



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
4800 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield MI 48323
A Caring Community of Faith
Celebrating 50+ Years of Ministry

The Spirit

June 2021

Pastor's June Article

Many years ago, in 2002, I was able to visit Falling Water, the Frank Lloyd Wright home, built in 1936-39 for the Kaufman Family (of Kaufman's Department Stores). I had always wanted to see this architectural prize & I must say I was not disappointed! It is awesome! It certainly is a testament to God's natural beauty & the talents God gives to people.



Pastor Bill Matlack

When the Kaufmans asked Frank Lloyd Wright to design their home, they expected it to be built near the waterfall. He had other ideas. He had it built on the waterfall! His vision certainly demonstrates that often we don't see the potential of what is available to us.

As I viewed this magnificent structure, incorporated as one with nature, I couldn't help but think of the Church I was serving at the time, "Rejoice! Lutheran" in Hudson, Ohio.

I posed these questions: Where is God leading us? Where will we be in five years, ten years, 50 years? Is God's vision, our vision? Are we willing to change our ideas & thoughts to be open to God's leadings?

I could ask the same for Holy Spirit Lutheran. Are we allowing the Spirit to lead us?

This past year has been a tough one with COVID. I feel that many of our people have been disengaged from the Church.

On May 23, we had our first Inside Worship in over 14 months! I was very excited that we could once again gather together. I was pleased with the participation!

As we move forward in our "Post-COVID" (HOPEFULLY) world, may we continue to move forward and grow as God's people of faith!

Notes on After Lunch Presentations at Synod Assembly 2021

The next Synod Assembly is scheduled for May 13-14, 2022 at the Blue Water Convention Center in Port Huron unless it is necessary to have a virtual assembly.

Holy Spirit was the first church mentioned in the anniversary presentation for 50 years. We should receive a certificate from the Synod.

There were presentations on programs in the Synod and in Global Outreach: Genesis Hope in Detroit works on housing for the poor; Fed Up at King of Kings in Ann Arbor provides food for the needy; Micah 6 in Pontiac serves the poor community there; and Bridges Not Walls works in Jerusalem providing health care among other things.

The profits from the Mission Investment Fund do ministry here in the United States. Portico Benefit Services provides financial counseling, college scholarships and mental health counseling, both in person and online.

Programs in 2020: The Southeast Michigan Synod gave \$382,000.00 in Mission Support; the entire church gave \$40,000,000. 96% of the money was used for call committees, growth services, missions abroad and other was to grow the church.

\$1.8 million was received for COVID relief with \$800,000 given out in grants to help communities. Love Rising and Grace and one other whose name I lost in Detroit, Genesis Hope and Micah 6 in Pontiac, Salem Lutheran in Flint all received grants. Salem Lutheran developed a public health navigator program; Love Rising and Grace set up internet hot spots to help students with remote learning where children had no other way to attend school. Micah 6 developed and ran a food program providing over 5,000 bags of fresh produce to the needy in Pontiac.

ELCA World Hunger spent \$24.4 million around the world to combat hunger. Six programs in our area received funding from ELCA World Hunger.

Lutheran Disaster Response spent 11 million; \$5 million in the U.S. and \$6 million world-wide. Missionary work proceeded in Jerusalem and Tanzania.

New start grants in the Southeast Michigan Synod went to King of Kings in Ann Arbor, Wayne State University and University of Michigan Dearborn for campus ministry. Four scholarships for seminary were granted. Six churches received money from Open Doors to grow their membership.

The morning consisted of voting on minor vocabulary changes in documents, i.e. changing "synodical" to "synod," and reviewing and voting on the next year's budget and voting for people on councils and committees.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Dziuba

**ADULT BASIC YOGA FLOW
MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9 am**



Simple basic poses with on-hand modifications available.

Geared toward developing a yoga practice that does not intimidate.

Bring a yoga mat for floor poses. \$4.00 per class. Tina Green is the Fitness Instructor.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
MEETS TUESDAYS @ 10 am**



We meet in the Coffee Hour area.

Join us and bring a project to work on or we can supply you with yarn to make a prayer shawl.

Please think about joining us!

**MEN'S GROUP MEETS
TUESDAY, JUNE 1 @6:30 am**



This month we're meeting at:

CJ's Brewing Company
Commerce Township, 48390

Please consider joining us for great burgers, fun and lively conversation.

**DINNER WITH FRIENDS
(TBD)**



Dinner With Friends is a fun evening of dining out with others from our congregation on the second Friday of the month.

A signup sheet will be posted for reservations once we begin to get together again!.

If you have questions, please contact Ruth Dziuba.

**WOMEN OF THE ELCA
(TBD)**



WELCA meets the third Thursday of the month for dinner, with meetings following if they are needed.

A signup sheet will be posted once WELCA monthly dinners resume.

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

**BOOK CLUB MEETS
THURSDAY, JUNE 24 @ 7 pm**



June's book club selection is "**The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek**" by Kim Michele Richardson

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

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

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	FRI
MAY 30	MAY 31	1	2	3	4	5
Coffee Hour 11 am Zoom	Memorial Day	Yoga 9 am Prayer Shawls 10 am Men's Group 6:30 pm	Handbells (Hiatus)		Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship Service 10 am		Yoga 9 am Prayer Shawls 10 am	Handbells (TBD)		Dinner w/Friends (TBD) Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship Service 10 am	Finance Meeting	Yoga 9 am Prayer Shawls 10 am Council Meeting 7 pm	Handbells (TBD)	WELCA (TBD)	Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship Service 10 am		Yoga 9 am Prayer Shawls 10 am	Handbells (TBD)	Book Club 7 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	
27	28	29	30	31	JULY 1	JULY 2
Worship Service 10 am		Yoga 9 am Prayer Shawls 10 am	Handbells (TBD)		Alcoholics Anonymous 8 pm	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

6/6	6/13	6/20	6/27	7/4
LECTOR Stan Samuelson	LECTOR TBD	LECTOR TBD	LECTOR TBD	LECTOR TBD
GREETER TBD	GREETER TBD	GREETER TBD	GREETER TBD	GREETER TBD
USHERS Dan Bergman George Kuljurgis Andy Meyer Bob Frick	USHERS Dennis Kunkel Doug Opthoff Bill Thayer Tom Sweda Bob Burns	USHERS Jarrod Dixel Jeff Parko Stan Samuelson Lukas Mattern Roy Salowich Tim Moore	USHERS Janet Martin Mary Martin Hilda Sawicki Jeanne Myers	USHERS Dan Bergman George Kuljurgis Andy Meyer Bob Frick
COUNTERS Mary Martin Janet Martin	COUNTERS Stan Samuelson Andy Meyer	COUNTERS Dan Bergman Marian Rowland	COUNTERS Nancy Green Barb Kunkel	COUNTERS Mary Martin Janet Martin

IN JUNE WE CELEBRATE THE FOLLOWING

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Barb Kunkel	June 6
Liz Chiaravalli	June 8
John Dziuba	June 9
Matthew Sawicki	June 10
Marty Opthoff	June 12
Doug Julius	June 15
Stan Samuelson	June 15
Alicia Chiaravalli	June 16
Roxane Mellema	June 18
Norm Werner	June 20
Zach Holtquist	June 26
Ben Holtquist	June 26

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Gary & Sue Gates	June 2
Doug & Rita Julius	June 7
Thomas & Jean Butler	June 14
Dan & Judy Bergman	June 15
Dennis & Barb Kunkel	June 20
Jeff & Jackie Parko	June 22
Nick & Becky Pranis	June 25
Bob & Kathy Chiaravalli	June 27

If you or your family member is missing from our anniversary or birthday list,
or the date is incorrect, please contact Cheryl at (248) 682-5441.

Holy Spirit: A Praying Community
As you pray throughout your days please include...

Pray for an end to the gun violence that has become commonplace in our country, and ask God for the wisdom, will and courage to advocate and work for laws and solutions that honor and protect God's gift of life, for the sake of our neighbors and communities.

Ask God to grant an extra measure of faith, strength, hope, resourcefulness and resilience to those recovering and rebuilding after natural disasters and severe weather. Pray that we will listen carefully to them and respond helpfully to their immediate and long-term needs.

Pray that we will not forget nations or regions where conflict, civil war or other turmoil spread violence, displacement, suffering and despair; pray that leaders will seek just and peaceful solutions and reconciliation and attend to people needing safety and relief.

Pray that the Spirit will renew and equip us for the difficult work of understanding, bridging and mending the differences and schisms in our communities and nation. Pray that God will make us bold in our witness as people of faith, yet humble, empathetic and caring as we listen to and talk with one another.

Give thanks for the Spirit, which helps us when we are weak, sustains our faith when we are uncertain and pleads for us "with sighs too deep for words" when we aren't sure how to speak with God.

As we return to restaurants and other places where we socialize around food, remember in prayer those who suffer hunger and food insecurity across our nation and world. Ask the Spirit to strengthen our commitment to end hunger, advocate for our neighbors in need and bring hope and relief.

Trinity Sunday - Pray that God will help us live with and value the Holy Trinity and other mysteries of our faith that far exceed our ability to comprehend.

Memorial Day - Remember, mourn and give thanks for men and women in the military who gave their lives for justice, peace and the freedom of our country and all nations.

Give thanks for the ELCA's commitment to being an inviting and welcoming church that reflects and embraces the diversity of our communities and the gifts and opportunities it brings. Pray that we will always be learning and reforming, discerning how to do God's work in a diverse world, and inviting and equipping one another for this essential work.

Pray that we will be patient and attentive to how God answers our prayers and speaks to us, especially in ways we do not seek or expect.

When we read the parables of Jesus, we sometimes default to rote explanations of their meaning. Pray that we will hear and read Scripture with hearts and minds open to learning, insight and fresh connection to our daily life.

(Continued)

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” Give thanks and praise to God for reminding us that we are made new each day through God’s mercy and grace.

Pray for the Spirit to inspire us to create and share new expressions of our faith and theology through art, music and writing that speak to all generations and the diverse contexts of people in our communities.

Give thanks all day long to God for God’s unwavering love and the joy and hope it stirs within us, which overflows to the people around us.

Pray for nations experiencing repeated waves of COVID-19 infection and communities impacted and struggling, and pray that their health care workers, medical facilities and efforts to vaccinate as many people as possible will slow the pandemic.

Pray that God’s power, presence and love will ease our fears and uncertainties, calm the storms in our lives and strengthen our faith so that we will be bold and tireless disciples who do God’s work in the world, share the gospel and serve our neighbor.

We acknowledge that it is not always easy to follow Christ, bear the gospel or do God’s work in the world. Give thanks that together, as siblings in Christ, we can turn to one another with our burdens and receive support and encouragement.

Pause today and take in the wonders of God’s creation. Give thanks for the joy, wonder and awesome complexity of nature and the universe, and ask God to help us be mindful, responsible and respectful stewards of creation.

Pray that we will serve our neighbors and invite others to believe and to join our communities of faith without bias, judgment, hesitation, obstruction or condition.

Pray for God’s strength, comfort and vision when we are weary or overwhelmed or cannot see beyond times of despair; ask the Spirit to fill us with faith, hope and empathy so that we can support, care for and encourage our neighbors who are struggling.

Guided by the generous, compassionate and kind actions of Jesus, ask the Spirit to fill us with eagerness to work together and share our abundance with our neighbors so that all will have the resources, food and opportunities needed to thrive and be well.

Ask God to help us reflect on our nation, its history, its institutions and this church with honesty, humility, repentance and gratitude, united in our vision and determined to be more just, equitable, inclusive and responsive to our neighbors in need.

Welcome

We warmly invite you to join us for worship,
study, and activities.

Schedule

10 am Sunday Worship

Connect

Website: www.spiritdrivenchurch.com

Facebook: fb.com/spiritdrivenchurch

YouTube: tinyurl.com/spiritdrivenchurch

Instagram: instagram.com/spiritdrivenchurch

Contact

Phone: 248-682-5441

E-mail: office@spiritdrivenchurch.com

Location

NW corner of Orchard Lake and Green Road
(across from West Bloomfield HS)



A Monthly Publication of
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
4800 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323



Mission Statement: We are: CALLED by Christ in our Baptism and GATHERED by the Holy Spirit into this community of faith to celebrate God's grace in our midst so we can be SENT to share God's blessings in our community and beyond.