

PASTOR'S PAGE

"We're at a Crossroads!"

"Where there is no Vision, the People Perish!" (Proverbs 29:18)

January 2020! Who would have ever believed we'd be in this year? Not me! I would never have fathomed it 50 years ago.

If you're of a certain age, over 50 that is, where were you 50 years ago? I was 12 years old, turning 13 in July. I was getting ready to celebrate my Confirmation with 41 other young people at Parma Lutheran Church, Parma, Ohio.

At that time Parma Lutheran was one of the largest ALC churches in Cleveland, with two other churches, Divinity, Parma Heights and Triune, Broadview Heights, birthed from it.

We had two Worship Services with two concurrent Sunday School hours. The Pastor who Baptized me and would soon Confirm me was celebrating 20+ years there.

Between 1950 and 1960, Parma's population soared from 28,897 to 82,845. By 1956, Parma was unchallenged as the fastest growing city in the United States. The population peaked in 1970 at 100,216. Parma was still the fastest growing suburb in Ohio

How about West Bloomfield? What was going on here? The Population was 28,000 (by 1980 it was 41,000). (Detroit proper had 1.5 million). 2019, the population of WB is around 65,000.

West Bloomfield High School Opened and Holy Spirit Lutheran began! The first Worship at Green School was January 11 and by October the first building was opened and the Charter had 140+ names.

So, what about now? Where is Holy Spirit now? Well, that's a really good question! On the rolls we have 200+ baptized. Our Worship attendance is somewhere between 50 & 60.

What does this mean? We are at a crossroads! At the Annual Meeting on January 26 you will hear about a VISIONING TEAM that I am going to lead. We must take bold steps if we are to be a congregation in 2020 and beyond!

Please pray for this new Ministry Team as we move toward the future!



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

MEN'S GROUP MEETS TUESDAY, JANUARY 7 @6:30 PM



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

In January we're meeting at CJ's Brewing Company, 8115 Richardson Rd. in Commerce.

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

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY MEETS TUESDAYS @10:00 AM



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets each Tuesday in the Coffee Hour area. Please join us and bring a project to work on or we can supply you with yarn to make a prayer shawl.

We continue the fellowship by going out to lunch afterwards. Please think about joining us!

DINNER WITH FRIENDS FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 @6:30 PM

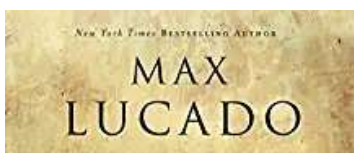


Dinner With Friends is a fun evening of dining out with others from our congregation.

January's restaurant is 5th Tavern, 2262 S Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills.

There is a sign up sheet posted and we hope you will join us. Any questions, please talk to Ruth Dziuba.

NEW ADULT STUDY BEGINS THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 @10:00 AM



LIFE LESSONS from
MATTHEW



WOMEN OF THE ELCA MEETS THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 @6:00 PM



WELCA meets the third Thursday of the month for dinner, with meetings following if needed. Please see the bulletin board to sign up.

WELCA is open to all women of Holy Spirit, so please think about joining us!

BOOK CLUB MEETS THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 @7:00 PM



The book club selection for January is *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee.

The Book Club meets the fourth Thursday evening of the month, except in December.

If you have questions or would like to join, contact Mary Martin.

UN HANGING OF THE GREENS
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 (following worship)



If you are interested in helping, please stay afterwards to assist!

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE

Throughout the year we offer the opportunity to dedicate Sunday altar flowers or the sanctuary candle in memory or in honor of a special occasion, anniversary, or loved one. Dedication text is printed in our weekly bulletin. Altar Flowers are \$20.00 per week and Candles are \$10.00 per month. Please BE SURE to include in whose memory or honor the flowers or candles are given, or the event you wish to celebrate on the specially marked payment envelopes. Both the altar flower and sanctuary candle charts are on the bulletin board outside the church office.

SUNDAY COFFEE HOURS

Everyone is invited and always welcome to join us after Sunday services for refreshments and fellowship. This is a great chance to mingle, meet new people, or just relax with friends. To volunteer for this fun ministry, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 (FOLLOWING WORSHIP)



Volunteers are needed. Please sign up if you plan on attending and also to help with this event.

HOLY SPIRIT: A PRAYING COMMUNITY

As you pray throughout your days please include...

Throughout National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, remember in prayer the men, women and children who are victims of this global tragedy, which disproportionately affects women and girls. Pray for an end to human trafficking and that all who suffer its abuse, injustice and oppression may find freedom, support, healing and safety, especially in our communities of faith.

Pray for people who struggle with substance abuse and addictions and for those who are working to rebuild their lives and relationships through sobriety and the support of companions who understand the challenges of recovery. Pray that they will have faith in God's unwavering love and forgiveness in moments of despair, joy, accomplishment, weakness and stumbling.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Give thanks for saints, martyrs and leaders, throughout history and today, who have dedicated their lives to racial justice, equality for all people and an end to racism and discrimination, and who stand with the neglected or weary. Pray that our actions, words and service for the sake of our neighbor will be inspired and guided by the witness and example of these bold leaders.

Pray for the leaders of every nation, including our own, that they will heal long-standing and recent rifts, pursue just and peaceful agreements and solutions for the well-being of the people they serve, and share resources to relieve hunger and poverty everywhere, without concern for profit or gain for any single nation.

Ask God to help us actively mend the suspicion and hatred in our nation and around the world that divide us, frustrate compassion and generosity, and undermine our understanding of how to live in community. Pray that where we are broken or in conflict, God will show us how to be whole.

Pray the coming year will be a time of outreach. Lift up the efforts of Holy Spirit to become a presence in the community. For the end of war and for dignity and justice for all people, and working for peace and reconciliation among the nations. For the unemployed and the homeless. For families in crisis; and for all God's children who are hungry, homeless, ill and lonely.

JANUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Epiphany Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Unhanging of the Greens N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am Men's Group 6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Dinner w/ Friends 6:30 pm A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Baptism of Our Lord Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	WELCA 6:00 pm Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i> Euchre Group 6:30 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2 Epiphany Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School 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	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i> Book Club 7:00 pm	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
3 Epiphany Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Annual Meeting N.A. 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A 7:30pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26
Lector & Greeter TBD	Lector & Greeter TBD	Lector & Greeter TBD	Lector & Greeter TBD
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	Ushers Janet Martin Mary Martin Hilda Sawicki Jeanne Myers
Counters Nancy Green Barb Kunkel	Counters Mary Martin Janet Martin	Counters Dan Bergman Marian Rowland	Counters Stan Samuelsen Andy Meyer



Janet Martin	January 4
Craig Rand	January 7
Joan Thralow	January 9
Alex Casagrande	January 10
Beverly Bartlett	January 12
Alayna Rozman	January 12
Hans Grabenstein	January 13
Bob Chiaravalli	January 15
Roger Herrington	January 15
Anna Grabenstein	January 18
Meghan Buckler	January 19
Gary Gates	January 22
Don Frayer	January 24
Hilda Sawicki	January 25
Chris Yohn	January 29
Sally Cossin	January 30
Dale Mellema	January 30



Ralph & Nancy Green	January 2
Al & Kay Grabenstein	January 19
Chris & Nicole Yohn	January 19

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

Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Brouillette



President
Norm Werner



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

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 (FOLLOWING WORSHIP)



A Monthly Publication of



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

Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry

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