



NEWS

September 24, 2017 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. Worship

Spirit Lutheran Foundation provides coffee & treats today in between services down in the fellowship hall!

NEW MEMBERS GATHERING

If you or someone you know might be interested in becoming a member of Spirit, we will be meeting on Sundays, October 8, 15, and 22 between services from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. You are invited to our Foundation update on October 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

New Member Sunday will be November 5, as we celebrate All Saints – past, present, and future. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Jim.

SPIRIT LUTHERAN FOUNDATION

The estate gift of Ellie Otteson afforded First Lutheran Foundation the extraordinary opportunity to develop a continuum of care campus at 4880 Otteson Lane on Eau Claire's south side. The Meadows at Otter Creek, a 36-unit independent living apartment complex for adults 55 years of age or older, opened in 1998 and continues to serve as the centerpiece of the campus.

Grace Willowbrook, an assisted living facility owned by Grace Lutheran Foundation, is located on the campus. A special needs housing facility has also been constructed on the campus. Additional land is owned by Spirit Lutheran Foundation and is available for further expansion.

As a ministry of the Foundation, we have intentionally created an affordable, quality facility for the independent senior. But the real reason to consider The Meadows for you or your loved one is the "community" that exists within the real estate. We urge you to talk to our current residents about how they feel about their new home.

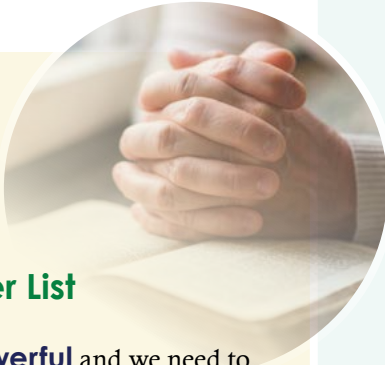
On Sunday, September 24 the Foundation will host the coffee hour to share more information about the Foundation's Senior Housing.

Please direct your questions about the Foundation to any of the following Spirit Lutheran Foundation Board members: Jan Andresen, Leann Breed, Kristen Humphrey, Jerry Johnson, Bill Klaus, Duane Oyen, Brenda Thalacker, Tom Tompkins, Duane Winkelmann.

Office hours: M-R, 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
www.spiritlutheran.org

'A BIG thank you to Lena Wright for her thoughtful gift of handmade fleece liners for our Baptismal Faith Chests!'

REACHING OUT IN LOVE



Spirit Prayer List

Prayer is powerful and we need to pray for each other within our family of Spirit. This is the start of our prayer list, with people being prayed for by name in worship. Please take a moment each day to include these Spirit people in your prayers.

Phyllis N.
Beth & Milo M.
Dwight & Marilyn A.
Sonja T.
Ruth B.
Barbara K.
Richard F.
Charles
Harold L.
Daryl B.
Kurt & Sharyl M.
Barbara E.

If you, or someone you know would like to be on our prayer list or is hospitalized, please contact the church office at 715-832-2421.

Spirit Worship Attendance

Sunday, September 17: 236

Spirit's August Offerings

August Offerings: \$23,412.08
Automatic Giving: \$13,346.00
Total Offerings: \$36,758.08

August Memorials: \$500.00
August Noisy Offering: \$247.89
Malawi (Karonga) Bowl: \$490.00

The congregation of Spirit Lutheran gives thanks for the following gifts received in August 2017:

A gift in memory of Robert Bauer
Gifts in memory of James Benrud
Gifts in memory of Sharon Heller
A gift in memory of Pastor Sherman Iverson
Gifts in memory of David Nanstad

Spirit's Life Transitions

Thoughts and prayers to Curt & Sharyl M. Sharyl recently lost her mother, Martha.

May God grant peace and love to those who mourn.

Did you know? There are devotional booklets (Christ in Our Home & Portals of Prayer) available at church. Check in the hallway by the main office and/or the plastic holders outside the sanctuary.

KETCHUP!

Well, here we are – at the first services of our Fall schedule. For many of us, summer represents opportunities for fun and travel and time away from our normal routines. I don't know about you all, but we did not make it to every service this summer. A few of those beautiful summer mornings, when the lake is super calm, it was hard to leave.

But here we are – back at it. Time to “ketchup” on a few things – this is where the ketchup packets come in – a not-so-subtle reminder to:

- Ketchup on some sleep
- Ketchup on some new TV programs with the new season coming
- Our kids are ketching up with old friends back at school
- And now is the time to ketchup on our giving

A great way to stay current with giving (even if you can't be here every Sunday) is to participate in Automatic Giving. We love this program. It allows us to give to church first – before anything else - we, like a lot of people I think, used to see what was left over and give that. It feels so good now, knowing that we are prioritizing as God would have us do. I want to take this time to

thank those currently using Automatic Giving – over 1/3 of our total contributions are received this way – it sure makes budgeting easier with an even, consistent cash flow.

The third quarter giving statements will be sent out in early October. If you find that in the midst of enjoying your summer fun, you have fallen behind on your giving, please ketchup as you can. For your convenience, a Ketchup envelope and Automated Giving form will be included with the quarterly statements. In addition, Automated Giving forms are included as a bulletin insert and available all year outside the office. Accountant Brenda Thalacker is available to assist you in completing the form if needed.

Thank you for your continued financial support of your church. If you are able, please consider generously giving a little more than you had planned to support the work of God here at Spirit.

Denise Freid-Schepke
Generosity & Resources Committee



Spirit Singers

Anyone who enjoys singing is welcomed and we are not limiting it to adults or to only people who are “trained”...you are ALL welcome!! We will not sing each week in the church services; instead, we will have a **tentative** schedule (see below) to follow.

Spirit Singers Rehearsal Schedule for Fall 2017

Sept. 24 9:45 a.m. choir room
Oct. 15 9:45 a.m. choir room
Oct. 22 9:45 a.m. choir room
Oct. 29 9:45 a.m. choir room
Nov. 12 9:45 a.m. choir room
Dec. 3 9:45 a.m. choir room
Dec. 10 9:45 a.m. choir room
Dec. 17 9:45 a.m. choir room

Spirit Singers Singing Schedule for Worship Services for Fall 2017

Oct. 15 8:30 a.m. service
Oct. 22 8:30 a.m. service
Nov. 12 8:30 a.m. service
Dec. 3 8:30 a.m. service
Dec. 17 8:30 a.m. service
Dec. 24 Early worship TBA

Come on and join us...you have nothing to lose and we all have EVERYthing to gain! If you have any questions, ask Bev Smith. She is the director of this new group. bsmith@spiritlutheran.org or 715-834-9602



S.O.S. (Spirit On Stage) rehearsal night.

SPiRiT SOUNDS

SPiRiT SOUNDS is our new instrumental choir and we are really excited about it! Our rehearsals will be held on Saturday mornings twice a month at 9:00 a.m. in the Music Room downstairs. Just bring your instrument of choice and an adventurous spirit and the willingness to laugh and “fall down”, get up and keep trying until we get the music the way it SHOULD sound!

Worship Services we'll play for in fall 2017

Oct 22 at 10:30 service
Oct 29 at 8:30 service
Dec 10 at 8:30 service
Dec 24 at Early Service-TBA

Rehearsals for Spirit Sounds

(All rehearsals are at 9:00 a.m in the music room in the lower-level).

September 23	September 30
October 21	October 28
November 4	November 11
December 2	December 9

Please contact Bev Smith for more information. bsmith@spiritlutheran.org or 715-834-9602

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

It's time to SHINE!

Spirit's education program has a new name--SHINE! The name is based on Matthew 5:16 -- "Let your light SHINE before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (NRSV)



Spirit Shine is offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Wednesday Shine will include dinner beginning at 5:00 p.m., worship at 5:50 p.m., and Shine time from 6:30-7:15 p.m. Sunday Shine will be held between worship services from 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shine will be held in the lower-level education area for all children 3 years old through 6th grade. A typical Shine time will include music and large group gathering, a Bible lesson and hands-on activities. We also have a few surprises planned that you will not want to miss!

Shine began Wednesday, September 20 and today, Sunday, September 24. Registration forms for Shine are located in the narthex (look for the yellow balloons) and are available in the church office.

Wednesday and Sunday Shine time will offer the same activities, so during any given week you can feel free to attend at either time--or maybe you'll have so much fun you'll want to attend both! The theme each week will follow the lectionary calendar and will match the lessons we hear during worship.

We're seeking leaders and helpers for Shine.

The Bible lesson and activities will be planned and prepared for each time, all you need to do is show up and guide the children. If you're willing to "shine" and share your time and your faith, we need you! Please contact Kristan Motszko or the church office if you're interested or need more information. It's going to be a great year at Spirit Shine!

Youth Nights are back!

Starting October 7, 2017

Youth in grades 6-8, come join in on some fun from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Highschool youth, grades 9-12, come from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

*There will be a 30 minute overlap for pizza time and fellowship!

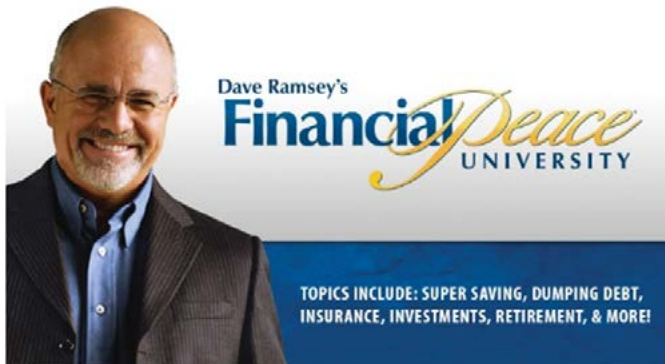
NEW STAFF BIO



Jim Seipel, Modern Music Coordinator

Greetings to the welcoming people of Spirit Lutheran. God's presence is evident and alive here. My wife Cathy and our family members (both immediate and extended) are excited to join you in worship and praise of our living Christ.

God has blessed me richly with the gift of music, and then provided me the privilege of planning and coordinating contemporary worship for close to 25 years. My hope is for you to be moved to make a joyful noise each week in worship. **Also, please feel welcome to come and join our contemporary worship choir in fellowship as we lead music each week.**



Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

- This 9-week class taught by money expert Dave Ramsey can change your financial story in a matter of weeks—and your family tree for generations to come.

BONUS: Spirit members, attend all 9 lessons and your cost of materials will be reimbursed by the Spirit Foundation. The costs of materials is \$102.30.

To sign up, go to

www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1043274

Class Start Date: Sept. 18 at 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. and every Monday afterwards until November 13, 2017.

Location of Class: Spirit Lutheran – Fellowship Hall

Quilt Blessing Sunday

Come and cuddle a quilt on Wednesday, October 4 at our evening worship and Sunday, October 8 at both services! Our quilters work throughout the year to donate warm and beautiful quilts to families in need. Come bless these quilts!



Calling Those with a "Spirit" of Adventure!

Have you heard of Holden Village, the remote Lutheran retreat center in the Northern Cascade Mountains of Washington state? Have you ever wanted to visit Holden Village? Here is your chance!

In September of 2018, a group from Spirit Lutheran and their friends will travel to Holden for a week of adventure. We will worship, learn, hike, eat, sing, listen to Railroad Creek tumble over the rocks, and feel the peace of the mountains.



photo credits to thefigtree.org

If interested in this adventure, please sign-up on the sheet at the Welcome Table on Sunday, September 10 or 17 and plan to attend an information gathering at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 1. This opportunity for a Holden Village Adventure will be opened to other congregations after September 17.

Questions? Talk to Cheryl Jothen, Esther Hager, Linda Knott or Lorrie Franson.



Pictured here is Cindy Crane, Director of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW) leading a workshop on "Advocacy" for "God's Work. Our Hands" (GWOH) at St. John's Lutheran with guest, Robbie Joern, member of Spirit Lutheran, on Sunday, September 10, 2017.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

God's work. Our Hands. Event with St. Johns Lutheran Church

In order to catch more busy Spirit Lutheran members throughout the summer, Spirit's Mission and Outreach team facilitated three very different "God's Work. Our Hands" (GWOH) events for our members' participation!

We started with 13 energetic volunteers who did some heavy lifting for the Eau Claire's Boy and Girls Club's new playground. Despite the heat and humidity, they persevered and a beautiful playground appeared!

August was the scene of an amazing transformation of one of

Western Dairyland's apartments for their guests transitioning from homelessness to a more secure living situation. Not only did we have two teams that worked two different days, but we had volunteers who did their homework by taking home fabric and returning with beautiful valances for the windows. The apartment was cleaned from top to bottom, and when the paint was mostly dry, décor of all kinds was hung on the walls! "Welcome Home" was the new reality for the current guests and all those who are to come!

Then, as a way to join the Churchwide date of "God's Work. Our Hands", we responded to St. John's invitation to join their annual GWOH! They, too, had some heavy lifting opportunities, but some of our members took advantage of the extension of the work that

Cindy Crane, the guest preacher the morning of September 10 touched upon to learn more about the church's history of advocacy in public policy and how we can be non-partisan, but effective Christians who alert our representatives on the core Christian values we all share.

Overall, we had over 50 participants who found a way to assist community efforts which deepened community relationships as well as creating a few new ones! Additionally, we once again experienced the joy of Lutheran collaboration with our close-by neighbors at St. John's Lutheran Church! Well done, thou good and faithful servants!

Trinity Lutheran Church has invited Spirit to join them for God's work. Our hands! Sunday, October 21-22

We will engage 150-200 Trinity & Spirit members on Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22. On Sunday, lunch will be offered immediately following the 9:45 a.m. service with a free-will donation for the LSS Transitions House. The cost to participate is \$10/person to cover the t-shirt. Sign-up will be available both online and in the lobby beginning Sunday, September 24. See Trinity's website for ways to serve on these days! <http://www.trinity-ec.org/>

EVENTS

Monday, September 25

9:30 AM Staff Meeting

6:00 PM Financial Peace University

Tuesday, September 26

9:00 AM Tuesday Quilters

5:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting

5:00 PM Chippewa Valley Photographers Club

6:00 PM S.O.S. Rehearsals

Wednesday, September 27

8:30 AM Wednesday Quilters

4:15 PM Spirit Ring Rehearsal

5:00 PM Supper - Chicken Sandwich & Fries

5:50 PM Worship

6:30 PM SHINE, Youth & Adult Education

Thursday, September 28

7:00 PM AL-ANON Meeting

Saturday, September 30

9:00 AM Spirit SOUNDS Rehearsal

Sunday, October 1

Noisy Offering

8:30 AM Organ-led Worship

9:30 AM Christian education

10:30 AM Worship

1:30 PM Holden Village Information Meeting

8:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeters:

Ushers:

Chris Thalacker

Jim Severson

John Sandquist

Carole Everson

Communion Assistants:

Lynn Fering

Wendy Severson

Kathryn Sandquist

Vera Merrick

Rover:

Loreen Yager

Reader:

Joyce Linderholm

Kid Talk:

10:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeters:

Linda Knott

Diana White

Ushers:

Renee Bogstad

Tyler Bauer

Communion Assistants:

Lynn Fering

Rover:

Reader:

Kid Talk:

Spirit Lutheran Urgent Contacts

Pastor

Jim Ahlquist

715-210-2245

Visitation Pastor

Roger Benrud

715-836-7158



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