to look at the front door. A work day has been scheduled for March 26. **Technology** reported that a HS sophomore and potentially his father who have volunteered to help us with Sunday morning live-streaming of our services. Jeanne is becoming fluent in the software required to run the camera and stream to YouTube. Jeanne's goal is to live-stream the Easter service. A need for large screen TVs for use in the narthex and for the HS Youth Group has been identified, and the Endowment Committee will be approached. **Worship and Music** reported that choir has resumed and that we have returned to having regular Communion. Patrick Cantagallo has been working on putting music together for Jazz Sunday. Nancy will need assistance with Facebook livestreaming in March. **Old Business:** Sanctuary Floor Repairs continue to be assessed, with due regard being given to cost and member support considerations. The Building Fund potentially could provide some funding towards the repairs. Temporary, smaller scale repairs such as patching also are under consideration. **New Business:** A summertime Council gathering in lieu of the traditional March dinner might be held.

Next council meeting currently is scheduled for March 14th 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

March 2022

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



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
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Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor
Phone: 847-945-1550

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED