



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



March 2021



Holy Week and Easter

~ *Passion/Palm Sunday, March 28*

A Sunday morning that begins with Palms and climaxes in the passion of our Lord.

Join us at 8:30 or 10:45 AM

~ *Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 PM*

On this night we hear Jesus' command "Do this for the remembrance of me" and respond by gathering as He did with His disciples.

~ *Good Friday, April 2*

11:00 AM Children's Service

Join us as we walk as Jesus did through Holy Week.

7:30 PM Service

A service that moves from light to darkness as we reflect on the meaning of Christ's last hours and words, His suffering and death.

~ *Easter Morning Worship April 4, 8:30 and 10:45 AM*

Celebrate the resurrection and the promise of new life.

A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

After a visit with one of our members, I came across this story that sort of fit with what many are going through.

Keetie the parakeet never saw it coming. One second he was peacefully perched in his cage. The next he was sucked in, washed up, and blown over. The problems began when Keetie's owner decided to clean his cage with a vacuum cleaner. She removed the attachment from the end of the hose and stuck it in the cage. The phone rang, and she turned to pick it up. She'd barely said "hello" when "sssopp!" Keetie got sucked in.

The bird owner gasped, put down the phone, turned off the vacuum, and opened the bag. There was Keetie – still alive, but stunned. Since the bird was covered with dust and soot, she grabbed him and raced to the bathroom, turned on the faucet, and held Keetie under the running water. Then, realizing that Keetie was soaked and shivering, she did what any compassionate bird owner would do...she reached for the hair dryer and blasted the pet with hot air.

Poor Keetie never knew what hit him. A few days after the trauma, the reporter who'd initially written about the event contacted Keetie's owner to see how the bird was recovering. "Well," she replied, "Keetie doesn't sing much anymore – he just sits and stares."

It's hard not to see why. Sucked in, washed up, and blown over...that's enough to steal the song from the stoutest heart.

Can you relate to Keetie? Most of us can. One minute you're seated in familiar territory with a song on your lips. Then...the pink slip arrives, the rejection letter arrives, the doctor calls, the divorce papers are delivered, the check bounces, a policeman knocks on your door.

SSSopp! You're sucked into a black cavern of doubts, doused with the cold water of reality, and stung with the hot air of empty promises. The life that had been so calm is now stormy. You're hail stormed by demands. Assailed by doubts. Pummeled by questions. And somewhere in the trauma, you lose your joy. Somewhere in the storm, you lose your song.

Storms come. They come quickly. They pounce ferociously. If you are in one, then you know what I mean. If you're not in one today, you know as well, that one may be in tomorrow's forecast.

But just as Jesus stilled the storm on the Sea of Galilee, He can still the storm in your world. When we're in the midst of challenging events, Jesus can take your hand and lift you out of the storm, so that you can see clearly once again and prepare you to overcome any obstacle. And above all, through trust in our Savior, He can restore the joy in your life, the energy, the passion, the drive.

Some Bible verses that capture the movement from sucked in, washed up, blown over; to joy, passion, and life are below, but it's up to us to put our trust in God, in Jesus, in the Holy Spirit, for that is where we find resurrection and new life. God is there to receive us, shelter us, and build us up to carry on in ways that will surprise us. Have an inspiring season of Lent, and trust in our Savior, as we anticipate the joy that comes with the Easter resurrection.

Weeping may endure for a night, but Joy comes in the morning. (Psalm 30:5)

Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full (John 16:24)

Restore in me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing Spirit (Psalm 51:12)

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12)

This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it (Psalm 118:24)

So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. (John 16:22)

Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you, hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by. (Isaiah 26:20)

After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him (Hosea 6:2)

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation (Habakkuk 3:18)

Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! (Psalm 126:5)

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4)

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim

The Quilters

The quilting ministry will not be meeting in March

Thursday Bible Study

We are studying a book by prominent theologian and Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber titled *Accidental Saints: Finding God in all the Wrong People*.

In a time when many have become disillusioned with Christianity, *Accidental Saints* demonstrates what happens when ordinary people share bread and wine, struggle with Scripture together, and tell one another the truth about their real lives. This unforgettable account of their faltering steps toward wholeness will ring true for believer and skeptic alike. If you'd like to participate please contact Jan Schwanke at bennett95@comcast.net and she will send you the link to be invited to the Zoom meeting. Join us at 10:30 as we delve into how our faith informs our dealing with the challenges of today.

Prayer Group

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

Easter Lilies

Each year our sanctuary is made more beautiful by the special gift of flowers in abundance for Easter. You are invited to share in this seasonal beauty by ordering spring flowers to decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning. Please complete the order form and return it with payment of \$15 per plant to the church office by **Sunday, March 21**. You are welcome to take your flowers home following the second service on Easter morning.

Name _____

Number of spring flowers @\$15.00 each _____

Email address _____

Given to the Glory of God and in memory/honor of:



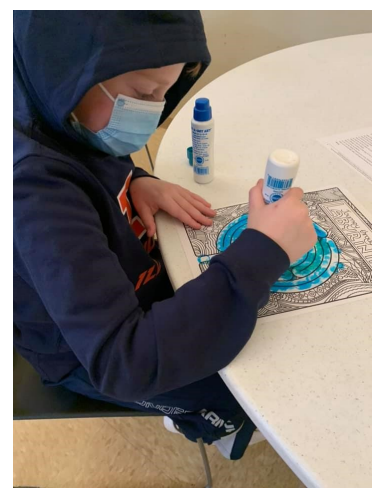
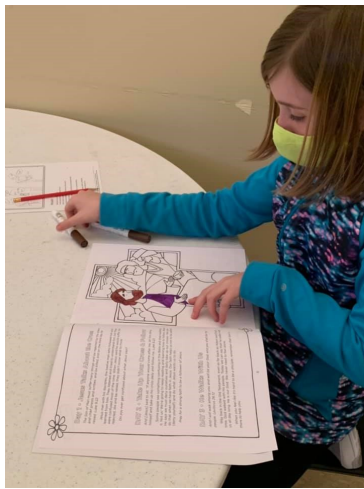
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Children's Ministry News

by Jennifer Williams, Children's Ministry Director - jennifer.williams@lchschildren.org

Tuesday LYFE:

Our in-person meetings have been going GREAT! Our enthusiastic group has been putting on skits, playing games and focusing on Lent! Follow the LCHS Children's Ministry page or our LCHS Facebook Group for examples of our fun. We have three more weeks of this session before spring-break and Easter. If you'd like to join us please contact Jennifer. A new session will begin April 6, concluding our year May 12; we'd love to see you!



Sunday School:

Thank you all for participating in our At-Home Series on The Lord's Prayer. I felt that the material was covered in such a meaningful way. It was my pleasure to present it! As we move through Lent, I'm sending home activity bulletins in addition to our regular children's bulletins. These activity sheets are closely tied to the readings each week and contain a mixture of engaging activities. Lent activity packets were mailed to our families. Have some fun with the calendars.

Please remember to color the butterfly and get it back to me in the self-addressed envelope! I'm hoping to display these for Easter.

If you did not receive a packet please let me know and I'll get one to you ASAP.

Save the date Friday, April 2 "Good Friday Children's Activity"! More info to come.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

March Birthdays



1-	Bill Lynn	19-	Chuck Heyward
2-	Jonathan Glenner	21-	Carmaline Spurrier
3-	Diane Cloonan	22-	Tom Adkisson, Jr.
5-	Peter Miller	23-	Jeanne Nelson
	Phil Spoeher	27-	Mary Detjen
6-	Jodi Dirks	28-	Tim Kelley
7-	Marian McBride	29-	Margy Eastmond
8-	Robbie Williams	30-	Payton Adkisson
9-	Luther Grafe		Abby Grafe
10-	Lauren Driscoll	31-	Ryan Hathaway
12-	Shirley Lease		Jackson Qualley
	Lynn Driscoll		

MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday at 7:30 PM

In the Book of Joel, the prophet paints a vivid picture of the coming judgment of God, the Day of the Lord. The imagery is bold and terrifying: hordes of locusts swarming over the land and decimating everything. Joel's prophecy has teeth even today as wars rage, natural disasters threaten and destroy, a viral pandemic decimates lives, and our culture seems to be unraveling. But right in the middle of this frightening portent, we find a tender invitation from the Lord: *"Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster"* (Joel 2:13).

God's invitation and promise finds its fullness in Jesus Christ, who personifies and accomplishes all that God declares. During this season of Lent, we will consider the theme "Return to the Lord" and examine how the call to return played out in practical ways for the people who walked alongside Christ as He demonstrated and carried out God's grace and mercy on our behalf, taking God's wrath upon Himself, setting the stage for God to *"turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him"* (Joel 2:14). Join us virtually on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM, a link will be provided.

3/3 Return from Betrayal

3/10 Return from False-witness

3/17 Return from Denial

3/24 Stations of the Cross

Plans for Worship

We have returned to in-person worship. Please sign up on the link provided through email as a reservation is needed. Face masks, social distancing and temperature checks are required. We look forward to celebrating the Lord's day with you and our gathered community!

As we approach Holy Week at the end of March and early April we intend to grow in-person worship so that everyone who attends is comfortable and safe as we follow COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions. We are currently worshipping as many as 30 but will expand that to 50 in the coming weeks, as we learn how to best move worshippers in and out and through the service. We intend to have two services at 8:30 and 10:45 on Palm Sunday and Easter with 50 in attendance at each. We look forward to having you join us in worship, and certainly respect your decision to refrain from gathering until we're further along the pandemic cycle. Thanks for staying connected with each other and for your continued support of our mission and ministries.

We will continue to record our weekly worship service and send a video recording of the service through e-mail if you cannot attend on Sunday. The link to watch the recording will be available on Sunday morning, and we encourage you and your family to take time to worship as a family and stay connected with Holy Spirit when you can't be at a live service.

Human Needs Weekend

On the second weekend of every month, the Congregation supports others in need in the local community and afar through collection of a Hunger Offering, and during "PADs season" through support for PADs. In recognition of the Congregation's historic and ongoing generosity and contributions to those in need, the second weekend of each month will be recognized as Human Needs Weekend. In March, Human Needs Weekend will be March 13-14. Hunger Offering will be collected on Sunday, March 14. Additional outreach activities will be announced for upcoming Human Needs Weekends.

PADS

When is the next LCHS food drive: March 13th from 1– 2 PM.

What do they need most: PADS has requested specific items for donation this month. If you are able to help, please consider donating any of the following:

- Non-perishable food that must have a pop-top lid and be microwavable
- o Chef Boyardee Ramen Soup cups Beef stew Hormel complete meals
- o Packaged snacks like cheese and crackers, peanut butter and crackers
- o Snack bags of chips or pretzels

Who are you helping: Lake County residents currently experiencing homelessness and in need of food

Where are they staying: PADS is supporting these residents through hotel accommodations due to the COVID pandemic

Thank you all!! Call me if you need help with your donation! Wendy LaPlaca at 847-275-3892 or wlaplaca@comcast.net.



church council **MEETING**

Highlights from February 2021

The monthly Church Council meeting was held via Zoom on February 8th. Treasurer's report included monthly Benevolence offerings and other income of \$31,252 for January (YTD total is \$31,252). Operating expenses were \$32,683 in January (YTD total is \$32,683).

The Pastor's report: In-person services with limited capacity have resumed. Current guidelines appear to permit increasing attendance at services, so it is anticipated that more reservations will be accepted for services in coming weeks. Lenten Wednesday services are underway, conducted via Zoom. Pastor and staff have been working on improving the congregation's social media presence on multiple sites, and additional information with invitations to engage will be forthcoming. **Finance** reported that work continues on annual renewal of the line of credit. **Growth** reported that work on growth activities is ongoing. **Christian Education** reported that Tuesday LYFE, Confirmation classes, and online Sunday School continue. **Human Needs** reported on February food donation PADs collection. The next PADs food donation day will be held on March 13. **Personnel** reported that review processes continue to be developed for upcoming staff meetings. **Property** reported that Joel has been conducting maintenance tasks, including snow and ice removal from building areas and the roof. **Stewardship** reported that no additional pledges from the annual appeal have been received. **Worship and Music** reported that in-person services have resumed, online services continue, and a new choir piece was shared. **Technology** reported that equipment for improved live streaming of worship services is being researched, as well as improved office equipment. A motion was passed to approve submission of a request to the Endowment Committee for funding in the amount of \$10,000-\$12,000 for technology needs. **New Business:** Second Draw PPP Loan: The congregation has qualified for a second PPP loan, and an application was submitted. A motion for approval for the congregation to enter into an agreement with the ELCA credit provider for a PPP loan in the amount of \$54,533 passed. Virtual Synod Meeting Delegates Needed: Sat., June 5, 8:30-noon.

Next council meeting currently is scheduled for March 8th 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.

Prayer Concerns

We freshen prayer concerns after 3 weeks so the list remains current. Please remember to email Laurie in the church office when prayer concerns change or to update your request.

Church Office Hours

The office will be open on Tues., Thurs., & Fri from 8AM—2PM.
Face masks and social distancing are required.

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

March 2021

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



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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED