

THE SPIRIT
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

Holy Spirit
Church Council

President
& Evangelism:
Bob Frick

Vice President
& Finance:
Norm Werner

Secretary:
TBD

Education:
Melinda Kern

Congregational Life:
Ruth Dziuba

Health & Wellness:
Leo Szalma

Property:
Petra Mattern

Worship & Music:
Roy Salowich

From the bishops of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America):

In a perfect garden, created by God for the sake of humanity, evil entered in the form of deception and lies. Christians refer to this story, found in the biblical book of Genesis, as the fall of humanity. This foray into human sin began when Adam and Eve, the first humans created in the image of God, were deceived. Humans have contended with the powers of deception ever since.

Yet we are a people who know and proclaim the power of God at work in the world. We proclaim the power of Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, the one who said, "I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6).

We know that the power of truth is greater than the power of deceit.

We, the members of the Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, speak with one voice to condemn the hateful, deceptive, violent speech that has too readily found a place in our national discourse.

We lament the ways this language has led to hate-fueled action.

We refuse to accept the ongoing normalization of lies and deceit.

We recommit ourselves to speaking the truth and pointing to the one who is truth. We find courage in our collegiality and implore the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, as well as our partners and friends, to join us as we:

Pledge to be vigilant guardians of truth, refusing to perpetuate lies or half-truths that further corrode the fabric of our society.

Commit to rigorous fact-checking, honoring God's command to "test everything; hold fast to what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Reject the use of humor that normalizes falsehood, remembering that our speech should "always be gracious" (Colossians 4:6).

Boldly advocate for the marginalized and oppressed, emulating Christ's love for the least among us.

Courageously interrupt hate speech, standing firm in the knowledge that all are created in God's image.

Lean in with curiosity, engage with those who think differently and "put the best construction on our neighbor's action" (Luther's explanation of the Eighth Commandment).

Amplify voices of truth.

Emboldened by the Holy Spirit, may we resist deception and lift up the truth that all members of humanity are created in the image of God.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all as we respond to the Spirit's invitation into this intentional commitment against deception and for truth.

In Christ,
The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



All Saints Day
November 3

All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ.

On this day we will remember the faithful who have died during the past year during worship.

Prayer Shawl Ministry
10 a.m. on Tuesdays



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.

Dinner with Friends

Friday, November 8
6:30 p.m.

A fun evening of dining out with others from our congregation



31110 Haggerty Rd,
Farmington Hills, MI

Men's Group Dinner

Tuesday, November 12
6:30 p.m.

Food & Fellowship at

Crispell's
BAKERY PIZZERIA

6690 Orchard Lake Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48322

All men of Holy Spirit are invited to attend.



Holy Spirit is collecting food for baskets that are distributed to 10 families in the WB school system. Sign-up sheets at church.

Please see the general grocery list on the next page and check the bulletin board or E-news for the most updated version.

Food donations needed by Tuesday, November 19.

Annual Harvest Table

The Altar Guild will be setting the Harvest Table up in the Sanctuary on Saturday, November 23.



If you wish to donate any items such as pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn, etc., please put them on bench outside the Sanctuary .



THANKSGIVING BASKETS FOR 10 FAMILIES

Updated Listing – October 29

Turkeys (sign-up sheet)	Mayo
Stuffing Mix	Rice
Gravy	Potatoes
Spaghetti or Pasta	Onions
Peanut Butter	Carrots
Jelly	Butter
Breakfast Cereal	Sliced American Cheese Packs
Canned Vegetables (<u>No</u> Corn, Green Beans)	Eggs
Canned Fruit	Bread
Applesauce (Jars)	Honey
Macaroni & Cheese (Boxes)	Paper Towels
Cranberry Sauce	Facial Tissue
Tuna Fish	Clean Paper Grocery Bags

Please put your donated turkey in the refrigerator or freezer at church.

[Food Basket donations needed by Tuesday, November 19.](#)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
Reader/Greeter: Ruth Dziuba	Reader/Greeter: Andrew Helfer	Reader/Greeter: Stan Samuelsen	Reader/Greeter: Mark Filipp
Ushers: Andy Meyer Bob Frick	Ushers: Dennis Kunkel Doug Opthoff Tom Sweda	Ushers: Stan Samuelsen Lukas Mattern Roy Salowich	Ushers: Janet Martin Hilda Sawicki
Counters: Janet Martin	Counters: TBD	Counters: TBD	Counters: Andy Meyer Stan Samuelsen
Altar Guild: Ruth Dziuba, Sandy Thayer, Ann Elliott			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Peggy Casagrande	November 2
Katie Elliott	November 5
Nicholas Rozman	November 8
Sue Adams	November 11
Jeff Parko	November 11
Bob Frick	November 19
Julie Kuljurgis	November 20
Kathy Chiaravalli	November 24
Jenny Rand	November 26
Dan Bergman	November 28
Marian Rowland	November 30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Terry & Marian Rowland November 17

NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					AA Meeting 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.		 General Election <i>Fellowship Hall In Use</i>	Handbells Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	Dinner w/ Friends 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting 8 p.m. <i>Coffee Hour area</i>	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. Men's Group Dinner 6:30 p.m.	Handbells Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. <i>Coffee Hour area</i>	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. Church Council Meeting 7 p.m.	Handbells Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. <i>Coffee Hour area</i>	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells Rehearsal 7 p.m. <i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.?	Thanksgiving Day 	AA Meeting 8 p.m. <i>Coffee Hour area</i>	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.

1 All Saints Day Remember and give thanks for saints who are now in God's eternal, loving care. Praise God for their significance in your life — their influence, example and faith.

American Indian Heritage Month Give thanks for our Indigenous neighbors and siblings in Christ, whose diverse gifts, traditions and wisdom help shape and enrich society and the church. Pray for the work of ELCA Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations and the Association of American Indians and Alaska Natives of the ELCA. Ask God to guide and further the work of our church and society to build better, right and just relationships with Indigenous peoples.

Pray that we will love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and that God's abundant love and mercy will be reflected in our love for others.

Praise God for the wonders of the heavens, which stir our awe, curiosity and gratitude for God's infinite power and creativity. Give thanks for scientists, astronomers and explorers who deepen our knowledge and respect for creation and its mysteries.

5 Election Day "The right hand of God is planting in our land, planting seeds of freedom, hope, and love" (ELW 889). Ask the Spirit to help us exercise concern for our neighbor, the well-being of communities, and racial, gender and economic justice as we discern whom to elect as our leaders and public servants. Give thanks for ELCAvotes, an initiative to help us understand our role in promoting dignity and respect for all.

Pray for the Spirit to inspire us to share the good news of Jesus Christ and teach every generation about God's word, loving ways and active presence in the world, today and throughout history.

National Homeless Youth Month Remember and pray for young people who have no shelter or place where they feel safe, secure and cared for. Pray for community programs and ministries of our church that provide shelter, food, resources and support for developing self-sufficiency, and physical, emotional and spiritual care for youth.

Give thanks for the joy and certainty we experience when we walk in God's ways and follow God's commandments as revealed to us in Scripture and the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

11 Veterans Day This is a day when we remember, honor and give thanks for the service and sacrifice of veterans of the armed forces who have defended our country and worked for freedom and justice in the world. Pray that their families, caregivers and survivors will receive the support and care they need. Give thanks for the work of Federal Chaplaincy Ministries of the ELCA and of congregations with ministries serving veterans and their families.

Praise God for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who took upon himself the burden of our sins and human weaknesses so that we can know true freedom, be renewed for doing God's work in the world and take comfort in the promise of eternal life with God.

Ask God to help us welcome and treat immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers with respect and compassion, accompanying them through the complex process of rebuilding their lives in our country.

Jesus warned that being his disciple is never easy or safe, but we are never alone or ill-equipped for doing God's work in the world — we are accompanied by the Spirit and our siblings in Christ. Praise God!

Give thanks for those who work in hospice care and attend to the comfort and quality of life of people as they approach the end of life, and who provide emotional and spiritual support for their families.

Ask the Spirit to nurture and sustain the confidence, wisdom, humility and faith of leaders in our church, synods, congregations and special ministries.

“You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy” (Psalm 16:11). Express your gratitude to God, the light that guides us through life and brings true joy and fulfillment.

There are approximately 369,000 infants, children and youth in foster care in our country. Pray that foster families will provide them with stability, love, support and encouragement so that they thrive. Give thanks for foster parents and pray for the Spirit to equip them with wisdom, empathy, strength and skills for parenting.

“Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Pray that we — individually and as communities of faith — will be catalysts for love, kindness and inspiration in the church, our society and the world.

In a world of force, intimidation and superiority, pray that we will take to heart the leadership of Jesus Christ, whose power manifests in humility, love, mercy and justice.

Give thanks for the people and experiences that break into our daily routines, interjecting joy and laughter.

Ask God to make us enthusiastic witnesses to our faith through words, kindness, love for our neighbors in need and commitment to justice and peace. Pray that we will be mindful of opportunities to invite others to become followers of Jesus Christ and to welcome them into our communities of faith.

Praise God for gathering our collective gifts and resources through ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response to respond to the needs of our neighbor and end hunger and poverty.

Day of Thanksgiving Give thanks today — and every day — for what God provides to strengthen and sustain us and for those who work to feed the world, including farmers, agricultural workers, ranchers, commercial fishermen, food pantry staff and administrators of hunger relief programs such as ELCA World Hunger.

Native American Heritage Day “Let us remember the Indigenous peoples and tribal nations who were the first to love, pray, grow, celebrate, cry, drum, dance and sing upon these lands” (land acknowledgment from the 2022 Churchwide Assembly). Give thanks for the cultures, values, accomplishments and spirituality of Native Americans that continue to shape our nation and church. Pray that we will be persistent and sincere in learning more about Indigenous peoples and tribal nations and in working together to correct inaccuracies and injustices of history.

Andrew, the Apostle Andrew was the first of the 12 disciples to drop what he was doing and accept Jesus’ invitation to follow him. Ask the Spirit to stir our faith and courage to respond to the call to do God’s work in the world, wherever it takes us and whatever it requires of us.



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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PASTOR
Rev. William J. Matlack

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.