
Pastor's Page

Advent - time to reflect!

How many shopping days are left until Christmas? That's what most people are asking at this time of the year!

Personally, I don't care how many shopping days are left since I tend to have my Christmas shopping done far in advance.

It's unfortunate that shopping has become the focus for Christmas. We see Christmas merchandise before Halloween! Thanksgiving has been lost!

While the focus for the secular world is shopping, for Christians it is preparing & waiting! Advent is a season of waiting. We hear it in the Sunday readings each of the 4 Sundays in Advent.

We hear about John the Baptist, Mary (imagine her anticipation) and of course, the prophets.

What are we waiting for? Why Jesus, the Christ, of course!

But are we only waiting for December 25th because then we can let loose, celebrate, open gifts, eat too much. Or are we waiting not only for his 1st coming, but his imminent return?

For Advent is so much more than preparing and waiting for that baby in a manger. Advent is preparing and waiting for his return at the end of the age.

Do we prepare for this event in our daily lives, or do we just go along with the world and expect only a little baby? Where are our hearts when it comes to Christ's return? Are we ready or not?

My hope for the people who call Holy Spirit Lutheran Church their home is that we are ready! That we are waiting expectantly for Jesus to come again. That we slow down during this season of hope to prepare our hearts and minds for his return.

I found a wonderful Advent resource on the ELCA Website, elca.org, that I shared with Council on November 19th.

Six ways to find peace this Advent

- 1. Carve out time to read devotions.**
- 2. Say "no."**
- 3. Try alternative worship services.**
- 4. Explore mindful movement.**
- 5. Limit social media.**
- 6. Focus on presence, not presents.**



Congregational Life

Men's Group Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 pm



Meetings for the Men's Group are held the first Tuesday of each month.

In December we're meeting at Dave & Amy's in Walled Lake.

Please consider joining the men of the church for great burgers, fun and lively conversation.

WELCA Advent Tea Sunday, December 8, 4:00 pm *(For all women of Holy Spirit and their guests)*



This is the perfect start to the Advent season. Consider hosting a table!

Please see the bulletin board and sign up to host a table or provide refreshments.

Christmas Carol Sing-Along Wednesday, December 11 7:00 pm



Featuring special musical guest, Harpist Chanah Ambuter. We hope you'll join us.

Please see the bulletin board to help out with light refreshments following the singing.



Sunday, December 15, 10:00 am

Please see the bulletin board to sign up to bring cookies, juice, and milk following the play.

Women of the ELCA Christmas Party & White Elephant Gift Exchange

Thursday, December 19, 5:30 pm

*Hosted by
Nancy Fish & Nancy Green*



WELCA is collecting supplies for personal hygiene bags that will be donated as part of their community outreach programs.

Please see the bulletin board for the supply signup sheet

Christmas Eve Worship Services



**Monday, December 24
at 5:00pm & 9:00 pm**

Join us as we sing, worship and celebrate Christ's birth.

**Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, December 1 (following worship)**



The Altar Guild will be decorating the church for the holiday season on Sunday, December 1 following worship.

Please join us in decorating our lovely worship space for the Advent and Christmas Season.

If you are interested in helping, please stay afterwards to assist! Lunch will be provided by the Altar Guild.



Poinsettias for Christmas

Poinsettias are available for purchase to adorn our sanctuary on Christmas Eve.

Please sign up on the bulletin board by Sunday, December 15.

Plants may be taken home after the 9:00 PM service on Tuesday, December 24

Please support our



We're collecting food for 10 families and are looking for donations of the following:

- Turkeys, Dressing, Gravy
- Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Bath Tissue, Facial Tissue
- Potatoes, Onions, Carrots
- Canned Vegetables
(no green beans / corn needed)
- Canned Fruits
- Cheese, Eggs & Butter
- Cereal, Bread, Honey

If you're donating a turkey, please sign up on the bulletin board and place the turkey in the refrigerator or freezer at church.

Bring your donations to church by 10:00 am on Saturday, December 21. We'll be sorting the food that day.

Food Pickup is Sunday, December 22 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm.

Please speak with Nancy Green or Hilda Sawicki if you have questions.



December 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Advent I Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Hanging of the Greens N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am Men's Group 6:30pm	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i> Book Club 7:00 pm	A.A 7:30pm	Euchre Group 6:30pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Advent II Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Advent Tea 4pm N.A. 7:30pm		Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	 Christmas Carol Sing-Along 7:00 pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Advent III Choir 8:45am Worship 10am  N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i> Finance Meeting 7pm	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am Council Meeting 7pm	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	WELCA Christmas Party & White Elephant 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i> Christmas Food Donations Sorted
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Advent IV Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	 Christmas Eve Worship 5pm 9pm	Christmas Day 	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
1 Christmas Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	New Year's Eve Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	New Year's Day	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>

Worship Assistants

12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
Lector & Greeter Lorry Prus	Lector & Greeter Barb Kunkel	Lector & Greeter Carole Salowich	Lector & Greeter Stan Samuelsen	Lector & Greeter Emilie Samuelsen
Ushers Dan Bergman George Kuljurgis Andy Meyer Bob Frick	Ushers Dennis Kunkel Doug Opthoff Bill Thayer Tom Sweda Bob Burns	Ushers Jarrod Dexel Jeff Parko Stan Samuelsen Lukas Mattern Roy Salowich Tim Moore Greg Wolenberg	Ushers Janet Martin Mary Martin Hilda Sawicki Jeanne Myers	Ushers Dan Bergman George Kuljurgis Andy Meyer Bob Frick
Counters Janet Martin Mary Martin	Counters George & Chris Kuljurgis Jeanne Myers <i>or</i> Sandy Thayer	Counters Nancy Green Barb Kunkel	Counters Stan Samuelsen Andy Meyer	Counters Dan Bergman Marian Rowland
Altar Flowers Fodor	Altar Flowers Myers	Altar Flowers Martin	Altar Flowers Kern	Altar Flowers Dziuba
Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>	Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>	Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>	Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>	Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>
Sanctuary Candle The Sweda Family and The Kuljurgis Family				
Altar Guild Ruth Dziuba				



Greg Wolenberg 12/4
 Tina Green 12/5
 Will Lawson 12/5
 Dustin Dronsella 12/11
 Lukas Mattern 12/12
 Richard Clark 12/14
 Mike Julius 12/14
 Sheperd Kern 12/14
 Cindy Ward 12/16
 Laura Lawson 12/17
 Bill Fodor 12/21
 Chris Chiaravalli 12/26
 Rita Julius 12/26
 Sue Fodor 12/29
 Annika Mattern 12/29
 Quinn Rand 12/30
 Weston Rand 12/30

Craig & Jenny Rand
 December 1

Mark & Kim Filipp
 December 3

Russ & Lorry Prus
 December 4

John & Ruth Dziuba
 December 27

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
4800 Orchard Lake Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48323
248-682-5441

spiritdrivenchurch.com
fb.com/spiritdrivenchurch

Worship 10:00 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
(September – June)



Pastor
Rev. William J. Matlack
Mon. – Thurs. (10:00 am – 1:00 pm)

Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Brouillette
M – W – F (8:30 am – 1:30 pm)



President
Norm Werner



Music Staff
Bonnie Sweda, Musician
Kelly Perrin, Choir
Heinz Mattern, Handbells



Featuring special musical guest,
Harpist Chanah Ambuter



Worship with us 5:00 pm | 9:00 pm.

A Monthly Publication of



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
4800 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323
A Caring Community of Faith

Our Mission:
We are CALLED by Christ in Baptism,
GATHERED into community
and SENT out to share God's grace.