

Spirit Monthly
Newsletter
September 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

Sabbatical... Reunion... Storytelling!

I drove to Ohio August 1 and reflected on the fact that I was going there to help my sister, Sandy, recover from hip surgery and also attend my 50th High School reunion!

There was a pre-reunion event on Friday, August 2 and the actual reunion was on Saturday, August 3. I really enjoyed my time at both events and got to see some of my classmates, many of whom I hadn't seen for 35-50 years (I attended the 15th reunion).

Then on Tuesday, August 5, I flew to Baltimore to attend the Network of Biblical Storytellers. The first time I attended the Annual Gathering was in 2000, 25 years ago. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of NBSINT. While there, I was privileged to have a wonderful talk with co-founder, Tom Boomershine.

After attending the first time, 25 years ago, I was inspired to begin telling the Gospel each Sunday morning. I attended the event again in 2001 with one of my church members from Rejoice! Lutheran in Hudson, OH.

The next time I went it was in 2008, less than a year after coming to HSLC. Here's what I wrote in 2008: *"What an event! Over 200 people from all over the world were in attendance. We heard more remarkable Bible Stories, attended workshops, heard more stories, etc!"*

Storytelling is as old as humanity. Unfortunately, it was almost a lost art until recently. We all like to tell and hear stories and we all are living stories.

I love to tell stories! I think I've been a storyteller all my life. I know that this is something I inherited from my Dad, he was always telling stories.

Storytelling has always been a part of my sermonizing as well. I really think that no matter what I say people will most often remember the story attached to the sermon. Often the story is one that I find in a resource, but many times it is a true story of my life or the life of my family.

The greatest storyteller of all was Jesus! Think of all the parables he shared with the people.

I want to thank the Council and Congregation for the opportunity to attend this event!

NETWORK OF BIBLICAL STORYTELLERS

www.nbsint.org

Our mission is to equip people to recapture the powerful dynamics of live storytelling so that present-day faith communities encounter biblical stories in fresh, life-giving ways.

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 Rehearsals** resume on Sunday, September 7 at 8:45 am. Speak with Choir Director Kelly Perrin if you have questions!
- **Welcome Back to Sunday school** on September 7 at 10:45 am. Speak with Christian Education Chair Melinda Kern if you have questions.
- **Men's Group Dinner** is Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m. at The Lodge in Keego Harbor. Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **Dinner with Friends** is Friday, September 12 at 6 p.m. at Buck Shots Bar & Grill in Clarkston Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **WELCA Potluck Dinner** is scheduled Thursday, September 18 at 5 p.m. at church. All ladies of the church are invited. Please RSVP on the bulletin board if you're joining us!
- **Holy Spirit Family Game Night** is Friday, September 19 from 6-8 p.m. Bring your favorite games and a snack to share!
- **Book Club** is Thursday, September 25 at 7 p.m. to discuss "The Art Thief" by Michael Finkel. Speak with Janet Martin if you'd like the book or have questions.
- **Trunk or Treat Event** coming up in October. More information to come.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Eddie Carson	September 1
Chris Kuljurgis	September 1
Petra Mattern	September 4
Jeanette Uhley	September 4
Dennis Dronsella	September 10
Sandy Szalma	September 10
Bob Carson	September 13
Lucas Buckler	September 14
Henrik Wolenberg	September 23
Leo Szalma	September 24
Kim Filipp	September 25
Michelle Prus	September 28
Mark Filipp	September 29
Anson Wolenberg	September 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Bonnie & Tom Sweda	September 1
Bill & Sandy Thayer	September 6
John & Tina Green	September 12
Dr. Leo & Sandy Szalma	September 16

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, September 7

Reader/Greeter: Dennis Kunkel
Ushers: Andy Meyer, Bob Frick
Counters: TBD

Sunday, September 14

Reader/Greeter: Stan Samuelsen
Ushers: Dennis Kunkel, Doug Opthoff
Counters: Janet Martin

Sunday, September 21

Reader/Greeter: Cindy Ward
Ushers: Stan Samuelsen, Lukas Mattern,
Roy Salowich
Counters: TBD

Sunday, September 28

Reader/Greeter: Ruth Dziuba
Ushers: Janet Martin, Hilda Sawicki, Melinda Kern
Counters: Andy Meyer

S E P T E M B E R

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





We're sharing a special opportunity to support students in need at Sheiko Elementary School through a project called the Laker Care Closet which helps supply the care closet with much-needed personal care items.

Teachers at the school were recently surveyed to learn what students are lacking most, and some of the most requested items include:

- Chapstick
- Deodorant, Soap, Shampoo
- Menstrual pads
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Floss and Mouthwash
- Winter items such as Hats, Gloves, Boots, Jackets
- Socks & Underwear

Every contribution—large or small—will go directly to children in need and make a lasting impact on their well-being and self-esteem.

Please speak with Congregational Life Ruth Dziuba if you have questions.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

2025



11423 Chicago Road Warren, MI 48093 586-979-3850



For some - when no bed is available
our blankets become a lifeline

ANNUAL BLANKET DRIVE

Join our growing community as we continue
to provide kindness, compassion and,
a whole lot-a-warm!

Deadline: October 26 2025

- Most Sizes (chart below) Please No King Size
- Any Color, Any Design, Fabric or Yarn
- Handmade or Brand New
- Scarves, shawls, mittens, too
- Washable and Warm

*It's Time
to START
Something*

"Small acts, when multiplied by many can transform the world."

Thank You

BLANKET TYPE	SIZE	BLANKET TYPE	SIZE
Afghans	50x65	Throws	50x60
Lapghan	36x49	Twin	66x90
Toddler / Child	45x60	Full or Double	85x90

* Sizing is approximate

Holy Spirit: A Praying Community

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

September is Suicide Prevention Month: Pray for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who feel lonely, depressed and hopeless, that they will find compassion, support and spiritual renewal in times of darkness and suffering. Ask the Spirit to inspire and guide our care, support and counsel for those who are contemplating suicide, and for those who grieve the loss of someone to suicide.

Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our discipline so that we might better study and reflect on the Word of God and its significance in our daily lives.

Pray for the resolution of international conflicts that cause suffering, violence, mistrust, injustice, economic crises and political instability. Ask God to forgive us for sometimes playing a role in these conflicts, intentional or not.

Give thanks and praise to God, who shows us mercy and patience, knows our gifts and stirs within us meaning and purpose for our baptismal journey.

“Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it” (Hebrews 13:1-2). Pray that our fears, prejudices and ideologies will not prevent us from showing love, respect and hospitality to one another — friends, family and strangers alike.

Take time to pray for the people and situations that first came to mind when you awoke this morning.

Pray that we will consider thoughtfully the wide-ranging impact of proclaiming that “all are welcome” in our congregations and the church.

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises” (Psalm 98:4). Join your siblings in Christ in prayers of praise and thanksgiving for our amazing God!

Praise God that our church gathers and nurtures the gifts of so many through congregations, synods and special ministries to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, care for neighbors in need, equip and encourage one another, and invite all to experience the blessings of being valued members of faith communities.

The story of Lazarus and the rich man in the gospels of Luke and John reminds us of God’s love and concern for those who suffer poverty, illness and neglect. Pray that we will embrace all people as neighbors who deserve respect, compassion, love and inclusion.

“Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both,” wrote Lutheran theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968). “But interpret newspapers from your Bible.” Ask God to help us attend to our communities, nation and world, and remember that our faith in Jesus Christ calls us to foster peace, justice, love, forgiveness and healing among all people.

Remember in prayer those who are fighting a life-limiting illness or experiencing a wide range of emotions upon receiving such a diagnosis. Pray that we and our faith communities will offer steadfast support, care and encouragement to them and their families.



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

1-248-682-5441

office@spiritdrivenchurch.com

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.