

Spirit Monthly
Newsletter
July 2025

Holy Spirit
Church Council

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Bob Frick

Vice President:
Melinda Kern

Secretary:
Gina Carson

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Melinda Kern

Worship & Music:
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Congregational Life:
Ruth Dziuba

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Evangelism &
Social Ministry:
Bob Frick
Gina Carson

Health & Wellness:
Leo Szalma

Stewardship & Finance:
Stan Samuelsen

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Sabbatical!

I thought it would be a good thing to share with everyone about my upcoming mini Sabbatical.

I will be going to Cleveland on August 1 to attend my 50th High School Reunion.



On August 5, I travel to Baltimore to attend the Network of Biblical Storytellers International Conference. The NBSI is an ecumenical organization whose mission is to encourage everyone to learn and tell biblical stories. Over the last 40+ years, several thousand members have supported this mission.

NBSI members include laity and clergy, educators and learners, professional storytellers, and inexperienced amateurs—all with a deep love of biblical stories and curiosity about how they may have been told. Dr. Tom Boomersshine is the founder and author of several books including, *“Story Journey, An Invitation to the Gospel as Storytelling”*.

After the Storytelling Conference, I return to Cleveland to spend time with my sister, Sandy.

Then in mid-August, I travel to Texas to visit my family. I will be back at HSLC on Tuesday, August 26 to prepare for Sunday, August 31.

FYI: Model Congregational Sabbatical Policy Southeast Michigan Synod

It is important for both the congregation and the rostered leaders (pastors, associates in ministry, and diaconal ministers) to realize the importance of the leader's life-long continuing education through workshops, seminary courses and personal study. We have long been encouraged to provide time and financial assistance to enable pastors and other rostered leaders to maintain and improve their skills.

From time to time, however, it is very beneficial to the pastor, associate in ministry or diaconal minister and the congregation for there to be an extended period of time for study, personal growth and renewal without the demands of daily parish responsibilities. That extended time is called a sabbatical. Experience has shown that the congregation's ministry directly benefits from such study, growth, and renewal. Long-term ministry is revitalized and stimulated. The congregation, as well as the rostered leader, benefits from implementing a sabbatical policy.

Purpose

A sabbatical leave is granted to provide an opportunity for a rostered leader to take an extended period of time for renewal, enrichment, study, spiritual growth, travel, skill development and research. A sabbatical may be taken after every 5 full years of service in the present call.

Duration

- A sabbatical will normally be for three months (including the two continuing education weeks normally granted).
- Vacation is not included as sabbatical time.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

- Adult Basic Yoga Class with Instructor Tina Green meets Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Please bring a yoga mat for floor poses. The fee per class is \$5.00.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry meets Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Join us and bring a project to work on. The fellowship continues as we go out to lunch afterwards.
- Join us for a Congregational Picnic on Sunday, July 6 following worship celebrating both Pastor's birthday and Independence Day.
- Men's Group Dinner is Tuesday, July 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Red Olive (West Bloomfield). Signup posted.
- Dinner With Friends is at the Deer Lake Inn in Clarkston on Friday, July 11 at 6 p.m. Signup posted.
- WELCA Potluck Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, July 17 at 5 p.m. in the Coffee Hour area. All ladies of the church are invited. Signup posted.
- Book Club meets Thursday, July 24 at 7 p.m. to discuss "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano. Contact Janet Martin if you'd like the book.

JULY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Pr. William Matlack	04
Kim Wolenberg	04
Donna Opthoff	06
Braxton Kern	11
Philip Kuljurgis	13
Laura Bergman	17
Dennis Kunkel	20
Garrett Kern	21
Mimi Curlee	22
Gary Figi	25
Jean Samuelsen	28
Brian Welch	30
Sandy Thayer	31

ANNIVERSARIES

Doug & Donna Opthoff	14
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If you or your family member is missing from our lists or the date shown is incorrect, please contact the church office.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

JULY 6	JULY 13	JULY 20	JULY 27
Reader/Greeter: Doug Opthoff	Reader/Greeter: Liesa Helfer	Reader/Greeter: Norm Werner	Reader/Greeter: Bob Frick
Ushers: Andy Meyer Bob Frick	Ushers: Dennis Kunkel Doug Opthoff	Ushers: Stan Samuelsen Lukas Mattern Roy Salowich	Ushers: Janet Martin Hilda Sawicki Melinda Kern
Counters: TBD	Counters: Andy Meyer Stan Samuelsen	Counters: TBD	Counters: Janet Martin

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Independence Day AA Meeting 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba</i> 9:30 a.m.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Choir (Break) Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. Men's Group Dinner 6:30 p.m.	Handbells (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Dinner w/ Friends 6 p.m. AA Meeting 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba</i> 9:30 a.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Choir (Break) Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School (Break)	Finance Committee <i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. Council 7 p.m.	Handbells (Break)	WELCA Potluck Dinner 5 p.m. <i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba</i> 9:30 a.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Choir (Break) Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells (Break)	Book Club 7 p.m. <i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba</i> 9:30 a.m.
27	28	29	30	31		
Choir (Break) Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells (Break)	<i>Zumba</i> 6:30 p.m.		



YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!

Join us for worship, study,
and activities.

WORSHIP SERVICE

10 a.m. Sunday

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:45 a.m. during the school year

CONTACT US

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Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
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Rev. William J. Matlack, Pastor

MISSION STATEMENT

*We are CALLED by Christ in our Baptism
GATHERED by the Holy Spirit to celebrate God's
grace in our midst SENT to share God's blessings
in our community and beyond.*

