



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



July 2020

## Reopening Update

The Restoring LCHS Task Force has been meeting over the past few weeks to move our congregation forward to the day when we can again worship together in person. The task force has been discerning what worship will look like while following recommendations from the CDC, the Metro Chicago Synod Bishop's Office, and the Restore Illinois guidelines. We are also being guided by Scripture that teaches us to be "our brother's keeper" and inspires us to sacrifice our individual inconvenience for the health and wellbeing of others.

We do not yet have a definitive date for returning to in-person worship, but we hope to start with a few outdoor summer worship services in our parking lot where we can maintain appropriate physical distance and get a feel for some of the new routines we'll be utilizing indoors. We will announce our first service as soon as we are confident we have the needed supplies and strategies in place.

Some of the tasks we've addressed in addition to worship include writing guidelines for outside groups that use our building, e.g., Camp Lincolnshire and the Music Institute; obtaining materials we will need in order to reopen safely (masks, sanitizing stations, contact-free thermometers); and developing strategies for cleaning based on recommendations of the CDC.

Part of the process regarding worship included the congregational survey. Thank you to the 75 respondents who participated. Results follow:

- 49% are unsure about returning to in-person worship or want to wait some time before returning. 30% want to return but have concerns and 21% want to return as soon as possible.
- Over 70% are willing to wear a mask in order to attend worship.
- 70-80% agreed that various expectations for precautions should be taken, and 20% would prefer communion not be offered.
- Over 70% are willing to reserve a space in order to attend an in-person worship service.
- 75% are willing to attend service at a time different from their usual time.
- As for level of screening, over 80% are willing to have temperatures taken before entering the sanctuary; over one-third are willing to answer questions about exposure; and 11% indicated not being comfortable with any level of screening.
- 90% are interested in a seated outdoor worship service; and 46% are interesting in having a drive-up communion offered.
- For parents with children, 75% are not yet comfortable with having their children attend Sunday School classes and two-thirds or more indicated they preferred most of the precautions be in place for Sunday School classrooms.

## *A Note from Our Pastor*

Dear Friends in Christ,

In a year where so many things have upset our normal rhythm and many of us have to continue to check what day it is, even what month it is, Independence Day is upon us, and a time to reflect on the wonderful, yet turbulent history of our great nation.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, on July 4th, 244 years ago, its words described the beginning of a process, not the end. It was a Declaration of Incompleteness.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident,” wrote Thomas Jefferson, “that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

“The pursuit of happiness”, that phrase alone shows us that our work is never finished.

On this Independence Day, it’s appropriate for us, as Christians in the United States of America, to look at where we’ve been and where we’re going. Sixty years ago, it wasn’t at all that clear that “all men are created equal” because segregation was enforced in many parts of our country. Black men and women were treated as second-class citizens. It took a massive civil-rights movement to outlaw racial discrimination and move us closer to a society in which all people are accepted as equals.

But are we there yet? Well, not quite. Some might say, not even close.

Notice how theological the Declaration of Independence is on this point: “all men are created equal.” It doesn’t say born equal — it says created equal. Creation requires a divine Creator, and as Christians we believe that “*God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them*” (Genesis 1:27).

This anniversary is the perfect day to look at ourselves as people created in the image of God, with tremendous intellectual, spiritual and relational gifts. Psalm 8 tells us that the Lord has made human beings “*a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor*”.

That’s who we are, according to Scripture. A little lower than God, crowned with glory and honor. And that’s who our neighbors are as well: the working-class family from El Salvador across the street, the single mom with three kids in the grocery store, the unwanted child in need of adoption, the wealthy attorney with a broken marriage and a drinking problem. It’s time to break out of our categories and caricatures and begin to see each other as equals — as brothers and sisters, created in the image of God.

Only then can we reach out to each other with love and compassion and understanding, accepting each other as the Lord accepts each one of us.

We have much to improve on when it comes to equality, service to God, and pursuing happiness in our community, and unless we focus on these goals, we’re going to find ourselves living in an increasingly segregated, self-serving, sin-saturated and self-centered society.

So let’s move a little closer to becoming a nation where all of God’s children can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Let’s all work toward healing our wounds, lifting each other up with respect and dignity, and resolving underlying injustices. We can make a difference in the lives of many. It may not be perfect, but completeness and perfection will be found only in a relationship with the One who has created us and called us to be his own.

So until then, we’ll continue to declare our incompleteness and pursue happiness for all.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Tim*

## **The Quilters**

The quilting group will meet for on Tuesday, July 21st. 10:00 AM. All are welcome. No experience necessary!

## **Thursday Bible Study**

Our Thursday Bible study continues to meet using ZOOM. We are starting a new unit studying Jon Meachum's book entitled "The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross". If you'd like to participate please contact Jan Schwanke at [bennett95@comcast.net](mailto:bennett95@comcast.net) and she will send you the link to be invited in. In July we will be starting a new study on Ibram Kendi's book, "How To Be An Antiracist", so join us as we delve into the challenges of today.

## **Prayer Group**

Our prayer group is continuing to meet at 9:30 a.m. every Thursday morning, using ZOOM. If you'd like to pray with us, please contact Jeanne Nelson at [jnelson814@comcast.net](mailto:jnelson814@comcast.net) and she will send you the link to be invited in.

## **Meet & Greet (suspended until further notice)**

## **Synod Assembly**

Holy Spirit will send three delegates to the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly. The annual assembly has been postponed from June 5th and 6th to October 3rd. A location has yet to be determined as well as whether or not this will be a virtual gathering. Further details will be forthcoming. If you are interested in participating please contact Pastor Tim.

## **Church Calendar (suspended until further notice)**

We have not included our normal three month calendar in the newsletter this month since we cannot predict when we will be able to resume face-to-face activities in the church. With all church gatherings suspended for now, we will begin re-planning events as we near the time when we resume them. It will be wonderful to get back together when we do, and we can look forward to a grand celebration when that day comes!

## **Stay in Touch**

Let us know what you are up to during this stay at home mandate by emailing pictures, particularly of worship and service, to be included in the next newsletter.



**Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.**





# Children's Ministry News

by Jennifer Williams, Children's Ministry Director - [jennifer.williams@schschildren@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.williams@schschildren@gmail.com)

## Summer Fun for Kids and Families!

We have 3 options to keep everyone connected and keep God in our hearts this summer. These simple and fun activities can be done in any order and at any time.

**First is our "Summer Scorecard"** which launched in June via the weekly email. If you'd like to add a friendly competitive element, give yourself a point for each completed square. Points double if you send me a picture of you completing the task; I'd like to share these on our Facebook page and in next month's newsletter!

Food Fun	Water Fun	Nature Fun	Pure Joy
			
<b>Eat lunch outside</b>	<b>Water a plant</b>	<b>Look for shapes in the clouds</b>	<b>Ride something with wheels</b>
<b>Eat ice cream</b>	<b>Wash your Mom's car</b> (ask for permission)	<b>Find 3 different trees</b>	<b>Draw with sidewalk chalk</b>
<b>Make a fruit salad</b>	<b>Run through the sprinkler</b>	<b>Locate the moon</b>	<b>Shadow dance</b>
Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."  -John 6:35	<i>For I will pour water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your Descendants.</i>  -Isaiah 44:3	<i>They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works.</i>  -Psalms 145:5	<i>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.</i>  Romans 15:13

## Take and Make Creation Camp Kit!

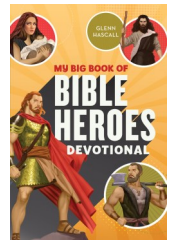
All materials are included for kids to explore the story of creation. There are outdoor activities, art activities, environmental activities and science activities all based on Genesis 1-27. Activities are focused on kids ages pre-k-grade 2 but it can be fun for all! Please email Jennifer if you are interested in picking up a kit so we can arrange a time beginning Tuesday July 7.

### Small-group Style Bible Learning Options:

**Bible Heroes Grit and Grace for girls entering grades 2-5:** using the book *Grit and Grace: Heroic Women of the Bible* by Caryn Rivadeneira available through Amazon, we will learn about courage, confidence and bravery. We will meet via Zoom the week of July 27. Email Jennifer for details.



**Bible Heroes for boys entering grades 2-5 :** using the book *My Big Book of Bible Heroes Devotional* by Glenn Hascall available through Amazon, we will learn about determination, goal setting and endurance. We will meet via Zoom the week of July 27. Email Jennifer for details.



If you'd like your child to participate or you have any questions about summer programming please email Jennifer: [Jennifer.williams@chschildren@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.williams@chschildren@gmail.com)



Hey everyone! Summer is in full swing and we need your help. As you read in Children's Ministry News, our kids will be focusing on BIBLE HEROES for a week this summer. Think of your favorite Bible hero and why he or she resonates with you. Please jot down your thoughts and send them to me. You can get creative and design a poster, write a poem, or simply snap a picture of yourself holding up the name of your hero. I'd like to share these with our small group participants. This simple gesture will connect you to our younger kids (they look up to you). Please reach out if you have any questions! Thanks in advance for your participation.





## **Help Needed in Recording Worship Services**

Holy Spirit has entered into the field of recording and transmitting our worship services through social media and that's going to require some ongoing help. Currently we are providing a simple recording that is attached to a file that people can open through e-mail or from our website. As we begin worshipping together again, the better approach is to live stream our services, and still provide a recording that can be watched at any time. To provide that service, we are going to need volunteers to record the services, upload these recordings to social media, and operate the necessary equipment. Please consider volunteering to help us with this ministry, and contact Pastor Tim if you are interested. Training will be provided once we have all our equipment in place. Thank you to all who help make our worship services proceed smoothly so we can give glory to God!



Through donations to the Memorial fund in Brigid's memory, her organ shoes were bronzed and will be mounted near the organ. We will dedicate them at some point when we can worship together.

Thank you for your donations and to Dave Schroetter for coming up with this loving idea to pay tribute to our beloved Brigid!

## Giving Option

GivePlus is an extension of our current Simply Giving electronic donation system. You do not need to be currently using Simply Giving in order to use GivePlus. With GivePlus, you can quickly and easily donate to Holy Spirit using your smartphone or tablet. GivePlus is free to use and available for download at the App Store (Apple or Google). Simply download the GivePlus app, search for our church by name (Holy Spirit Lutheran Church) or zip code (60069), and then set up your payment using a debit card or credit card. You can make a one-time payment as a guest user, or create an account to set up recurring donations and view your giving history. You are able to donate to four different funds: General Operating Fund, Building Fund, Hunger Offering, or Holiday Offering. If you have questions or would like to learn more, please refer to the user guide, the FAQ document, or contact Larry Brady or Daaron Dohler.

UserGuide: [https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus\\_Mobile\\_How\\_it\\_work.pdf](https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus_Mobile_How_it_work.pdf)

FAQ: [https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus\\_Mobile\\_FAQs\\_for\\_Donors.pdf](https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus_Mobile_FAQs_for_Donors.pdf)

Larry Brady: [larrybrady1952@gmail.com](mailto:larrybrady1952@gmail.com)

Daaron Dohler: [dldohler@gmail.com](mailto:dldohler@gmail.com)

Our Holy Spirit family has always reached out to those in need. At this unprecedented time, there are doubtless families in our own congregation which are dealing with uncertainty and challenge. Please reach out to Pastor Tim if you have a confidential situation so he can connect you with the support or services you need.

# LET'S CELEBRATE!



## *July* *Birthdays*

- |     |                    |     |                |
|-----|--------------------|-----|----------------|
| 1-  | Ryan Becker        | 18- | Dave Engen     |
|     | Pam Labellarte     | 21- | Paul Becker    |
|     | Hannah Miller      |     | Linda Johnson  |
|     | Darlene Neumann    | 27- | Quin Ribordy   |
| 2-  | Kami Spoehr        | 28- | Amelia Eastman |
| 3-  | Joseph Neela       | 29- | Calvin Bittner |
|     | Sharon Ryan        | 30- | Kymm Brown     |
| 4-  | Mary Lou Gilliam   |     | Mike Mihalov   |
| 7-  | Gabrielle Brown    | 31- | Joshua Neela   |
|     | Dominic Cantagallo |     |                |
| 9-  | Chris Miller       |     |                |
| 10- | Elaine Petersen    |     |                |
| 13- | Mitch Prosk        |     |                |
| 17- | Jan Travetto       |     |                |





## church council **MEETING**

## **Highlights from June 2020**

The monthly Church Council meeting was held via Zoom on June 8th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$39,645 for May (YTD total is \$190,035). Operating expenses were \$32,365 in May (YTD total is \$182,341).

**The Pastor's report:** The Restoring LCHS Task Force's work is underway. Pastor has been engaging with the Synod and other outside resources regarding reopening guidance and plans, and he has engaged in continuing education. Camp Lincolnshire is preparing to operate its program later this summer, June 29-August 15. Preparation of the church's upcoming year calendar is underway. **Christian Education** reported that VBS will be modified this summer and in its place an adapted program will be conducted primarily through Zoom meetings and take-home projects, with programming tailored to participant ages. **Youth** that Jennifer Williams continues to maintain contact and offer Zoom meeting opportunities and she is working on youth involvement in the VBS alternative programming. **Fellowship/CUFF** reported that consideration is being given to a State-compliant fellowship activity later in the summer. **Growth** reported on a free app under consideration offered by the provider of the GivePlus app that serves as a communications hub. **Human Needs** reported that another food drive is being planned and more information will be circulated. Alternatives to a traditional blood drive in light of the pandemic also are being considered. **Personnel** reported that Kathy Roderer is on payroll as permanent accompanist. **Property** reported that maintenance tasks and upkeep are ongoing with invaluable member assistance, including addressing a water leak and grounds-keeping. **Worship & Music** reported that online services will continue with increasing engagement. **Old Business:** The Synod Convention will be Saturday, October 3, 2020, with details to be provided by the Synod at a later date. The Capital Campaign continues. Pledges over \$312,000 have been received, and over \$100,000 in initial gifts have been made. A portion of these gifts will be used to make a \$25,000 prepayment on the mortgage, with the possibility of an additional prepayment upon assessment of projected upcoming capital expenditures, such as HVAC system components. Camp Lincolnshire is being very transparent, engaged, and thorough in monitoring and implementing pandemic-related requirements as it prepares to hold camp later in the summer. The Restoring LCHS Task Force is assessing applicable guidelines for beginning in-person worship, including possible options for outdoor worship later in the summer and then for resuming indoor worship. Recorded worship services will continue, and planning is underway to live stream services.

**Next council meeting currently is scheduled for July 13th 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.

## THE NEED CONTINUES!

### What can I do to help others during the pandemic?

Please remember to send your **hunger offering** to church either electronically or via check. We have traditionally collected our hunger offering on the second Sunday of the month.

Our Holy Spirit family responded generously to our COOL and PADS food & supply appeal in May. Let's do it again! **Please drive through the church parking lot on Saturday, July 11, 1 - 3 PM**, with your contributions. Our socially-distanced and masked volunteers will take the donation from your trunk and place it in a vehicle for delivery. COOL and PADS are working together to serve Lake County residents during this time, so you are supporting both organizations with one donation.

There is a particular need for **disinfecting wipes**. Purchase of wipes is limited, so please start collecting them NOW.

#### Suggested donations:

- Mac n cheese cups
- Cup-a-soup
- Microwavable ravioli, spaghetti and meatballs, beef stew
- Ramen cups
- Small jars of peanut butter and jelly
- Loaves of bread
- Beef jerky, Slim Jim, meat sticks
- Tuna packets
- Spam pouches
- Breakfast cereal bars or granola bars
- Fruit cups
- Gift cards** to Aldi, Walmart, Jewel. McDonalds. Please either include the receipt or clearly mark the dollar value.
- Boxes of cereal
- Canned vegetables
- Fresh produce
- Granola bars & fruit snacks
- Fruit juice
- Toilet paper, paper towels
- Household cleansing products
- Plastic silverware, cups, plates
- Can openers





**Holy Family School** is still in need of basic school supplies. Donate as little or as much as you are able by using this link:

[https://smile.amazon.com/wedding/registry/R2ESTIBADFHR?ref=wr\\_search\\_page\\_result\\_1](https://smile.amazon.com/wedding/registry/R2ESTIBADFHR?ref=wr_search_page_result_1)

You can donate everything from pencils to erasable white boards.

If you forget this link, go to Amazon and search “wedding registries.” *Sorry, after much effort creating a school wish list, it was easier to create a registry!* Use “Holy Family School” for the name of either the bride or the groom! **Your purchases will be shipped directly to the school and distributed as needed.**

Our Holy Spirit family has always reached out to those in need. At this unprecedented time, there are doubtless families in our own congregation which are dealing with uncertainty and challenge. Please reach out to Pastor Tim if you have a confidential situation so he can connect you with the support or services you need.

*We are Grateful and Pray for  
First Responders, Nurses, Doctors,  
And All Essential Workers Everywhere!*

# ***HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS***

*July 2020*

More information may be found on our website: [www.holyspirit-elca.org](http://www.holyspirit-elca.org)



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Phone: 847-945-1550

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED