



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

4800 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

A Caring Community of Faith

The Spirit

October 2019

*A monthly publication of
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church*

The ELCA is a Sanctuary Denomination What does that mean?

On Wednesday, August 7, 2019, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), by a majority of the voting members at the Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, declared the ELCA a sanctuary church body.

Allow me to give some background information as to the origin of this declaration.

The Churchwide Assembly is the highest legislative body of the ELCA; it meets every three years and is by constitutional mandate made up of more lay people than clergy. All decisions made there become the policies and procedures of the ELCA. However, many of these decisions begin as memorials and resolutions from synods, like Southeast Michigan. After screening by a committee, they are passed on to the Churchwide Assembly, with recommendations. The voting members then deliberate and discern the final outcome. I mention all that because this declaration is not some “mandate from on high” from some group of “them.” It is truly the work of the people.

To designate the ELCA as a sanctuary church body is a way of publicly declaring the work we are doing in this and many of our synods, and historically have done throughout the history of our church since before there was an ELCA, including the LCA, the ALC AND the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod AND their predecessors going all the way back to the time just after WORLD WAR 1. The first caretakers of Camp Mowana in Mansfield, Ohio, were a WWII refugee family from Eastern Europe who were sponsored by the Lutheran Church in Ohio and brought here and the first house on the camp property was built so that they would have a place to live and could get a new start in this new country. When Saigon fell in 1975, many Lutheran congregations, including Holy Spirit Lutheran, sponsored Vietnamese families and brought them to this country and gave them shelter and furniture and food and help at getting a fresh start in the greatest country in the world. They provided sanctuary.

Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix a broken immigration system, and have different ways of loving our neighbors, that we are called to love our neighbor is central to our faith.

When I was in Ohio visiting my sister in August, I attended her church. The Pastor there quoted their Bishop, Abraham Allende’s letter regarding Sanctuary. He wrote:

“On a more practical level, being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts. It may mean providing space for people to live; providing financial and legal support to those who are working through the immigration system; or supporting other congregations and service providers. Congregations, synods, and ministries cannot be mandated or directed to respond in specific ways. Each is called to work out what this means for them in their context.

It is also important to note that the designation as a sanctuary body in no way calls for congregations, synods, or ministries to engage in civil disobedience or any illegal actions. For us, welcoming people is first and foremost a matter of faith, which impacts how we live out all our vocations in God’s world, including our political life.”

In the near future I will be offering adult study on what it means to be a Sanctuary Denomination & Congregation.

**Adult Basic Yoga Class
Tuesdays at 9:00 am**



Yoga Flow consists of simple basic poses with on-hand modifications available. The class is geared toward developing a yoga practice that does not intimidate.

We meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a yoga mat for floor poses. The fee per class is \$4.00. Tina Green is the instructor.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesdays at 10:00 am**



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets each Tuesday at 10:00 am in the Coffee Hour area knit, crochet, embroider or any type of needle work you are interested in.

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!

**Men's Group
Tuesday, October 1, 6:30 pm**



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

In October 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.

**Dinner With Friends
Friday, October 11, 6:30 pm**



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

October's restaurant will be The Benstein Grille in Commerce Township. See the menu at www.bensteingrille.com.

There is a sign up sheet posted and we hope you will join us.

Any questions, please talk to Ruth Dziuba.

**WELCA meets
Thursday, October 17 at 6:00 pm**



WELCA meets the third Thursday of the month for dinner, with meetings following if needed. Members host the meetings in their homes or at church.

A meeting notice is posted on the bulletin board, weekly news, and also the newsletter.

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

**Book Club
Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 pm**



October's Book is *The Mothers* by Brit Bennett.

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

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

The New Adult Study begins Wednesday, October 2 at 10:00 am in the Coffee Area.



The Topic: "What does it mean to be a Sanctuary Denomination?"

Pine Lake Cemetery Association



The Pine Lake Cemetery Association is now having their meetings at Holy Spirit in the Coffee Hour area. They meet from April – October. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2019. There is a pot luck at noon and the meeting starts at 1:00 pm. For more information please call (248) 496-9948. Everyone is welcome.

Bavarian Brunch Sunday, October 27 following our Reformation Day German service



Join us for a Bavarian Brunch with authentic German fare prepared by church members and friends following our 10:00 am worship service on Sunday, October 27. Contact the church office if you're interested in purchasing tickets.

WELCA'S Rummage Sale



Many, many thanks to all the members and friends who pitched in by setting-up, working the sale hours, taking it down and cleaning up. We are grateful to those who contributed so generously with their time, energy, and donations!

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)



For one of our young men: Garrett Kern on Sunday, November 3, 2019.

Fellowship Hall in use as Precinct 17 on Tuesday, November 5, 2019



The Fellowship Hall will be in use as Precinct 17 on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, for the Oakland Community College Operating Millage Renewal Proposal. This election is open to all voters registered in West Bloomfield Township.

October 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am Men's Group 6:30 pm	Adult Study 10:00 am Bell Rehearsal 7 pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm	Zumba 9:30 pm <i>(rental)</i>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	Adult Study 10:00 am Bell Rehearsal 7pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Dinner w/ Friends 6:30pm A.A Meeting 7:30 pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School N. A. Meeting 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	Adult Study 10:00 am Pine Lake Cemetery Assoc. 12-3pm Bell Rehearsal 7pm	WELCA 6 pm Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i>	A.A Meeting 7:30 pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School N. A. Meeting 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i> Finance Meeting 7pm	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10m Council Meeting 7pm	Polka Band 7:00 pm	Zumba 6:30pm <i>(rental)</i> Book Club 7 PM	A.A Meeting 7:30 pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Choir 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Bavarian Brunch 11:15 am N. A. Meeting 7:30pm	Zumba 6:30 pm <i>(rental)</i>	Adult Yoga 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 10am	Bell Rehearsal 7pm	Halloween No Zumba	A.A Meeting 7:30 pm	Zumba 9:30am <i>(rental)</i>

Worship Assistants

10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3
Lector & Greeter Kathy Chiaravalli	Lector & Greeter Terry Rowland	Lector & Greeter Ruth Dziuba	Lector & Greeter Dennis Kunkel	Lector & Greeter Tina Green
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 Nancy Green Barb Kunkel	Counters Janet Martin Mary Martin	Counters Dan Bergman Marian Rowland	Counters Stan Samuelsen Andy Meyer	Counters George & Chris Kuljurgis Jeanne Myers or Sandy Thayer
Altar Flowers <i>Please sign up</i>	Altar Flowers Meyer	Altar Flowers <i>Please sign up</i>	Altar Flowers Samuelsen	Altar Flowers <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>	Coffee Hour <i>Please sign up</i>
Sanctuary Candle Meyer Family & Sweda Family				
Altar Guild Sandy Thayer				



Bill Thayer	October 1
Hal Adams	October 3
Lauren Clark	October 14
Arnold, Jr Reed	October 16
Al Grabenstein	October 20
Carol Barratt	October 22
Karen Figi	October 27
Andy Meyer	October 28
Bonnie Sweda	October 29



Mike & Lilly Moore	October 1
Heinz & Petra Mattern	October 19

Holy Spirit: A Praying Community

As you pray throughout your day include...

Those living through tragedies of massacres and death, floods and hurricanes, especially the elderly and children.

First responders, police, fire and medical personnel.

Salem Lutheran Church/Flint and all who advocate for water and other social injustices.

For families in crisis; and for all God's children who are hungry, homeless, ill and lonely.

For our congregations that serve neighbors in need through food and clothing pantries, community meals, homeless shelters, community gardens, employment assistance and partnerships with local churches and organizations.

That, as people of faith and disciples of Christ, we may demonstrate through our words, actions and service a spirit of humility that expects no reward, recognition or repayment.

Look around and listen to the people you have encountered today. Remember in your prayers their joys, struggles, questions and sorrows.

For the members who serve on the congregation council, that God will help them lead with wisdom, vision and compassion as they guide and manage their communities of faith for mission.

Thank God for the ways our church engages its members and leaders in discernment, biblical study and reflection, prayerful decisions and commitments, and teachings that help us grow in understanding of how our faith intersects with daily life and society.

Reformation: Remember the reforming work and teachings of Martin Luther, who sought to re-center the church, its theology and its practices in Scripture and the gospel. Pray that the church today will always discern how best to participate in God's work in the world, to share the gospel in changing contexts and to reform our church, its practices and its traditions in response to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit for the sake of mission.

Please Contact the Church Office When...

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital, so that Pastor may be notified and visit if you'd like.
- A significant event is happening in your life or in the life of someone you love.
- Planning your wedding and especially before setting the wedding date.
- Before making funeral arrangements
- Your phone number, address or email has changed so that church records can be updated.
- You are planning to move, either out-of-town or locally.
- A new baby arrives in your family.
- A new family moves into your neighborhood.
- When you have questions about your faith.
- When you need information about some process or happening in church life.
- You feel the church can assist you in any way.

Weekly News Announcements

submitted by 12 noon on Wednesdays to:
hslcofficermanager@gmail.com

Items for the November Newsletter

submitted by October 15 to:
hslcofficermanager@gmail.com

BABY-CHILD BLANKETS

Deadline: October 31, 2019

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Warren, Michigan**

Our goal is to collect as many blankets for our ill children as possible. We want to let them know we care & pray for them.

Give a child something to snuggle with.

Won't you please make or donate at least one?

- Any size
- Any color
- **MUST be washable**
- Any fabric or yarn
- Knit, Crocheted, Sewn, Quilted, Hand-Tied
- New



Drop off at St. Peter's Lutheran Church

**Blankets are for patients
(babies & children)
of Children's Hospital of Michigan, DMC.**



11423 Chicago Road
Warren, Michigan
48093

Phone: 586-979-3850
Fax: 586-979-3903
Email: stpeters_church@sbcglobal.net

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

A Monthly Publication of



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

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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.