



THE SPIRIT

HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2018

*“Our purpose is to love God
and bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus and His church!”*

Pastor’s Newsletter Article

This year we turn to the Season of Lent by gathering for Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14th (yes, Valentine’s Day this year!). During Lent we reflect on the meaning of our baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God’s mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

We will hold two services on Ash Wednesday: noon and 7:30 pm. The noon service will be a quiet and brief service including the Imposition of Ashes. The 7:30 pm service will include our senior choir as well as the Imposition of Ashes.

Please read this Lenten Call to Prayer by Marlene Kropf. May it touch your heart and your soul:

In this Lenten season, O God,
we come before you asking for courage to open our eyes.

We want to see ourselves as you see us:
the empty and barren places, the halfhearted struggles, the faint stirrings of new
life.

We come, trusting your grace,
waiting for your illuminating word, longing for your healing light.

Do not let us be blind to your presence.
Shine upon us, O God, and make our paths clear,
for we pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Feb. 13, 5:30 to 7 pm

Ash Wednesday Services

Feb. 14, noon and 7:30 pm



A Message from Your Council President

During the January Council meeting, church committee chairpersons/ liaisons were designated as follows:

Personnel – Wende Peters

Fellowship – Bill Dodson

Property – Will Stecher

Social Ministry – Sharon Hindman

Constitution & Bylaws; Evangelism – Carol Friend

Music & Worship – Nancy Bowman

Stewardship – Holly deBenedictis

Youth & Education – Laura Blum

Please take the time to thank the Council members who have agreed to lead the individual committees. Ask what they need help with and offer to assist on at least one committee that has particular interest to you.

Respectfully,

Brian Bowman



Photo Courtesy of TGO Photography

Music & Worship

Thank you to the Christmas decorating crew – Brian Bowman, Holly deBenedictis, Melissa Jones, and me.

Thank you to the Christmas undecorating crew – Brian Bowman, Melissa Jones, Hannah Jones, Pastor Litton, and me.

Both the before (decorating) and after (undecorating) take several hours and add up to lots of steps from one end of the building to the other. “Thanks again for a great job.”

This year there were 51 poinsettias purchased by members of the congregation in honor/in memory of loved ones/family/friends. Thank you for letting us decorate the chancel with your expressions of love.

Thank you also to those who gave a monetary gift in honor/in memory of loved ones/family/friends. Your gifts support our mission.

Watch for the Easter Flower order forms.....soon to be in worship service bulletins.

There is always room for one more.....in the choir.....and.....on one of the worship service volunteer lists. Just let me know. We can make it happen.

Nancy Bowman

Music & Worship Chairperson

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Tuesday, February 13th

5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Please join us to welcome the coming of Lent!

Pancakes, sausage, apple fritters....and plenty of good fellowship!

Arrive anytime between 5:30 and 7:00 for your pancake feast.

No charge, but donations are encouraged.

Bring the family. Let us do the cooking.

Want to get rid of your Christmas cookies or other sweets?

Bring them to the dessert table!

Questions? Want to help? ----- Contact Nancy Bowman

Helping Others

Since last Fall, we have become involved with the Cold Weather Shelter and Safe Haven which are two programs in the Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc. I have been volunteering at both of these facilities.

During the recent cold snap, we reached out to our church & pre-school families for items which were desperately needed by the guests of the Cold Weather Shelter. Due to your great response, the needs were filled & HSLC is now a familiar name at the CWS.

We also collected mittens, hats, & gloves for Shepherd's Staff. We have given to this faith based charity for many years. It is a great feeling to take a SUV packed with donations & watch the smiles on people's faces

I would like to thank you all for your generosity in supporting these great programs.

If any one is interested in volunteering with these Human Service Programs, please contact me at 301-401-1398 or

uncmiltie@comcast.net. Volunteering is of great benefit to the receiver & giver.

God bless,

Milt Taylor



Hymn Story — Arise, Your Light Has Come!

- 1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.
- 2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's power will make us strong.

The words for this hymn were written by the contemporary hymn writer Ruth Duck. She was born in Washington, D.C., in 1947, grew up near Annapolis, and also lived in Memphis, TN for a time. Ms. Duck was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1974. She was in parish ministry for 15 years, serving congregations in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts. In 1989 she became professor of worship at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL. She retired in 2013.

The Rev. Dr. Duck has written over 150 hymns and Psalm paraphrases which have appeared in hymnals throughout the English-speaking world. "Arise, You Light Has Come!" was one of her first published hymns.

The only tune that has been published with this hymn is "Festal Song" which was composed by William H. Walter. Walter was born in 1825 in Newark, NJ. Between 1847 and 1869, he served as organist and musical director at the Church of the Epiphany, St. John's Chapel, St. Paul's Chapel, and Trinity Church, all in New York City. In 1865, Walter received an honorary doctorate in music from Columbia University. He died in 1893 in New York City.

According to hymnary.org, there are 34 published hymn tunes by William H. Walter. Most of these are included in only one or two hymnals. In contrast, "Festal Song" has been published 111 times; it is the tune for three hymns in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.



Ruth Duck

Deacon Linda

VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Notes from the Property Committee

We are always looking for hands to help with small projects around the facilities. Please contact a staff member or council member if you would like to contribute to a short-term or long-term project.

Capital Project Update

Since the ground-breaking ceremony in November, work has progressed rapidly to install the modular classrooms for the HSLC Preschool at the back of the property. The buildings are set on their foundations, and the utility hook-ups are in process.

Sanctuary Renovation Update

A committee has formed to address coordination of all the tasks involved in converting the pre-school classroom space to the new dedicated sanctuary space. We will be removing walls; updating HVAC systems; updating lighting and sound; updating flooring; building an altar; acquiring seating; and designing the decorum, to name a few of the tasks.

Volunteer for a Property Project

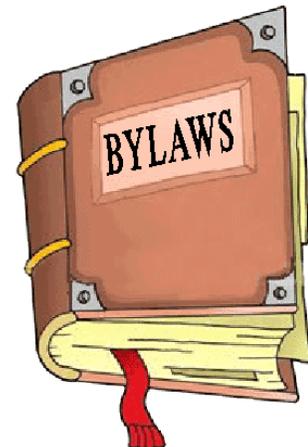
Save the date: Saturday, March 17th is the annual spring cleanup day, when we clean out the flower beds around the church property and spread some fresh mulch. Its sounds far away now, but spring is just around the corner! Plan to bring your work gloves and lend a hand and some muscle!

Will Stecher

Constitution and Bylaws

It is once again time to review our constitution and bylaws. Every few years the ELCA requests this evaluation to insure that all congregations follow the same philosophy of church government as we navigate through the changing times. The ELCA supplies a model constitution for this purpose.

Bylaws must be reviewed after changes to the constitution have been made since they define the methods with which we implement the governing process outlined within the constitution. This review must be done in order to insure that any changes made within our constitution are also reflected in our bylaws. A committee is being formed to review these documents in order to insure compliance with ELCA recommendations. Anyone interested in joining our committee please contact Carol Friend at cfriend1129@gmail.com or call at 410-491-9110.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

[P = present; A = absent]

P	Pastor Robin Simpson Litton	P	Brian Bowman/President
P	Deacon Linda Smith	P	Bill Dodson
P	Andy Jones/Treasurer	A	Milt Taylor/Financial Secretary
A	Wende Peters/VP/Personnel		_____/Fellowship
P	Sharon Hindman/Social Ministry	P	Laura Blum/Youth & Education
P	Will Stecher/Property	P	Nancy Bowman/Secretary/M&W
P	Holly deBenedictis	P	Carol Friend

Call to Order – 7:04 p.m. by Council President Brian Bowman

In accordance with the decision made at the August 9, 2017 Council meeting, the minutes of the December 13, 2017 Council meeting were approved via email by a simple majority of the Council who attended the meeting.

Opening Devotions

→ Pastor Litton read a passage from Isaiah that talked about *water*. Conversation centered around “being thirsty for God” and “being filled with God”.

→ Prayer petitions for members/friends.

Current Business

Pastor’s Report/Pastor Robin Litton – report submitted

Newsletter articles due 1 week after Council meetings; all committees are encouraged to submit short informational blurbs/bullets to keep congregation informed of committee actions and events

Ordination of Matt Zemanick (12/16/17) – all went well

→ Carol Friend to check with Matt on receiving the chasuble and stole

Christmas Eve Services – several pre-school families attended

Good to catch up with the college students that were home for the holidays

Treasurer’s Report/Andy Jones – submitted

Reviewed the Profit/Loss Statement for 2017; ups/downs of income/expenses

Would be beneficial to renegotiate/increase the black-and-white copy count on the Terrapin copier contract

“Thank you” letters to be sent for up-to-date building fund pledges

Need to change “weekly needed” amount listed in the bulletin to reflect the 2018 budget figure

→ Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report made by Will Stecher; seconded by Sharon Hindman; motion carried.

Consent Agenda Reports*

*Financial Secretary - Milt Taylor – *report submitted*

*Deacon Linda - Linda Smith - *report submitted*

*Music & Worship - Nancy Bowman – *report submitted*

Fellowship - _____ – *no report submitted*

→ Events discussed: Ladies Night (≈ end of April); Ribbon Cutting for new pre-school building opening; revisit Apple Fest

Stewardship - Deacon Linda Smith – *see Deacon Linda’s*

Report; meeting soon to plan for 2018

*Property - Will Stecher – *report submitted*

Issues from Pre-School

→ Door Bell issues persist; need to research the problem again

→ Rain gutters need to be cleaned

→ Designate a contact person for emergency issues

→ Some ceiling tiles need re-setting

→ Someone/?? keeps turning off water in boys’ bathroom

Spring Cleaning Event – March 17, 2018

Surge Protector – to be installed next week

Youth & Education - Laura Blum – *no report submitted*

Family Day – March 25, 2018 (Palm Sunday)

“Thank you” to those who filled in for Laura at Sunday School during her health-related absence

Laura and Joe to meet in February – plan 2018 activities

- Joe Herb – *report submitted*

Social Ministry - Sharon Hindman

Mitten Tree – Milt Taylor took most of the items to the cold weather shelter; collection will continue through 1/14/18

Blessing Bags – on-going

Bagged Lunches – increased to 80 lunches quarterly; Charles and Fran Midkiff will provide

HSLC representative needed for Escape Ministry board

Personnel - Wende Peters – *no report submitted*

Old Business

Preschool Update

→ 101 students currently

→ 86 students registered for 2018/2019 school year

→ 11 students on pre-K waiting list

→ “New” preschool requires re-fingerprinting of all staff

Sanctuary Renovation [Brian Bowman]

→ Still meeting with contractors; securing 3 bids for each job

2016 Audit

→ Andy Jones and Brian Bowman to meet with Audit Committee to initiate process

Status of Employee Performance Reviews (October 2017 Council minutes)

[Wende Peters was unable to attend tonight’s meeting; per Pastor Litton – Wende has met with Parish Administrator]

New Business

Council committee Chairperson/Liaisons

Music and Worship – Nancy Bowman

Fellowship – Bill Dodson

Stewardship – Holly deBenedictis

Property – Will Stecher

Youth and Education – Laura Blum; Joe Herb

Social Ministry – Sharon Hindman

Constitution and Bylaws – Carol Friend

Evangelism – Carol Friend

Project Tracker (handout)

→ *New* tool to keep Council projects on track and timely

Announcements

→ Next Council Meeting – **Wednesday, February 21, 2018** – due to Ash Wednesday falling on February 14th (2nd

Wednesday of the month)

Motion to Adjourn

→ Motion to adjourn was made by Laura Blum and seconded by Brian Bowman; motion carried.

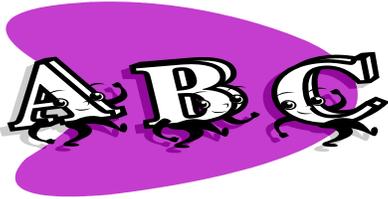
Closing Prayer

→ Meeting ended at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Bowman

Nancy Bowman/Council Secretary



Preschool News for February:

The children have been talking about the season and the weather. They have made many different snow pictures and painted with ice paint. The two and three year olds have been making their own snow and playing in it every day. The children continue to learn their letters, numbers, colors and sight words. Each class will be celebrating Valentine's Day with cards and fun activities and projects. Our character trait for this month is Empathy.

In January we baked and decorated sugar cookies in every class and had them for snack. The children had a blast making them and more fun eating them.

February is our healthy themed month. We will talk about our teeth, heart and the good foods we eat. On February 7 and 8 we will read the story Stone Soup and the children will bring in the ingredients to make stone soup for their snack.

We have been very busy enrolling some new students for this year and enrolling for next year's classes. Families are excited about our new all day options. We do have openings in some of our classes for next year if you know anyone who has a child 2 to 4 years old and are looking for a preschool please have them call the preschool office @ 410-795-2287



Fellowship Opportunities

The "**Spirit Diners**" will get together on Sunday, February 4, at **Basta Pasta Restaurant** located at 5957 Exchange Drive, Eldersburg. at 1 PM. Here is the website to review the menu <http://www.bastapastamd.com>. We will receive separate checks. Use the "sign-up" sheet (in back of the church) to make your reservation. Questions: call Barbara Northrop, 410-552-0104.

The **Spirit Diners** will get together on Sunday, March 4, at the **China Dragon Restaurant**, 6300 Georgetown Blvd. in the Freedom Village Shopping Center (same place as Panera Bread and Shoppers). The food is good and the prices are more than reasonable. We will receive separate checks. Use the sign-up sheet (in back of the church) to make your reservation. Questions: call Barbara Northrop, 410-552-0104.

Spirited Seniors will meet on Wednesday, February 14th at 1:00 p.m. for the Ash Wednesday service. Join this group following the service for lunch at Liberatories.

Spirited Seniors will meet again on March 14, at noon. This will be a planning meeting at the church. Bring a lunch.

Contact Darlene Revis if you need a ride @410-795-7322

~ February 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2 & 5:45 Bible discussion 7p Choir rehearsal	2	3
4 Confirmation Class WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 9:30a Sunday school 9:30a Adult Bible Class 7:30p AA Meeting	5	6	7 7p AA Meeting @ MP Room	8 2 & 5:45 Bible discussion 7p Choir rehearsal	9	10
11 WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 9:30a Sunday school 9:30a Adult Bible Class 7:30p AA Meeting	12	13 <i>Mardi Gras</i> Shrove Tuesday Pan- cake supper- 5:30-7:00 pm	14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Noon & 7:30 pm Spirited Seniors 7p AA Meeting @ MP Room	15 2 & 5:45 Bible discussion 7p Choir rehearsal	16	17
18 Confirmation class WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 9:30a Sunday school 9:30a Adult Bible Class 7:30p AA Meeting	19 12p Excello Extermina- tors	20 Preschool Board – 6:30 pm	21 7p AA Meeting @ MP Room 7p Church Council	22 2 & 5:45 Bible discussion 7p Choir rehearsal	23	24
25 WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 9:30a Sunday school 9:30a Adult Bible Class 7:30p AA Meeting	26	27	28 7p AA Meeting @ MP Room	Notes:		



Contact Information for Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Address: Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
2205 Old Liberty Road
Eldersburg, MD 21784

Church Office Phone: (410) 795-6333
Preschool Office: (410) 795-2287

Email:

Pastor Robin: hslc.pastor@comcast.net

Deacon Linda: aim@hslceldersburgmd.org

Parish Administrator: hslc.eldersburg@comcast.net

Website: www.hslceldersburgmd.org

Bulletin announcements are due by Wednesday morning.

