



October 8, 2017

8:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Shine (Education)



**See Mary & Martha
today at both services!**

**New Member Gathering
today between service in
the Fireside area.**

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

OCTOBER 32 AND BEYOND!

—By Bishop Eaton

This is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. For the past year it has been “All Reformation All the Time!” Everything Martin Luther. The really observant have branched out to Philipp Melancthon and Johannes Bugenhagen. True believers will dress their children up as Martin and Katie for Halloween, or if they tend toward the fear factor, Johann Tetzel.

Bring in the extra brass. Fire up the choir. Sing the fight song (“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”). Dress in red. Binge-watch every Luther film and documentary. (I particularly liked Joseph Fiennes as the young, hot Luther.) This is our year!

Oct. 32.

Now what?

(Continued on page 3...)

Have you picked up your copy of the directory yet?

If you would like your copy to be mailed to you, or if you have any other questions, please contact the church office.

REACHING OUT IN LOVE



Spirit Worship Attendance

Wednesday, September 30

5:50 pm: 76

Sunday, October 1

8:30 am: 100

10:30 am: 129

Spirit's September Offerings

September Offerings: TBA

Automatic Giving: TBA

Total Offerings: TBA

September Memorials: TBA

September Noisy Offering: TBA

Malawi (Karonga) Bowl: TBA

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

A gift in memory of Pastor Amy Odgren's mother, Allie Lu Dunlevy.

A gift in memory of Norman and Bernadette Peterson.

A gift in memory of James Benrud.

A gift in memory of Sharyl Miller's mother, Martha Vander Tuig.

Spirit Prayer Chain

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.
Sonja T.
Ruth B.
Barbara K.
Richard F.
Charles
Harold L.
Barbara E.
Vangie F. & family
Mackensi P.
Joyce B.
Tonya S.

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's Life Transitions

Thoughts and prayers to Vangie Fox and her family. Richard Fox passed away on October 1. A service was held for Richard on Saturday, October 7 at Stokes, Prock & Mundt Funeral Chapel.

May God grant peace and love to those who mourn.

When I am out and about the church, I like to ask people what it means to be Lutheran—what is distinctive about the Lutheran movement. Grace is almost always mentioned, along with justification. Some will say we are *ecclesia semper reformanda*—the church always being reformed. Others point to our work for disaster relief, ELCA World Hunger, advocacy and other work for justice. Most of this is part of the Lutheran experience, but not unique to us. What then, did Luther uncover and what relevance does it have now?

Interestingly, Luther did not give his greatest emphasis to reform or to reforming the church. *Semper reformanda*—always reforming—was actually coined in 1947 by Karl Barth, a Reformed theologian. Liberation in Christ through faith was the freedom that transformed Luther. This freedom is what he wrote about most frequently and most passionately. *The Freedom of a Christian*, a short and accessible treatise, is probably most familiar. I commend it to you. In this brief work and in others, Luther makes the case that liberation in Christ is both a freedom from and a freedom for.

Freedom from is liberation from all spiritual bondage. We are set free from being trapped in ourselves, consumed by ourselves, from the belief or terror that we can and must save ourselves, that our self is the center of the universe. Life in Christ is not an inward-dwelling experience. We are free to get over ourselves. Freedom from is liberation from the law's accusation and judgment. We are liberated from terror and despair, which are soul-crushing. We are liberated from the incessant and impossible task of measuring up. Freedom from liberates us from estrangement from God and God's creatures. Caught in sin and standing before a God who demands righteousness, when we believe we are responsible for our salvation, breeds resentment toward God and the objectification of others.

Freedom for means that in Christ we are set free for loving and serving others. Freedom is a relationship,

not a new set of activities or the demands of a new law.

Luther put it this way: "Faith, however, is a divine work in us which changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. It kills the old Adam and makes us altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers; and it brings with it the Holy Spirit. O, it is a living, busy, active mighty thing, this faith. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. ... And this is the work which the Holy Spirit performs in faith. Because of it, without compulsion, a person is ready to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, out of love and praise to God who has shown them this grace" (Luther's Works, 35:370-1).

No longer is God transactional and others a means to an end. This freedom is scandalous because it is based on unconditional grace. It is a gift. Think about it—do we feel the burden being lifted? Think about it—do we feel the complete love of God? Think about it—do we now see others through God's eyes, free and beloved children?

On Reformation Sunday we will hear Jesus' promise: "You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32).

On Oct. 32 and beyond let us live in that freedom.

A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: bishop@elca.org.

Learning about money is a multilayered experience and the more opportunities young people have to experiment and make mistakes, the higher the probability they will yield significant learning from the experience.

–Nathan Dungan
Follow Nathan on Facebook

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

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 Trinity's 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. **A sign-up will be available at Spirit in the narthex.** See Trinity's website for ways to serve on these days! <http://www.trinity-ec.org/>

Tuesday & Wednesday Quilters

The Tuesday and Wednesday Mission Quilters and the Mercy Circle offer a huge thank you to all that contributed this year to our quilt and kit mission work for Lutheran World Relief. We received many generous donations of material, sheets, blankets, school supplies, and other kit supplies.

On October 14, 2017, we will deliver to the annual Lutheran World Relief Fall Ingathering site here in Eau Claire at Trinity Lutheran the following items:

- 300+ quilts, 160 school kits (in shared ministry with Mercy Circle), 5 sewing kits, 40 baby care kits, and 16 personal care kits

These items will be transported to the warehouse in St. Paul and distributed worldwide where Lutheran World Relief notes the need.

In addition, 14 quilts were given locally as gifts to our graduates, for a family benefit, and to mission trip families.

A HUGE thank you to the women that made this happen!

Marilyn Ahnemann, Helene Anderson, Bette Becker, Gloria Bryhn, Vangie Fox, Josie Hanson, Leone Helstrom, Karin Hill, Esther Hjemboe, Ruth Larson, Joyce Linderholm, Eleanor McMahan, Mercy Circle, Sharyl Miller, Phyllis Nanstad-Prince, Audrey Parrett, JoAnn Perry, Phoebe Peterson, Becky Riewestahl, Marge Rindal, Lynn Shields, Sue Wepler, Naomi Woods, and Loreen Yager.

Help with the October Free Clinic Meal!

In October, 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, October 17. 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, October 17 at 4:00 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 clip board outside of our worship space (near stairwell to Fellowship Hall). Please bring food items to the Spirit Lutheran kitchen by noon Monday, October 16 (clearly mark the items "Free Clinic"). All are welcome to become involved in this ministry, many hands make light work!

Questions, contact the church office or Jeff Lorentz at jdlorentz@hotmail.com

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Lutheran-Catholic Prayer Service

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther proposed his 95 Theses in a desire to reform the Church. This year marks the 500th anniversary of that historic event. The last 500 years have seen both helpful reforms and sad divisions. We pray for unity while staying committed to the truth. Throughout the world, Lutherans and Catholics will be gathering to pray together and commit together to the things we share in common.

Locally, a Prayer Service will be at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 1712 Highland Ave., on Sunday, October 29, at 4:00 p.m. A choir of over 200 will lead the music. Food and fellowship will follow immediately at St. John's Lutheran Church, right across the street. **All Lutherans, Catholics and others are welcome.** Spirit Lutheran Foundation is supporting this event with \$500. Thank you Spirit Lutheran Foundation!

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 in the Fireside room 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 SOUNDS is our new instrumental choir and we are really excited about it! **Our next rehearsal is Saturday, October 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the Music Room downstairs.** (See our calendar online for rehearsal and worship times). 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! Contact Bev Smith for more information: bsmith@spiritlutheran.org or 715-834-9602.



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

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

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



Trunk or Treat!
Sunday, October 29, 2017
at 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Groups or individuals from Spirit are invited to decorate the trunk or back of their vehicle and welcome trick-or-treaters from the congregation and neighborhood. Vehicles will park along the outside edge of the church parking lot and offer candy or other small non-candy toys/favors to children.

Trunk or Treat will be a fun family activity, as well as a great fellowship activity for the congregation members who participate. It will also serve as an opportunity to get to know our East Hill neighbors.

At least 20 “trunks” are needed to make this event a success. Please consider joining in the fun, contact Kristan Motszko (kmotszko@spiritlutheran.org or 715-832-2421) by October 16 to let her know you’re planning to participate!

We are still in need of a couple of volunteers for Shine.

Please let Kristan Motszko know if you might be able to help out, even if you can only be here on an occasional basis, we have a spot for you!

Children can register for Shine any time throughout the year, just meet us at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays or at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the big music/gathering area and someone will help you register. Forms are also available online or in the church office.

Congregation members are always invited to visit. Take a stroll through the lower level to see first hand what’s happening at Shine! It’s going to be a great year!

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. High school 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!

Kid Talk

Congregation members are invited and encouraged to share their faith with our youngest worshippers each Sunday during Kid’s Talk. Please let Pastor Jim or Kristan know if you’d be willing to present a Kid Talk!



Kristan Motszko
Family Ministry Coordinator

I have been a member of Our Savior's & Spirit my entire life, and have helped out with various children's ministries since I was in high school. I even served as the youth director for a couple of years while in college.

I enjoy spending time with my family; my husband, Wade, our daughter, Hailee, and our yellow lab, Ranger. We are blessed to have a close relationship with my mom, Barb, and enjoy spending time with her too. I like cooking and trying new recipes, reading, flower gardening in the summer months and doing puzzles during the winter months. I also volunteer with Hailee's Girl Scout troop, serve as PTO treasurer at her school and help out with other school/classroom activities when I can.



I am really excited for all the new possibilities for the children and families at Spirit. Please don't hesitate to share your ideas and suggestions. I look forward to working with all of you as we help our youngest members grow in their faith!

COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE Foot & Nail Care Clinic

UW-Eau Claire, Continuing Education will offer a free foot & nail care clinic for community members. During the clinic nurses will assess your foot and nail health and determine areas that need attention. Registered nurses will perform foot and nail care services as part of a certification program. The clinic will be supervised by a nurse practitioner certified in foot and nail care.



Next sessions: October 18, 19, & 20, 2017 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church 202 West Grand Avenue

For an appointment (required) or accomodations, please call 715-836-3636.

Chippewa Valley Post Open House

Please join us in our new office space for an OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, Oct. 12 from 4 to 7 p.m. on the second floor (Room 216) of Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W. Grand Avenue in Eau Claire.

There will be refreshments and several significant door prizes, plus music by Robbie Joern, a CVPost Board member as well as an accomplished pianist. Please feel free to come when you can and leave when you must.

Fall Bazaar at Lake Street United Methodist Church – Saturday, Oct. 14

Shop from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
–Handcrafted items of woodworking, home decor, crafts, candy, Christmas, etc.

See bulletin board outside Spirit's church office for more community events.

EVENTS

Monday, October 9

9:30 AM Staff Meeting
4:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting
5:15 PM Generosity & Resources Committee
6:00 PM Financial Peace University

Tuesday, October 10

9:00 AM Tuesday Quilters
5:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting
5:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

Wednesday, October 11

8:30 AM Wednesday Quilters
1:30 PM Worship @ Oakwood Home Apartments
4:15 PM Spirit Ring Rehearsal
5:00 PM Supper - Spaghetti
5:50 PM Worship
6:30 PM SHINE Youth & Adult Education

Thursday, October 12

6:00 PM Spirit Executive Committee Meeting
7:00 PM AL-ANON Meeting

Saturday, October 14

9:00 AM Men's Group Meeting

Sunday, October 15

8:30 AM Worship w/Spirit Singers
9:30 AM New Member Gathering
9:30 AM SHINE Education
9:45 AM Spirit Singers Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship

8:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeters:
Dave Hoffe
Mary Hoffe

Ushers:
Dave Hanson
Loren Holte
Jack Brimer
Isaac Schemm

Communion Assistants:
Dawna Gilbertson
Debbie Market
Dan Market

Rover:

Reader:

Kid Talk:

10:30 a.m. Helpers

Greeters:
Jane Johnson

Ushers:
Tyler Bauer
Jerry Johnson

Communion Assistants:
Kathy Schepcke
Lynn Fering
Elaine Johnson

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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