



**SPIRIT**  
LUTHERAN  
**Newsletter**

*February 5, 2017*  
*8:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Worship*

**Spirit Lutheran Foundation and the congregation of Spirit Lutheran give thanks for the following memorial gifts received during the month of January, 2017:**

- Gifts in memory of Mary Lokken.
- A gift in memory of Gloria Ottestad.
- Gifts in memory of Boyd Relyea.
- Gifts in memory of Donna Riekemann.
- A gift in memory of Elaine Turner.
- A gift in memory of Raymond Wood.

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**Did you know?** The cost to provide Weekend Kid's Meals is \$75.00 per child? How can we help as a congregation? Through Noisy Offerings!

Every first Sunday of the month, bring some spare coins to service. When you see the children bring the buckets around, fill them on up!

For info on Weekend Kid's Meals please visit: [www.fmpfoodbank.org](http://www.fmpfoodbank.org).

Office hours:  
Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
1310 Main St.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-832-2421  
[office@spiritlutheran.org](mailto:office@spiritlutheran.org)  
[www.spiritlutheran.org](http://www.spiritlutheran.org)

## *Dear Spirit Lutheran*

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

We made our goal! We raised the \$3,000.00 for the Zarins family. I Personally would like to thank Spirit members for coming together and being the Church last Thursday evening. So many of you made such a difference. The auction items, the dinner, the music, the helpers, those who came to eat, those who did the Grandparents challenge and those who made generous monetary donations.

One person said " It feels good to be able to help others," another person said .... "I woke up in the middle of the night and God told me I need to give to this family", another said "this is what Spirit Lutheran is all about" and many people said "this is what we should be about".

It was a night to remember. Thank you again!

The following letter, on page 5, was written by Kristi Zarins and read every half hour at the fundraiser.

Kristi and Family were unable to be there due to sickness. We plan to give this money to the Zarins family in worship, have a special meet and greet coffee hour and bless their van in the near future - watch for announcements.  
Carole D

**If you feel you have lost an item at church  
please look in the lost and found box above  
the coat racks.**

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Health & Healing

**Health & Spirit - Join Spirit Lutheran on a snowshoe hike this Sunday, Feb. 5 at Beaver Creek Reserve, Fall Creek.**

We leave the church parking lot at 1 p.m. If you're not a member of Beaver Creek, a fee of \$3.00 is required. Snowshoe rental if needed is \$3.00. Please let Sue Bauer know if you would like to go so we can figure out transportation and can give Beaver Creek a heads up if snowshoes are needed to make sure enough snowshoes are available. If you can walk, you can snowshoe. Very easy to learn. It'll be fun. Email [sue.bauer@ecpc.com](mailto:sue.bauer@ecpc.com) or can text/call 715-529-1853.

**The Health & Healing Ministry Committee is embarking on the task of creating a dementia friendly environment here at Spirit Lutheran.**

This will provide communication, understanding, a physical environment and resources for those individuals who are living with dementia and other cognitive issues. It will also be a haven for caregivers, and individuals within the church and the community of Eau Claire who would like a broader awareness of this local and national concern. Everyone is invited to attend a one-hour presentation on Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. with Lisa Wells, Dementia Care Specialist with the Aging & Disability Resource Center Of Eau Claire County. Lisa is a dynamic speaker with a wealth of information and willing to answer any question that you would like to bring to the table. If you are able to attend please RSVP to Cheryl Jothen at 715-552-8394 or [cjothen@charter.net](mailto:cjothen@charter.net). All are welcome!

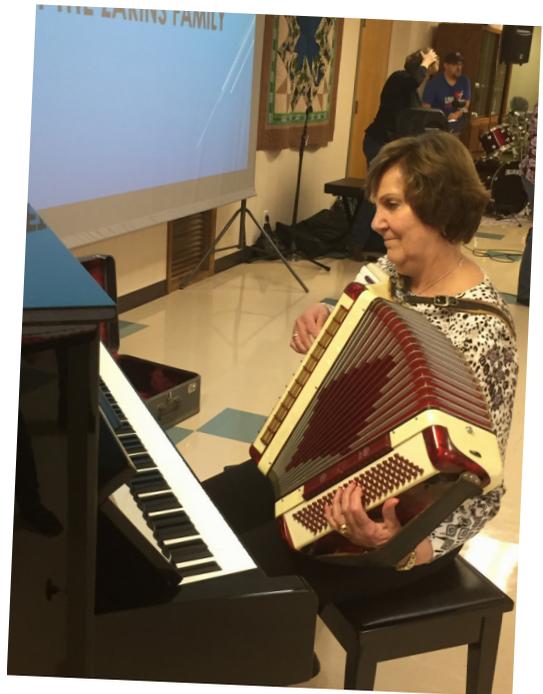
### Women of Spirit News

#### Women's Circles

If you are interested in joining a Circle, please see the Women's bulletin board for times and locations. There are four Circles from which to choose. We meet monthly for a Bible study from the Gather Magazine. Come join us!

#### All Anew

"All Anew," the tenth Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering is coming to Minneapolis on July 13-16, 2017. Mark your calendars and register now for "four days of conversation, prayer, laughter, worship, praise, lament, and invitation -to be women who act boldly on their faith." You can find registration packets on the Women's bulletin board outside the church offices or go online to the [womenoftheelca.org](http://womenoftheelca.org).



Family Fun & Fundraiser Night

## Answering Your Call

Spirit Lutheran is in the process of 'calling' a pastor. The Call Committee continues to meet, to pray, and to interview candidates to determine who the Holy Spirit is calling to be our Senior Pastor. In the Bible, God does indeed 'call' people to particular work and gives all people various kinds of guidance. God calls people to become united with God in every aspect of life. This occurs for us when we respond to Christ's call to follow him. Martin Luther referred to this as the 'priesthood of all believers' and it is vital for the health and effectiveness of the church. You, too, are called!

The Mission & Outreach Committee invites you to attend 3 workshops exploring our own personal call, to learn about our spiritual gifts, and to prepare ourselves for new pastoral leadership at Spirit Lutheran.

**Please join us from 9 a.m. to noon on three Saturdays - January 28, February 18 and March 19.** (On March 19, we start at noon.) We're excited to have Pastor Mike Thompson facilitate this exploration (a short bio about Pastor Mike is on the left hand column). After each workshop we'll share a midday meal. You are encouraged to attend all three sessions, but are welcome to attend any – all are welcome.

Please sign up in the office at Spirit Lutheran or in the Narthex so we may plan for lunch on each of the workshop days. If you have questions, please contact Michelle Pride at 715.563.0023 or mapride@hotmail.com.



## SPIRIT ACTIVITIES OCCURRING WEEKLY

- Children's Choir practice continues in the choir room. Join us at 6:00 p.m. every Tuesday! **We are looking for a volunteer coordinator in this ministry.** Let us know if you are interested!
- Adult Choir practices are Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
- CONNECTIONS on Wednesdays starting at 4:15 p.m. (Spirit Ring rehearsal, dinner, worship, youth & adult education)

### Mission & Outreach workshop facilitator:

#### Pastor Michael A Thompson

Michael received Jesus Christ in his senior year of High School, and soon after felt a lifelong calling to mentoring and training Christian leaders and pastors. This initial vision would begin unfolding 20 year later. In the meantime Michael has helped facilitate ministry trips to Mexico, served as pastoral staff of a megachurch in Saint Paul and moved to Duluth, MN to plant a church. He received a Master's degree in Counseling and was the cofounder of two counseling centers whose mission was to help people heal from various levels of post-traumatic stress. This included prayer-based counseling as he integrated his faith into his counseling approach.

Currently, Michael serves as lead pastor at Faith Free Church in Stanley Wisconsin where he also heads up Tuesday U (in which future leaders, pastors, and missionaries are trained in a church-based context and licensed through the Evangelical Free Church). Michael is also the Lead Pastor of Faith Community which is a group of churches he has planted and oversees. He has been at Faith Free of Stanley since September of 2012.

Michael has two children, Natalie and Schneider, and has been married to his wife, Shelly, since 1998.

## Prayer & Blessings for New Drivers & Parents on February 8 and 12

I recently found this article from a mom who is driving with their new driver. Although it doesn't reflect all parents' view, it does some.

– Carole De Jardin

By Theresa Ceniccola on September 13, 2016

If you have teenagers you have probably been in this situation before, but I am now navigating the waters of driver's education. Because I'm "the patient parent," I've had the privilege of riding in the passenger's seat, holding my breath and my tongue as my firstborn practices his new skills. Honestly, it's more difficult than childbirth, potty training and the first day of Kindergarten all wrapped up in one.

Recently, I let him drive on a family road trip. He did well, considering it was his first time going over 55 MPH. But I didn't fare so well. I was grinding my teeth, clenching my fists, biting my lip and slamming my foot down on an imaginary brake pedal. When I called it quits after 30 minutes, he was disappointed. So I said, "You're doing great! It's not you – it's me." Of course, he could see right through that cliché and I had to convince him that – yes! – it truly was MY problem.

I think the problem is that I can't let go... of him... of control...of anything. I'm working on that. This is all so new to me. I don't know how to handle it more gracefully. But one thing I do know about this process – and any other situation – is that God is in control. So I'm trying to remind myself of that truth as I begin a new season of parenting. And, as I turn this over to Our Lord.

On Wednesday, February 8 and Sunday February 12, youth who have received their license since last February, and parents, join us for a Milestone blessing, a prayer and a gift. We will bless the new drivers at Spirit Lutheran and pray for them and their parents.

**February 25 - WE ARE CALLED... to Act with Justice: Anti-racism Day for high school youth and adults 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Metropolis Hotel**

This is a special opportunity for you to engage in a day sponsored by the Northwest Synod of WI Synod Youth Board. The day will deal with tough situations. You will hear stories of racism in your own communities, and you will learn how to make a difference in your community to stop racism. We'll have a keynote speaker and a time to watch selections from the movie, *Selma*. The afternoon will include time with anti-racism trainers that will equip us so that we can act with Justice.

Cost is \$10.00 and includes a pizza buffet. A poster & signup sheet is on the bulletin board located near the main offices.



### March 18 – Walking Together

Did you ever wonder what is working in other churches in our synod? This day is full of other churches in our synod sharing their successes. Everything from

programs to worship ideas to Confirmation to mission and outreach ideas. The day is full of learning and worshiping with 400 others from our synod. It really is a GREAT day. See sign-up sheet on the board outside the church office.

### Interested in ordering altar flowers?

Sign up to provide flowers for the altar on the flower chart hanging on the bulletin board in the office hallway. Flowers may be given in honor of or in memory of a loved one or a special occasion. Call the office for details.

# YOUTH, FAMILY, & ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

**February 26 - 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Parents - come for a new kind of Bible study;** no experience needed! Bring your baby, meet other new parents. A light lunch will be served. Sign up by February 22.

**March 25 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.- Lenten Happenings** - Come and bring the whole family. This morning is full of crafts, food and fellowship. See the sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church. Friends are always welcome. Sign-up deadline is March 22.



**February 17-19 – Ski & Snow Boarding Trip at White Cap Ski Resort** – We will leave Friday night at 6:00 p.m. from Spirit and return on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 (includes ski lift pass & ski rental). Permission slips are available in the youth room and on the Youth & Family bulletin board. Permission slips due by February 10.

## Confirmation and high school youth and parents QPR Training. (QPR)

Question, Persuade, Refer is an emergency-response technique for someone in crisis and has been proven to save lives. Learn to recognize the warning signs that someone may be thinking about suicide and how to help them. Help prevent suicide and save a life. We will hold this special training on Feb. 25 @ 6:30 p.m. in Spirit Lutheran's Fellowship Hall. St. John's parents and confirmation students will be joining us for this training.

**See separate flier for more Youth, Family, & Adult Opportunities!!! Come join the fun!**



## *The Zarin's Family Thanks You Spirit Lutheran!*

Thank you all so much for being here tonight. Unfortunately most of my family has been sick all week so we are unable to be at the benefit tonight. My daughter, Anna, was born at 25 weeks and only weighed 1 lb 12 oz at birth. She spent her first 6 months of life at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. Among other complications, Anna suffered from a brain bleed a few days after she was born and it was severe. Because of the brain damage she sustained, Anna has cerebral palsy. She is non-verbal and unable to walk so she uses a wheelchair. She is now 8 years old and in the 2nd grade. She is a sweet, happy, fun-loving girl with lots of friends. Right now for us to travel anywhere, I have to lift her out of her wheelchair, lift her into her car seat, and then lift the wheelchair itself and put it in the back of my vehicle. Anna is growing and is getting heavy. It is becoming very difficult for me to do this on my own. My husband, Luke, had an unsuccessful neck surgery in August and is unable to lift her at all. We have been saving and working hard to raise the funds needed to purchase a van with a wheelchair lift, but we haven't quite met our goal yet. This van would allow us to keep Anna in her wheelchair and roll her right into the van, saving me a lot of lifting. We still travel to St. Paul and Minneapolis very frequently for doctor appointments. Anna has a number of medical issues that require follow up with many different specialists. This van will make traveling so much easier for my entire family. Thank you to everyone that helped put this event together, we are so grateful for your support!

–The Zarins Family–Kristi, Luke, Jacob, Ben & Anna

## **Mission Team Dates:**

**February 8** – 7:30 p.m. Meeting with Immanuel, sign up for committees

**February 26** – Soup to go fundraiser

**February 26** - regular Mission Trip meeting @ 11:30 a.m. in Youth Room. (Meeting must be made up if you miss.)

**March 26** – Fundraiser: TBA

**March 26** – Mission team meeting – 11:30 a.m.

Wilderness Training \*Note time change!

**April 9** – Palm Sunday Breakfast Fundraiser be in the kitchen @ 8 a.m.

**April 30** – Worship and meeting at Immanuel, load the bus at 9:00 a.m. return at noon.

**May 17** – Mission Trip meeting 6:00 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. Parents meeting.

**June 14** – Last Mission Team meeting at Immanuel, 6:00 p.m. dinner.

**July 8** – Leave for Montana at 5:00 a.m. SHARP!!! Every minute your late you will have an extra KP.

**July 18** – return to church approx. dinner time.

**Interested in more Community News? Take a gander down the main office hallway and check out the Community bulletin board. Also, check out the many other bulletin boards and sign ups available with opportunities here at Spirit.**

## **CAB RIDES**

**Need a ride to worship or other church-related event? Here are the answers to frequently asked questions about this Spirit Lutheran Foundation ministry.**

### **Who is eligible to use the Limo Cab service?**

Rides are provided for those members of Spirit Lutheran who are temporarily or permanently unable to safely drive - this includes conditions such as inclement weather or darkness.

### **What is the cost of a Limo Cab ride?**

Limo Cab rides are provided free-of-charge to those who are eligible as part of the ministry of Spirit Lutheran Foundation.

### **When can I use the Limo Cab?**

A few examples of when the Limo Cab service may be used include, but are not limited to, attending Sunday or mid-week worship, Wednesday night Connections activities, and Women's Ministry gatherings.

### **How do I arrange a ride?**

Call the Spirit Lutheran office (715-832-2421). For Sunday worship, please schedule a ride through the office by the end of the day on Thursday. For events that happen during the week, please schedule two days before the event. For example, if the event is happening on Wednesday, contact the office by the end of the day on Monday. Church office hours are Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

### **If I attend Sunday worship every week, do I need to schedule a ride every week?**

No. Just let the church office know that you would like to automatically be placed on the list for a ride to church every week. Then, if you will not be at worship on a particular Sunday, please call to cancel for that week. For answers to any of your other questions or to begin using this service, contact the church office (715-832-2421).

## Fundraisers

### Gas Cards from Kwik Trip and Holiday will be 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!

### Open the Door to the National Youth Gathering 2018...

How Does the Door Work?

- Choose an amount that you would like to donate: \$1.00 \$144.00
- Take the envelope off the door.
- Fill out the card inside of the envelope.
- Put the card back into the envelope.
- Put cash or a check made out to Spirit Lutheran into the envelope.
- Thank you! You are now a partner with the youth and adults that will be going to the National

Watch for the door in worship each Sunday and Wednesday. Once all envelopes are gone, the door will disappear and our first goal will be met. We will make the National Youth Gathering a possibility. We won't be doing additional fundraising for this trip until next September. Help us open the door to the National Youth Gathering.

## What's New At Luther Park Bible Camp....

Jacque Scoates, Program Director at Luther Park, reports that registrations are coming in nicely for summer programming. They are beginning recruitment for summer staff this month. If you or any youth you know may be interested in working at Luther Park this summer, please complete the online application at [lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org).

Keith Newman, Executive Ministry Director, reports that Luther Park ended the year in the black and also paid a substantial amount to the Endowment Fund. Deep-cleaning is going on in the cabins so all will be ready for summer campers.

If you're interested in Adult Ministry programs, please give Jacque your suggestions.

### Upcoming events:

Quilt Retreats: February 2-5 and March 9-12

Recharge – March 3 & 4

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Feed My People Food Bank

### Purchase Empty Bowl Tickets on Thursday, March 2 | 11 A.M. - 7 P.M. at The Florian Gardens

Join us for Empty Bowls! This benefit meal of soup, bread and dessert, features hand-crafted bowls donated by local artists! We look forward to seeing you there.

All tickets ordered online through February 23 will be mailed; those ordered after February 23 will be available for pick-up at the door. Tickets may also be purchased in person at FMP Food Bank and at the door the day of the event. A limited number of bowls are available, so purchase tickets early!

- \$20/meal and bowl, \$8/meal only
- Free meal only for child(ren) under 10

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Sunday, February 5

7th & 8th Grade Retreat  
Noisy Offering  
8:30 AM Organ-led Worship  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Band-led Worship

### Monday, February 6

5:15 PM Finance Committee Meeting  
5:15 PM Foundation Board Meeting  
6:00 PM Generosity Committee Meeting  
6:30 PM Hospitality Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, February 7

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
5:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting  
6:00 PM Children's Choir Practice

### Wednesday, February 8

8:30 AM Wednesday Quilters  
10:15 AM Worship at Clearwater Care Center  
1:30 PM Worship @ Oakwood Home Apartments  
4:15 PM Spirit Ring handbell rehearsal  
5:00 PM Dinner - Breakfast Selections  
5:50 PM CONNECTIONS worship - Prayer & Blessings for New Drivers & Parents  
6:25 PM Confirmation Class  
6:25 PM Education and Mission Projects  
6:25 PM High School Youth Group  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Mission Trip Meeting w/Immanuel

### Thursday, February 9

6:00 PM Health & Healing Committee Meeting  
6:00 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM AL-ANON Meeting

### Friday, February 10

Payments due for High School Youth Skiing Trip

### Sunday, February 12

NWSWI Winter Theological Event @ The Clarion Hotel in Eau Claire  
Spirit Ring handbell  
8:30 AM Organ-led Worship  
8:30 AM Organ-led Worship - Prayer & Blessings for New Drivers & Parents  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Band-led Worship - Prayer & Blessings for New Drivers & Parents

### 8:30 a.m. Helpers

**Greeters:**  
Dave Hoffe

**Ushers:**  
Ole Olson  
Monte Pederson

**Communion Assistants:**  
Logan Prunty

**Rover:**

**Reader:**

**Children's Message:**  
Lynn Fehring

### 10:30 a.m. Helpers

**Greeters:**  
Cheryl Jothan

**Ushers:**  
Rod Anderson  
Tyler Bauer

**Communion Assistants:**  
Cheryl Jothan  
Larry Jankowski

**Rover:**  
Jan Favret

**Reader:**  
Jan Favret

**Children's Message:**  
Lynn Fehring

### Spirit Lutheran Urgent Contacts

Bridge Pastor	Visitation Pastor
David Wall	Roger Benrud
952-484-0593	715-836-7158



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

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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.