

Newsletter

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 13

4:00 p.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Seder Service &
First Communion

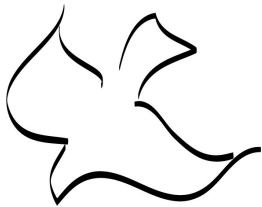
Good Friday, April 14

4:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship
6:30 p.m. Tenebrae Worship

Easter Sunday, April 16

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship
8:30 a.m. Band-led Worship
10:30 a.m. Organ-led Worship

Flowers at the altar on
Sunday, April 9 are given in
memory of Kyle Keith
from Barb Keith and
Kristan, Wade and Hailee
Motszko



Spirit Life Transitions

Ervin Schmidt passed away March 31, 2017. A memorial service is scheduled for Friday, June 30, 2017.

A Service of the Resurrection was held for Karen Champion on Saturday, April 8, 2017.

May God grant peace and hope to those who mourn.



Expanding Generosity is the theme for Spirit Lutheran's upcoming Annual Appeal which starts on Wednesday, April 19 and ends on Celebration Sunday, May 14. In your mail between now and Easter Sunday, in advance of the appeal, you will find Promise Cards. Spirit Lutheran's Annual Appeal encourages consistency in sharing of our gifts of time, talents and treasures. Automatic Giving is offered to make it easier to be consistent. The dictionary defines generosity as the quality of being kind, understanding, and not selfish; the quality of being generous - willingness to share our money, time, and God-given talents with others. As we consider our Promise to Share, let us hope and pray to show generosity of spirit.

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 (search by sponsor code Spirit) or
Call 800.733.2767.

The eligibility dates are:

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!

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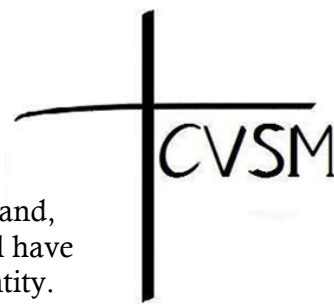
Submissions for publication are due by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for content, quality, brevity, and accuracy. Any content submitted to Spirit Lutheran becomes the sole property of the congregation and cannot be used in part or in whole without the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

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
1310 Main Street
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www.spiritlutheran.org

Mission of the Month: Chippewa Valley Street Ministry



So what does it mean to be homeless? Would you volunteer to spend 7 days on the street on your own? We'll start by taking away any form of ID that you might have and, of course, your cell phone. We give you \$2 in cash for spending money and you will have only the clothes on your back and nothing more. We have stripped you of your identity. We will take you to Minneapolis, La Crosse or maybe Chicago so you won't run into anyone you know. What is the first issue that you have facing you? Well if you're smart, it will be about safety. How do I navigate the streets without being violated and then, how do I find food, and where can I go to the bathroom, where am I going to sleep tonight, safely? What happens if the shelters are full? How do I protect myself in the shelter, if I'm lucky enough to get one? Who can I trust? What if the police stop me and I have no ID or money, will I get arrested for vagrancy? Should I stay awake at night and try and find a place to sleep during the day for my safety? I'm thirsty. Where do I find water? How do I protect myself? If I am seen walking around at night, what if I wander into a neighborhood that is not friendly to me? What if it starts to rain or what if it snows? How do I dry my clothes? How do I keep warm? How do I protect myself from the elements? I'm lonely, I'm scared, I'm bored, I'm tired, my body hurts. I'm stressed. Where can I sit down or lay down to take a nap?

Day 2 -- I am really tired and I'm hungry, I'm thirsty and scared and really starting to feel stressed. I need to find a bathroom to clean up. I need something for my headache. While I am in the bathroom of this gas station maybe I should borrow some toilet paper and put it in my pocket for later in the day. I could wash out this Pepsi bottle I found in the garbage and fill it with water and maybe I should take this half-eaten hamburger with me, also. I wonder if the gas station has anything for two dollars. Should I dare to go by the local church and will they allow me to come into their service on Sunday looking and smelling like I do? I am so embarrassed and I feel so ashamed. I really miss my family!

The Chippewa Valley Street Ministry serves our local street community year-round. Please consider supporting their work with your prayers and other contributions.

Here is the current Ministry Wish List. Items may be brought to Spirit Lutheran or contact members of the Mission & Outreach Committee. Jennifer Krueger 715-574-8461, kruegeja6571@gmail.com

Donations will be collected near the church entry; look for the collection bins!

Hoodies (hooded sweatshirts) – especially large sizes	Umbrellas & rain gear
Large backpacks (always needed, neutral colors preferred)	Small tents (2-3 person)
Gas cards	Sleeping bags
Food cards	Men's boxer shorts – all sizes
Monetary donations	

Learn more and read Street Journals at www.chippewavalleystreetministry.org.

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

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.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Spirit wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Online Giving lets you go to <http://spiritlutheran.org/> at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, or make a one-time donation. Just choose the "Give" tab.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms are available from the church office or the online option.

Want to support the mission & ministry of Spirit Lutheran? Scan this QR code with your smart phone for a quick and easy process!



Spirit Lutheran Children's Choir Spring 2017

Rehearsal Schedule:

*Tuesday, April 11 – No rehearsal – Holy Week
Tuesday, April 18 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 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

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.

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. "This is a HUGE part of the race and everyone LOVES the spectators! We can not thank you enough!"

First Marathon runner should be coming by around 9:35 a.m.

First Half Marathon runner should be coming by around 9:50 a.m.

You will see continuous runners from that point on until around 12:15 p.m.

Sign Up for the Seder!

Remember to sign up for the Seder meal which will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at Spirit. The signup sheet to participate can be found on a clipboard at the entrance of church. The last day for sign up is April 9!

This is an interactive experience for all ages. This year's Seder meal will combine both the Jewish traditional Seder meal and the Christian tradition of Maundy Thursday and the Last Supper. Jesus and the 12 disciples will lead us in portions of the evening. Come and worship with Spirit Lutheran on Maundy Thursday.

There is no cost to this night but a free-will offering will be accepted along with your regular offering.

We are in need of one more disciple for the Seder meal. Disciples have non-speaking parts; you just have to follow Jesus' direction and you will be in costume. Please see Carole De Jardin if you are interested.

Seder Decorating

We are going all out this year for the Seder! We will be decorating on Wednesday, April 12 at 5:30 p.m. and we will need help on ladders and on the floor. Please talk to Carole if you are able to come and help. We will start at 5:30 p.m. and go until we finish.

Weekly Calendar



Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Mission Team Youth arrive at Spirit kitchen to work Breakfast Fundraiser
- 8:30 a.m. Organ-led worship w/Spirit Ring
- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Fundraiser
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Band-led worship

Monday, April 10

- 5:30 p.m. Facility Committee meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Faith Formation Committee Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. World Cultural Center

Tuesday, April 11

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. Tuesday Quilters
- 5:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- *No Children's Choir - Holy Week

Wednesday, April 12 - No Connections

- 1:30 p.m. Worship @ Oakwood Home Apartments
- 6:25 p.m. High School Youth Group

Thursday, April 13 - Maundy Thursday

- 4:00 p.m. Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Seder Service & First Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon meeting

Friday, April 14 - Good Friday

- 12:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive
- 4:00 p.m. Worship
- 6:30 p.m. Worship

Saturday, April 15

- 9:00 a.m. "Secret Egg Drop" Youth Event

Sunday, April 16 - Easter

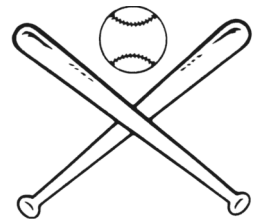
- 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship
- 8:30 a.m. Band-led Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Organ-led Worship

Sunday School, Confirmation, and Connections Updates

- April 12 - no Connections – Holy Week
- April 16 - no Sunday School – IT'S EASTER, Praise the Lord with your families.
- April 26 @ 6:30 p.m. Pictures for Confirmation Youth – meet in Sanctuary.
- May 3 - Last Connections night
- 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 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.
- May 21 - Graduation Sunday – Graduates will be recognized in worship, blessed, and given a special gift. Graduates, watch for your letter in the mail.

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.



8:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeter:

Ushers: Dave Hanson, Chris Thalaker, Jim Severson, Ron Berkland

Communion Assistants:

Marian Ennen, Chelsea Ennen, Ron Cramer, Cheryl Cramer

Rover: Todd Tollefson, Kari Tollefson

Reader: Tom Guelzow, Lori Roholt

Children's Message:

10:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeter:

Ushers: Jake Schoeder, Amy Schoeder, Lynn Buckley, Larry Jankowski

Communion Assistants: Sheryl Hughes, Ruth Huse, Marian Ennen, Chelsea Ennen

Rover: Jan Favret

Reader: Jan Favret

Children's Message:

SECRET EGG DROP

Grades 5-8

April 15 from 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meet at church. We will be spreading the message that Christ has risen!

Permission slips are available across from Carole's office and in 5th – 8th grade classrooms.