

## March 19 Guest Preacher

Please welcome Rev. Kathryn Ulrich, our guest preacher on Sunday, March 19! Kathy represented the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin as a teacher in Malawi for a period of time in 2016. She is currently serving as a chaplain at Sacred Heart Hospital, and she also serves as a pastor for Nathaniel Lutheran Church in Bruce, Wisconsin.

Rev. Ulrich will also speak during our coffee time between worship services. Join her in our fellowship hall to hear more!

## NEW Milestone

Today (March 19) we launch a new milestone at Spirit Lutheran. When a baby is born into our congregation there will be a car seat with a pink or blue blanket and a birth announcement located in the entryway of church. As a church family we can write cards welcoming our newest member. Cards can be placed in the car seat.

We start this milestone by welcoming Leda Ellie Lor, newborn daughter of our Communications Manager, Padee Khang and her husband, Toua.

Congratulations, Padee and Toua!

## Wednesday Schedule Update

Please Note -  
On Wednesday, March 22 we will not have a meal following our 4:00 p.m. Lenten worship service. Connections is not in session as we are observing the ECASD spring break. We WILL still worship that day at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. as previously scheduled.

## Spirit Lutheran is Hosting a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross

Good Friday, April 14 from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment to donate, please:

- Log onto [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (search by sponsor code Spirit) or
- Call 800.733.2767.

### Eligibility Dates

For Whole Blood: on or before February 17

For Power Reds (previously known as Double Red Cell): on or before December 23

You don't need a special reason to give blood. You just need your own reason.

- Some of us give blood because we were asked by a friend.
- Some know that a family member or a friend might need blood some day.
- Some believe it is the right thing we do.

Whatever your reason, the need is constant and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply. Help us make a difference this Good Friday!



## Christ Jam was GREAT!

We had 5 middle-school kids from Spirit in attendance plus Chad Wing and bus driver, Keith Hanson. Youth from Immanuel Lutheran Church also went on the bus with us. Christ Jam was held on Saturday, March 11 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Rice Lake, WI.



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Submissions for publication are due by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for content, quality, brevity, and accuracy. Any content submitted to Spirit Lutheran becomes the sole property of the congregation and cannot be used in part or in whole without the congregation's consent.

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
1310 Main Street  
Eau Claire WI 54701

715-832-2421  
[office@spiritlutheran.org](mailto:office@spiritlutheran.org)  
[www.spiritlutheran.org](http://www.spiritlutheran.org)

## Seeking Synod Assembly Representatives

The 2017 Synod Assembly will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire on Saturday, April 29, 2017, running from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Spirit Lutheran is seeking two representatives for our congregation. See the event details below. If you are interested in representing our congregation, please contact Mark Miller, Office Manager, at 715-832-2421 or [mmiller@spiritlutheran.org](mailto:mmiller@spiritlutheran.org) by April 1, 2017. Assembly Registration Fee, which includes program costs, materials, lunch, and breaks will be paid by Spirit Lutheran. *\*Your registration will be completed by Spirit Lutheran staff.*

## Why Do We Want Children and Youth in Worship?

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton asked in worship, "Why do you want youth and young adults in worship?" Answers from the congregation were: because we are getting old, they are the church of tomorrow, and they are the future of the church. Bishop Eaton said the key is that they are all *children of God*. She says, "they are not replacement parts, they are not the future, Jesus is! The reason they need to be in worship is they are God's children."

## Free Clinic Meal in March

In March, lend a helping hand to our Free Clinic Meal Ministry as we prepare a meal for the volunteer Health Care Team at the Free Clinic on Tuesday, March 21. This ministry provides a nourishing meal for the volunteer Health Care Team which is made up of 20 professionals who come directly from their daytime work to care for clients at the Free Clinic. While doing your grocery shopping, pick up specific food items for the dinner that is being prepared for the Health Care Team. Volunteers are welcome to lend a hand in the kitchen as the meal is prepared on Tuesday, March 21 at 3:30 p.m. in the kitchen at Spirit Lutheran.

To donate specific food items or help in meal preparation, a sign-up sheet is located on the white bulletin board outside of our worship space (near stairwell to Fellowship Hall). Please bring food items to the Spirit Lutheran kitchen by noon Monday, March 20 (clearly mark the items "Free Clinic"). All are welcome to become involved in this ministry, many hands make light work!

If you have questions, contact the church office or Jeff Lorentz at [jdlorentz@hotmail.com](mailto:jdlorentz@hotmail.com).

## 2017 Lenten Schedule

Our Wednesday schedule for the Lenten Season is:

4:00 p.m. Traditional Worship (we focus on Luther's Small Catechism.)

**March 22:** Lord's Prayer

**March 29:** Baptism

**April 5:** Holy Communion

4:45 p.m. Light supper

6:00 p.m. Connections & Education Time

7:00 p.m. Worship – Holden Evening  
Prayer and character portrayals of the Passion and Biblical stories

**March 22:** Mara, the Woman who Washed Jesus' Feet

**March 29:** Nicodemus, the Pharisee

**April 5:** Stephanus, the Rich Young Ruler

## Easter Flower Orders

As we look toward the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter morning, Spirit Lutheran offers you an opportunity to participate in the beauty of the day by purchasing an Easter Lily in memory or in honor of a loved one. You are welcome to take your plant(s) with you following our 10:30 a.m. worship service on Easter morning. The deadline for ordering plants is Sunday, April 2.

To purchase plants, please pay in advance (\$8.00 per lily) using the green Easter Flower envelopes that can be found on tables in the back of the church and in the pews. Place your envelope in the offering plate on Sundays or Wednesdays, or deliver it to the church office. Please make checks payable to Spirit Lutheran.

## Handbell Concert on 4/1/17

Spirit Ring members and seven other area handbell choirs will be participating in the 19th Annual Eau Claire Area Ring on Saturday, April 1 at Hope Lutheran. The event concludes with a free handbell concert at 2:00 p.m. at Hope Lutheran, 2226 Eddy Lane, Eau Claire. All are invited!



## Seder

Maundy Thursday  
April 13 - 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday is the night in which Jesus took the cup, gave it to us and told us to drink of it. He also took the bread and broke and said, "Do this in remembrance of me." Come for worship; this evening will be an interactive Seder meal experience with Jesus and the disciples.

## Eau Claire Marathon Cheering Section

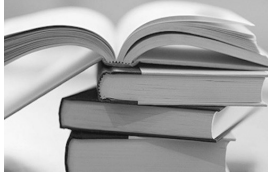
Sunday, May 7 at 9:30 a.m.

The congregation is invited to come and cheer on runners of the Eau Claire Marathon. We are lucky to have the race go right behind church that morning. Come and join in on singing outside to bring the Good News of Jesus to the runners. Bring a sign and bring your cowbells.

## Join Pastor David and Carole for a Bible Study for Parents with Young Families

**Sunday, April 2**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

No experience needed! If you have a Bible, bring it. Bring your children; we will have childcare if you need it. Meet other parents and get ideas on how to take faith home.



A light lunch will be served. Sign up at church by March 26.

## Gas Cards from Kwik Trip and Holiday Offered for Sale on Sundays and Wednesdays

The church will receive a percentage of each purchase when these gas cards are used. Pre-orders for cards from both businesses are due by the 18th of each month. Cards will be available to pick up on the following Sunday. Thanks for supporting this year's summer Mission Trip to Montana!

## Eau Claire Express Faith Night!

This year's Faith Night is on Sunday, June 4 at 5:05 p.m. at Carson Park. The ticket special is \$12 for a seat at the baseball game, a hot dog, and small beverage. Sign up on the board by the church office so we can order tickets and sit together as Spirit Lutheran! Please sign up by May 1.

**Cookbooks for Sale** - on the counter in the back of the church. Make a free-will offering! These books make great gifts. Proceeds will help our youth get to Montana for their summer Mission Trip.

### College Scholarships

The Spirit Lutheran Foundation is accepting scholarship applications from students pursuing higher education. Anyone from Spirit Lutheran who is interested in higher education, either at a college or technical school, is invited to apply. High school seniors who will graduate this fall and students who are currently enrolled in higher education, or to be enrolled, are eligible. Awards are not based on financial need or grades. Applications are available at the Spirit Lutheran church office and are due by Monday, April 3, 2017. For further information please contact Marian Ennen at [ennen.4@juno.com](mailto:ennen.4@juno.com) or any Spirit Lutheran Foundation Board member.

### Spirit Lutheran Children's Choir Spring 2017

#### Rehearsal Schedule:

\*Tuesday, March 21 – No rehearsal – Spring Break  
Tuesday, March 28 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 4 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
\*Tuesday, April 11 – No rehearsal – Holy Week  
Tuesday, April 18 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 25 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 2 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 9 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

#### Worship Schedule:

Please arrive at church by 9:00 a.m. to warm up. We sing at the end of the 8:30 a.m. worship service and the beginning of the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

- Sunday, April 23
- Sunday, May 14

### Seder Meal Help

We are looking for people to help plan this year's Seder meal. The Seder meal is not really a meal, but an experience.



The Seder is traditionally done on Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter. This is the night our Lord Jesus took bread and broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take and eat; this is my body given for you." And then he took the cup and said, "This is my blood, shed for you and for all." We would like to offer the congregation a time to remember this special night.

- We need a planning team to dream about how this might look and how we want to this to happen.
- We are also looking for people to lead or help, to decorate, to serve, to be a disciple in the live cast of the Last Supper, to help in the kitchen, and to help clean up.

Sign up on the table in the back of the church if you would be able to help make the Seder happen this year. Planning meeting will be Monday, March 20 at 6:00 p.m. Please come and join in the fun and planning.

### Door Update

Thank you to everyone who pulled the envelopes off the door. We fell short of our goal so we are going to keep the door around for a few more weeks. Just like every store or market place, we are going to offer a 1/2-off sale. We would like to clear that door so that our youth have a chance to go to the National Youth Gathering. If you have questions, please see Carole DeJardin.

### Lenten Happening

MARCH 25 - 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Come and bring the whole family. Bring your grandmas and grandpas. This is a morning full of crafts, treats, games and stories about Lent and Easter. Please sign up by March 22 on the sheet on the boards outside of the church offices. We are also looking for adults to help run stations this day. Please see Carole DeJardin if you can help.

**First Communion Class** will be March 24 and 26. We have eight youth that will be attending instruction and taking their First Communion on April 13, Maundy Thursday at the Seder Meal. Please pray for these kids and their families as they prepare to receive the Holy Sacrament of Communion. \*\* We're looking for someone to help bake communion bread with these kids on March 24. If you are willing to help bake bread and pass along faith to our kids, please talk to Carole ASAP.

# Weekly Calendar

**Sunday, March 19** - No Sunday School today (Spring Break)

- 8:30 a.m. Organ-led worship
- 10:30 a.m. Band-led worship
- 12:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach workshop

**Monday, March 20**

- 9:00 a.m. Spirit serves @ The Community Table
- 1:00 p.m. Book Club meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Seder planning meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Hope Circle meets at the home of Mary Hoffe

**Tuesday, March 21**

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
  - 9:30 a.m. Love Circle meets at The Meadows
  - 1:30 p.m. Mercy Circle meets at Spirit Lutheran
  - 5:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting
- No Children's Choir practice tonight (Spring Break)

**Wednesday, March 22** - No Connections today (Spring Break)

- 8:30 a.m. Quilters
- 4:00 p.m. Lenten worship service
- 5:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten worship service

**Thursday, March 23**

- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting

**Friday, March 24**

- 5:30 p.m. First Communion Instruction w/pizza dinner

**Saturday, March 25**

- 9:00 a.m. "Lenten Happening"
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Night
- 8:00 p.m. High School Youth Night

**Sunday, March 26** - Soup "Lunch to Go" Fundraiser today

- 8:30 a.m. Organ-led worship
- 9:30 a.m. Council update during coffee time
- 9:30 a.m. Mission Team meeting
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Band-led worship
- 1:00 p.m. First Communion Instruction Session #2

# Sunday School, Confirmation, and Connections Updates

- April 26 @ 6:30 p.m. Pictures for Confirmation Youth – meet in Sanctuary.
- May 4 - Confirmation Banquet for family members, council members and friends and Spirit members. This will be dinner and program. The program will be our youth sharing their faith statements and faith projects. Dinner tickets can be purchased from Carole DeJardin.
- May 7 - Confirmation Sunday- Confirmands please be at church at 10:00 a.m. Meet in the Fireside Room.
- May 21 - Graduation Sunday – Graduates will be recognized in worship, blessed, and given a special gift. Graduates, watch for your letter in the mail.
- April 12 - no Connections – Holy Week
- April 16 - no Sunday School – IT'S EASTER, Praise the Lord with your families.
- May 3 - Last Connections night
- May 7 - Last Sunday School day... The Sunday School kids and adults are invited to cheer on runners in the Eau Claire Marathon and join in on singing outside that morning. Bring a sign and bring your cowbells.

## Mark Your Calendars

**SECRET EGG DROP** – Grades 5-8  
April 15 from 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meet at church. We will be dropping eggs and spreading the news of Jesus rising from the dead. Sign up on board outside of the church offices. Permission slips also are available on the board.

## April 2 – We will present the

fundraiser proceeds to the Zarins family in worship this day and have a meet-and-greet coffee hour. Come and meet the Zarins family and our special super hero, Anna. We will also bless the van that has been purchased so that Anna and her family can be mobile again. DON'T miss this one.

## NEW Spirit Youth Nights

Spirit Youth Nights are scheduled once per month - a night of fun and fellowship for our middle-school and high-school youth.

A typical evening will be:

- 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Middle school youth (grades 5-8)
- 8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. High school youth (grades 9-12)

There will be a 30-minute overlap for pizza time and fellowship. Cost of the pizza will be \$2.00 per person per night.

**Dates:** March 25, April 29, May 20, June 24, July 29, August 26, September 30, October 28, December 2, and January 27, 2018.

### 8:30 a.m. Helpers

**Greeter:** Jane Robertson Johnson

**Ushers:** Jack Brimer, Carole Everson, Jerry Johnson, Vera Merrick

**Communion Assistants:**  
Lynn Fering, Kathy Robertson

**Rover:**

**Reader:** Joyce Linderholm

**Children's Message:**

### 10:30 a.m. Helpers

**Greeter:**

**Ushers:** Tyler Bauer, Linda Knott

**Communion Assistants:**  
Audra Forrest, Tressa Forrest, Elaine Johnson

**Rover:** Todd Tollefson

**Reader:** Jean Sivertson

**Children's Message:**

## Palm Sunday Breakfast

April 9

Come and share your morning meal with the Mission Trip Team, who will be making and serving a full breakfast this day.

