

Spirit Monthly
Newsletter
October 2025

Holy Spirit
Church Council

President:
Bob Frick

Vice President:
Melinda Kern

Secretary:
Gina Carson

Christian Education:
Melinda Kern

Worship & Music:
Roy Salowich

Congregational Life:
Ruth Dziuba

Property:
Petra Mattern

Evangelism &
Social Ministry:
Bob Frick
Gina Carson

Health & Wellness:
Leo Szalma

Stewardship & Finance:
Stan Samuelsen

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

I was looking through some old files on my backup USB and happened upon the first Newsletter Article that I wrote after coming to HSLC.

In the Beginning.....

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth..." (Genesis 1:1)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1)

Beginnings are wonderful, aren't they? Beginnings bring excitement and joy.

I am excited by the new beginning at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, West Bloomfield, Michigan! I feel blessed to be a part of this community of faith & excited that you have invited me to share in your faith journey.

I have to say that I would have never believed that I, a lifetime buckeye, would ever end up in Michigan! Certainly, God's Holy Spirit works in mysterious ways.

If my first Sunday here is any indication, we have a great future together. I look forward to many more Sundays with you.

I thank God for the opportunity to be your pastor!

Looking back, 18 years later, I realize that I am blessed to be here. I have been a part of so many lives, baptisms, weddings, funerals and more. Too many hospital calls to even count.

I also must thank the Call Committee who interviewed and supported me then and still: Barb Kunkel, Chair, Dan Bergman, Barb Church, Kim Filipp, Bob Frick, Doug Julius, Marian Rowland and Donna Opthoff.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

- **Adult Basic Yoga Class** meets Tuesdays at 9 a.m. with Instructor Tina Green. 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.
- **Choir Rehearses** on Sundays at 8:45 am. Speak with Choir Director Kelly Perrin if you have questions!
- **Sunday school** meets at 10:45 am. Speak with Christian Education Chair Melinda Kern if you have questions.
- **Dinner with Friends** is Friday, October 10 at 6 p.m. at the Harbor Steak House in Keego Harbor. Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **Men's Group Dinner** is Tuesday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m. at The Lodge Grill & Bar in Keego Harbor. Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **WELCA Potluck Dinner** is scheduled Thursday, October 16 at 5 p.m. at church. All ladies of the church are invited. Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **Trunk Or Treat** is Sunday, October 19 from 12-2 p.m. We're asking congregation members and friends to support this Halloween event by decorating their vehicles and handing out candy in our parking lot. Please sign up if you're willing to assist in this effort! Speak with Bob Frick if you have questions.
- **Book Club** is Thursday, October 23 at 7 p.m. to discuss "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict. Speak with Janet Martin if you'd like the book or have questions.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Bill Thayer	October 1
Alaina Carson	October 4
Andy Meyer	October 28
Annika Mattern	October 29
Bonnie Sweda	October 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Heinz & Petra Mattern October 19

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sunday, October 5

Reader/Greeter: Doug Opthoff

Ushers: Andy Meyer, Bob Frick

Counters: Janet Martin

Sunday, October 12

Reader/Greeter: Leo Szalma

Ushers: Dennis Kunkel, Doug Opthoff

Counters: TBD

Sunday, October 19

Reader/Greeter: Norm Werner

Ushers: Stan Samuelsen, Lukas Mattern,
Roy Salowich

Counters: Andy Meyer

Sunday, October 26

Reader/Greeter: Bob Frick

Ushers: Janet Martin, Hilda Sawicki, Melinda Kern

Counters: TBD

ALTAR GUILD IN OCTOBER

Judy & Laura Bergman

Bavarian Brunch Follows Our Reformation Day German Service October 26



Join us for a Bavarian Brunch with authentic German fare prepared by church members and friends following worship on Sunday, October 26.

Annual Blanket Drive Underway



Each year, the many friends of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Warren, have stepped up and made a real difference to many in our communities. To all those creative blanket makers, quilters, knitters, and no-sew blanket makers, please help to continue gifting the communities around us with warmth & comfort this year. Deadline is October 26.

- ✓ Afghans, throws, wheelchair & lap blankets, shawls.
- ✓ Machine washable please.
- ✓ Any color, design, fabric or yarn.
- ✓

Afghans 50 X 65

Lapghan/Lap Blanket 36 X 49

Toddler/Child 45 x 60

Throws 50 x 60

Twin 60 x 90

Full or Double 85 X 90

Coffee Hour Hosts

Thank you to all those who have hosted a coffee hour so far this year.

A coffee hours don't have to be fancy.

They are enjoyed by all as a way to continue our fellowship.

Napkins, plates, cups, utensils, and coffee/tea are provided by Congregational Life.

Dates are still available through the end of the year.

Altar Candles

Thank you to all those who have sponsored the altar candles this year.

Honor or remember a special event or loved one by sponsoring the altar candles for a month.

The sponsor and intention are recognized in the worship bulletin.

A few slots are available through the end of the year.

Sanctuary Flowers

Thank you to those who have brought flowers on Sundays and/or helped grace the Sanctuary during Easter, Pentecost & Christmas, etc.

Honor or, remember a special event or loved one by bringing flowers to grace the Sanctuary during Sunday worship.

The sponsor and intention are recognized in the worship bulletin.

Dates are still available through the end of the year.

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Handbells Rehearsal			
				<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	<i>AA Meeting</i> 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m.		Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells Rehearsal		Dinner w/ Friends 6 p.m.	
	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.			<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	<i>AA Meeting</i> 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m.		Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. Men's Dinner 6:30 p.m.	Handbells Rehearsal	WELCA Dinner 5 p.m.		
	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.			<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	<i>AA Meeting</i> 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m.		Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells Rehearsal	Book Club 7 p.m.		
	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.			<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	<i>AA Meeting</i> 8 p.m.	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 9:30 a.m.
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Choir Rehearsal 8:45 a.m. Worship w/ Confirmation 10 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m.		Yoga 9 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.	Handbells Rehearsal			
	<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.			<i>Zumba (Rental)</i> 6:30 p.m.	<i>AA Meeting</i> 8 p.m.	

Holy Spirit: A Praying Community - [Prayer Ventures for October 2025]

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA.

- 1** Pray for scientists, pastors, science teachers and others who explore the intersection of faith and science through the Lutheran Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology. Ask for God's wisdom to discern the benefits, consequences and use of technology to promote the well-being of humankind, communities and creation.
- 2** Ask the Spirit to guide and bless members of the ELCA Church Council as they support the work and mission of the ELCA churchwide organization. Give thanks to God for their faith, gifts and diligence.
- 3** Remember in prayer youth and adult leaders gathering for the ELCA Gathering Expedition retreat at Lutherhill camp in La Grange, Texas. Pray that their weekend together will nurture faith, stir questions and discussions, and connect them more deeply with one another — siblings in Christ who find strength and nourishment in community.
- 4** Today the Rev. Yehiel Curry is being installed as presiding bishop of our church. Give thanks to God for faithful leaders who inspire and guide our church to be passionate, creative and tireless in proclaiming the gospel and doing God's work in the world.
- 5** Pray for the Spirit to guide and inspire those gathered for the Conference of Bishops as they worship and study together, advise the presiding bishop on churchwide planning and ecumenical relations, review proposals for the ELCA Church Council, and work on matters related to rostered ministers.
- 6** "The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it would obey you'" (Luke 17:5-6). Praise God for judging us not by the depth of our faith but through a lens of love, forgiveness and concern for us as treasured children.
- 7** Give thanks for ELCA Youth Ministry and the ELCA Youth Ministry Network. Pray for their faith formation programs, leadership training events and resources for youth, and for leaders serving in children, youth and family ministries.
- 8** In the first eight months of this year, there were 292 mass shootings and more than 28,400 gun-related injuries and deaths (gunviolencearchive.org). Pray for those who suffer grief and trauma due to gun violence or accidental shootings. Ask God to help us be steadfast and wise in our advocacy to end gun violence and our care for those impacted.
- 9** Give thanks for our siblings in Christ — near and far — with whom we join in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ, who frees us from the bondage of death, gives life, renews our hope and sets us on a path of compassion, service and generosity.

- 10** Pray for musicians and worship leaders participating in the Music that Makes Community retreat in Albuquerque, N.M., that they will sharpen their skills for leading songs and instrumental music in faith communities.
- 11** Ask God to bless the work of farmers, ranchers and agricultural workers. Give thanks for their vocations and the diverse roles they play in bringing food to our tables and around the world.
- 12** In the Gospel of Luke, when 10 men with a skin disease approach Jesus in search of mercy and healing, Jesus never hesitates. Give thanks to God for attending to our needs and tribulations, and for the love and forgiveness that flow to us through Jesus Christ.
- 13** *Indigenous Peoples' Day* Today we remember and honor Indigenous people — our neighbors and siblings in Christ. Lift up prayers of gratitude for the cultures, traditions, spirituality and history of Indigenous people and tribal nations. Ask the Spirit to guide and enrich our lives together, helping us remain faithful to our shared journey toward truth and healing in the church and society.
- 14** “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation” (Psalm 111:1). Give thanks to the Spirit, who gathers us together in community to praise God, reflect on the word of God, celebrate the sacraments, respond to the needs of our neighbors and encourage one another in doing God’s work in the world every day.
- 15** Give thanks and praise for God’s inexhaustible grace, which liberates us from despair when we feel ill-equipped to deal with our troubles.
- 16** Give thanks and pray for those in our communities who serve in law enforcement, that they will be safe, affirmed in their vocations and led by the Spirit to exercise justice, fairness and wisdom in their duties.
- 17** Pray for ELCA campus ministries, that their reach and impact will grow among students, faculty, staff and others through worship, study, fellowship and service. Give thanks for the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry Network, which strengthens and supports campus ministry by equipping and connecting leaders and by advocating for ministry on college and university campuses.
- 18** *Luke, Evangelist* Ask the Spirit to help us express our faith, share the good news of Jesus Christ with confidence and enthusiasm, and invite others to join the community of siblings in Christ who do God’s work in the world.
- 19** Ask God to grant justice to those who suffer discrimination and inequity, and ask the Spirit to help us be bearers of God’s justice in the world.
- 20** Remember in prayer our ministries in seven countries in Asia and the Pacific region. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel and Young Adults in Global Mission who work alongside companion churches to spread the gospel, equip leaders, teach, respond to community needs and strive for justice.

21 “The time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths” (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Pray that the Spirit will give us insight and guidance when we struggle to distinguish God’s truth from the falsehoods that lead us astray.

22 Ask God to strengthen and sustain those who work for peace between nations, including diplomats, negotiators, religious leaders and heads of state. Pray that they will find new ways to work through impasses, implement just and lasting peace agreements, and address the needs of those impacted by war and civil conflict.

23 Pray for congregations going through challenging times, that they will find resources and assistance to renew their sense of mission and their resolve to be God’s loving presence in their communities.

24 Pray for Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, that his faith, his ministry experiences and the counsel of his siblings in Christ will inspire wisdom and equip him for guiding our church and its leaders to be persistent and creative in proclaiming God’s restorative love.

25 Ask God to help us create safe and uplifting communities of faith where all people can gather to hear the word of God, share the good news of Jesus, celebrate God’s amazing love and promises, care for one another and encourage one another to follow Christ in our daily lives.

26 *Reformation Sunday* Give thanks for our living, growing and changing church, which asserts its identity and purpose in the good news of Jesus Christ — God’s free gift of grace and new life for the world.

27 Pray for refugees and immigrants in our country and throughout the world, that they will be welcomed by communities and churches that accompany them through the challenges of rebuilding their lives.

28 Pray for Racial Justice Ministries of the ELCA and give thanks for a gospel proclaiming that Christ’s church is for *all* people. Ask God for the courage to confront racism and seek fairness and justice in the church and society.

29 Lift up prayers of thanksgiving and joy that in God we find strength, life, happiness, hope and an eternal home.

30 Remember in prayer students who experience difficulties in school — academic, emotional, physical or social. Pray that they will receive care and support from teachers, counselors and peers so that they will grow confident and thrive.

31 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Allegheny Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.



YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!

Join us for worship, study, and activities.

WORSHIP

10 a.m. Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:45 a.m. Sunday (during the school year)

CONTACT US

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HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

4800 Orchard Lake Road

West Bloomfield, MI 48323

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.