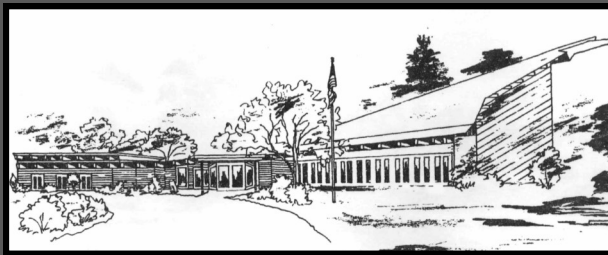




**Lutheran Church
of the Holy Spirit**
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069



January 2019 Issue

Happy New Year!



At this year's Congregational Meeting we'll be electing new council members, approving the budget and reviewing the reports of our ministries as we do each year.

But we will also be presenting and discussing some major renovations and repairs that need our attention including repairing our roof and putting in new flooring in the sanctuary. Other changes to the sanctuary that may accompany the flooring, like changes in seating, acoustics, and creating an area for young families will be considered as well. Please join us for this important meeting as we celebrate the past year and look forward to the future.

We will be kicking off the new year with a Listening Campaign! This is new to our congregation, but many congregations do these periodically, even annually.

We will be visiting with all members of the congregation to listen to their ideas about our congregation and community and to learn what is most important to them. These one-to-one visits take 20 to 30 minutes and we encourage everyone to sign up for a time and place most convenient for you. The benefits of a Listening Campaign include gathering information about the church and community, learning about what's most important and what we're most passionate about, and provides an opportunity to build relationships and community. Don't miss out on your opportunity to be listened to! Sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

LISTENING



CAMPAIGN

A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New Year!!! I pray that we will all have a blessed and prosperous New Year, and I look forward to the blessings and opportunities that will allow our church to grow and prosper in the coming year as well!

It was wonderful to see the church so full on Christmas Eve, with the joyous music, and the candles lighting up the sanctuary, shining through the night like the light of the world, as we sung our praises to God. Christmas is such a special, sacred time for all believers and to bring so many together reminds us of God's plan for the world. As Jesus was being born in Bethlehem, people from very diverse backgrounds were drawn together to worship Him. The shepherds, who we tend to consider as peaceful, rural down-to-earth people, were actually feared in those days. Shepherds in general, were poor wanderers, that added a potentially criminal element to the land. At the other extreme were the Magi, who had financial means, but were considered pagan, foreign, Gentiles, non-believers in the God of Israel. And yet all were united in God's mission to witness to the light that had come into the world, the light that no darkness would overcome.

We, too, have been united by God's call to witness to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We gather together to share the Good News and to be that light, for all the world to see. For the light is with us, and it will sustain us and reveal to us the glorious future God has in store for our church.

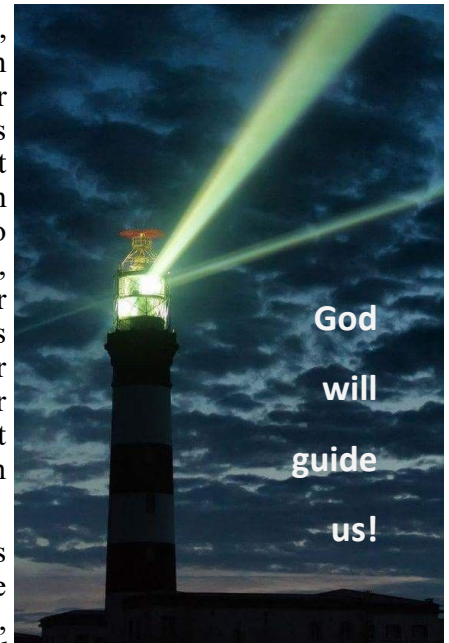
In the coming year we're going to embark on a "listening campaign", where we meet one-to-one with members of our congregation to learn about what is most meaningful in their lives and in the life of our congregation. We're also going to be listening to the community as we reach out to various community leaders and learn more about what is meaningful to them and also what is most needed in Lincolnshire and the surrounding areas. It's going to be exciting to hear our stories and to learn about what we are most passionate about, and even though many of us may have some thoughts about how our community has been changing, it will be invaluable to learn what is most important and where the greatest needs are as we listen to our neighbors. As a result, I envision our mission and ministry further expanding as we reach out to our community in new and different ways. And God will lead and guide us, for God has great plans in mind for our congregation.

When the apostle Paul wrote to the early church of Philippi, he was thrilled with their efforts to create a church, and to ensure that the people knew that the light of the Holy Spirit was with them he wrote, *"Be confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 1:6).

As we continue to worship and minister and fellowship together, let's celebrate the new day God has given us, let's promise to be faithful and obedient, and let's be confident that God will guide us in creating a faithful future for our congregation. Happy New Year!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim



Prayer Group

In January the Prayer Group will be focusing on "The Weekly Prayer Project" written by Scarlet Hiltibidal. We meet each Thursday 9:30-10am Please join us as we pray, reflect and connect with God.

WELCA

(Women's Group)

Please join us as we "kick off" the new year with our next ladie's night out at Fleming's Steakhouse, 960 Milwaukee Ave in Lincolnshire on Thursday, January 3rd at 6:30pm. RSVP to Lynn Kasche: lmkasche@yahoo.com so I can make appropriate reservations for a table...just in case the bar is full. I am happy to take any suggestions for future monthly "ladie's nights" for 2019!

Thursday Bible Study meets on Thursdays from 10-11:30 AM in room 6. On January 3 we will resume the unit based on the renowned biblical scholar Amy Jill Levine's book, "Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi". Levine interweaves history and spiritual analysis to explore Jesus' most popular teaching parables, exposing their misinterpretations and making them lively and relevant for modern readers. Join us for this six session course! We close our time together with a time of prayer.

The Quilters

Join us at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, January 15 for fellowship and making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. All are welcome. No experience necessary!

EXPOS

Our next meeting will be in room 6 on Tuesday January 8, 2019 at 10:30 AM. Bring your ideas for things to do and places to go for the remaining meetings of this year. There will also be time for sharing holiday stories. Don't forget to bring your "bag lunch" and spend lunchtime in fellowship with Pastor Tim and Laurie. Mark your calendars for our Valentine's Luncheon at 11:30 on Tuesday February 12th.

Adult Forum meets from 9:45 to 10:30 AM each Sunday as we provide an opportunity for all ages to connect their faith to their daily lives.

We will dedicate January 13 to answering questions about the annual report preceding the Congregational Meeting on Jan. 20. There will be no Adult Forum on 1/27 as we gather together for Meet & Greet. A new unit will start in February.

Meet and Greet

Join us Sunday, January 27 in the narthex in between services to gather as a family of faith to renew, sustain and form new friendships. To volunteer to provide fruit or a treat, please email Jan Schwanke at bennett95@comcast.net.



Stewardship Update

BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM TOGETHER

"...like living stones, you yourselves are being built into a spiritual house..."

1 Peter 2:5

Thank you to those who have returned their 2019 Commitment cards. As of 12/20, we have now received almost as many responses as we received last year, totaling over \$282,694 in commitments and 89% have either increased or maintained the same level of giving as last year. We have made excellent progress, and we thank you for your support.

As you see below, operating expenses have outpaced income at this point in the year. In order to present a budget at the annual meeting that can balance projected income with projected expenses, we hope for commitment and giving to exceed last year's pledges. Every commitment is essential to helping us plan our ministry and continue supporting important ministries in the coming year. If you have not returned your card, please return your response today! Extra Commitment cards are in the narthex.

Where Your Offerings Go

Throughout the years, you have generously donated to the following ministries. We thank you for your continued support! The following numbers are through the month of November and we look forward, with your generosity to catching up in December as we have historically.

Operating Fund Income	\$396,382
Operating Fund Expenses	\$420,266
Hunger	\$18,813
Metro Chicago Synod & ELCA	\$52,000

2019 Offering Envelopes

Each year offering envelopes are available in the church narthex. Mailing these boxes is expensive, which means that if you pick up your envelopes you make a contribution toward wise stewardship. Even if you only make an offering once a month, you need to pick up your box since the numbering of the boxes enables us to properly assign and credit your contribution. Simply Giving electronic transfers provides you with stickers to place on your envelopes if you choose to use them on any given Sunday. Offerings in church envelopes enable us to more accurately account for your charitable contributions and provide you

Youth News

By Colin Pilkington, Youth Director—cpilkington0712@gmail.com

December was a fun month for everyone here at Crossroads. We enjoyed decorating the church during Hanging of the Greens, and had a lot of fun during our Crossroads Christmas party. Thank you to everyone who came out during December!

Coming up in the new year, we once again invite students, parents, and everyone else to join us on January 13th at 7:00pm. If you have ever been curious as to what we do on Sunday Nights, this is the perfect opportunity to come find out.

In February, we will be celebrating Youth Sunday on the 3rd. If your student is interested in participating, please contact me. We will also be hosting the 2nd Annual Blind Volleyball Tournament on February 22nd. Even if you don't want to play, please come and cheer on your favorite team! We hope to see you at all of our wonderful events.

Keeping Us Secure

Many of you know that since the beginning of the fall, the Lincolnshire Community Nursery School has been using our nursery for an additional classroom. In order to provide the security necessary for these young ones, we're requesting that if you are going to be entering the building between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., that you use the main entrance and check-in with our Office Manager, Laurie so that we can better monitor who is in the building. This procedure protects both us and the nursery school kids and their families. Thank you for helping with this and don't forget to turn out lights and lock the doors if you're one of the last to leave the building.



Wine Tasting

Please join us on Friday, February 8th at 7:00pm for an evening sampling a variety of wines from around the world! Join in the fellowship with others in the Holy Spirit community and bring a friend! Sign up in the narthex by February 17th so we can plan accordingly. Cost is \$25 per person – cash or checks payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Any questions should be directed to



Prayer Concerns

Typically, we freshen prayer concerns after 3 weeks so the list doesn't get too long. Please remember to email Laurie in the church office at lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com when prayer concerns change or to update your request.

Snow Removal Sign-up

Winter is officially here which means that there will be more snow (hopefully not the big snowfall we saw in November!) in the coming months.

While the church pays for a snow plowing service to clear the parking lots, the sidewalks are left to us. Volunteers are needed to sign up for a week of "Snow-watch". The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. The church snow blower is in the storage shed.

Contact Dave Schroetter at dschroetter71@gmail.com with questions.



Children's Ministry News

By Jennifer Williams, Children's Ministry Director - jennifer.williams@lchschildren@gmail.com

Sunday School

Our LCHS kids all joined forces to create ANGELS for our "ART of the Angel" Gallery in the narthex earlier this month. Sunday School teachers completed creative projects with each of their classes. Tuesday LYFE completed both a standing and wall angel for everyone to enjoy!



Annual Hanging of the Greens

Kids enjoyed hot cocoa, crafts and a movie before attending a special service in the Sanctuary.



Advent Wreath Sunday



Friends and families were out in full force to complete advent wreaths.



LCHS Family Skating Event

Sunday, January 27, 12:30-2 p.m.

Glacier Ice Arena

\$12/person



Everyone had so much fun last year, we thought we'd do it again! Join us at this 2nd annual event and glide into fun and fellowship! Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Email Jennifer with questions.



Look for us on Facebook! LCCHS Children's Ministry has a new page!
Like and follow us. There are more pictures of all events!

LET'S CELEBRATE!

You Are the Best Elves!

Thanks for your generosity!

January

Birthdays

- 1- Kathleen Pham
- 3- Robbie Ernst
Hannah Werner
- 4- Ashley Andersen
- 5- Laura Duprey Sieland
- 6- Don Bally
- 8- James Lehtinen
- 9- Katelyn Dohler
- 10- Jess Brown
Bryan Dick
- 12- Courtney Dick
Jennifer Greenwell
Lynn Kasche
- 15- Kathie Deyerler
Robert Piechota
- 16- Terri Becker
- 20- Wayne Giampietro
Larry Mosner
Allison Wittich
- 21- Joe Labellarte
Jan Schwanke
Madison Werner
- 23- Olivia Brown
- 24- Ryan Shull
- 28- Jan Burke
- 30- Joanna Lynn
Julie Utterback

\$960 was sent to COOL for Holiday Food Baskets

\$400 was donated for the Sanctuary Christmas Tree

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone that took an angel from our tree! Thanks to all the generous people in our congregation, we were able to provide **gifts for 79 children**. We were also able to provide 2 ½ bags of clothes to the family in need!

Another BIG THANK YOU to Steve Fina & Kari Davenport for playing Santa and delivering the gifts. Please enjoy this thank you book from Winthrop Child Center; it will be in the narthex for all to see!



Anniversary Milestones

Amber & Matt Malone
5 years

church council **MEETING**

Highlights from December 2018

The monthly Church Council meeting was held on December 10th. Treasurer's report included year-to-date operating fund income of \$335,914. This includes 11/12th of \$66,000 of prepaids for 2018. Our year-to-date fund expenses are \$420,266.

The Pastor's report: Pastor Tim participated in an Interfaith Thanksgiving service as well as our own Thanksgiving service. He's also been busy meeting with various committees to wrap up the year and plan for the next year. The rest of this month will be busy with all the holiday events.

Committees of the council provided reports of various activities. **Worship & Music** is busy preparing for Christmas services. Reminder there will only be one service at 9:30 on December 23rd and 30th and January 6th. **Christian Education** had a small turnout for the family gathering during Hanging of the Greens. The children put on another fabulous Christmas Program. **Long Range Planning** is getting estimates for the sanctuary floor. More information to come. **Youth** are preparing for Youth Sunday on February 3rd. They are also planning another blind volleyball tournament. **Finance** Committee met and is finalizing the annual report. **Stewardship** appeal has ended. Commitments are ahead of last year but we still have quite a ways to go to reach our goal. **Property** replaced the range in the kitchen. They are awaiting the final proposal from D-Wing for the roof replacement. After preseason maintenance was performed, it was determined 3 furnace units may have to be replaced before the end of the winter. **Human Needs** is still in need of over-night volunteers for PADS. Several area churches were contacted about helping. Holy Cross is considering helping. **Growth** sent out over 500 postcards to new people in the community.

Old Business: The Nominating Committee has filled all the slots for the outgoing Council members. Revisions were made to the 2019 budget. **New Business:** Annual Congregation Meeting will take place on January 27th.

Next council meeting is January 14th at 7:30 PM. All council meetings are open to Holy Spirit members. Minutes and reports of the council are kept in a public notebook in the narthex.

Please Note Special Service Times!

There will be one 9:30 AM service on Dec. 30, Jan. 6 & 20

**Family Event on January 6 following the 9:30 service:
Follow the Star Obstacle Course!**





Homeless Shelter Season is NOW!

Would you donate 4 ½ hours of your time to help a neighbor in need? The PADS ministry at LCHS needs your help. Please check your calendar for the dates below and sign up for just one shift to serve some of our Lake County neighbors who are experiencing homelessness this season.

January 12/13, February 9/10, March 9/10, April 13/14

For more information about PADS or to sign up to volunteer, please contact Wendy LaPlaca at wlaplaca@comcast.net or 847-275-3892. Thank you!

Special events are in red bold print

January 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	3 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	4	5
6 9:30 Epiphany Service 10:30 Family Event Obstacle course	7	8 10:30am EXPOS 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	9 10am Caring Community Mtg 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	10 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	11	12 PADS
13 Youth Group Pizza, Friend & Parent Night	14 7:30pm Council Mtg	15 10am Quilters 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	16 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	17 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	18	19
20 9:30 service 10:30am Congregational Mtg	21	22 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	23 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	24 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	25	26
27 Meet & Greet Family Event- Skating	28	29 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	30 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	31 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study		

2019 FEBRUARY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Youth Sunday -Super Bowl of Caring No Youth Group	4	5 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	6 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	7 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	8 7pm Winetasting	9 PADS
10 Sun School & Youth Group Chinese New Year Activity	11 7:30pm Council Mtg	12 10:30am EXPOS 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	13 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	14 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	15	16
17	18	19 10am Quilters 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	20 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	21 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	22 Blind Volleyball Tourney	23
24 9:30 am Jazz Service Meet & Greet	25	26 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	27 7:15pm Choir 8:15pm Bells	28 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study		

MARCH 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 Mardi Gras	6 7pm Ash Wed Service	7 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	8	9 PADS
10 World Hunger Sunday	11 7:30pm Council Mtg	12 10:30am EXPOS 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	13 7pm Lent Service	14 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	15 6pm Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	16
17	18	19 10am Quilters 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	20 7pm Lent Service	21 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	22	23
24	25	26 4pm Confirmation 4:15-6pm LYFE	27 7pm Lent Service	28 9:30am Prayer Group 10am Bible Study	29	30
31 Meet & Greet						

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

January 2019

More information may be found on our website: www.holyspirit-elca.org



***Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069***

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**Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor
Phone: 847-945-1550**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED