



THE FLAME

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Celebrating and Living God’s Message”

May 2008

7234 Fenton Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 (810) 424-6707 www.holyspiritlc.net

What Is In A Church?

What is in a church? During the month of May, we ask ourselves what the church is all about? Why do we gather together? Why do people join churches? How does being a part of a church impact our lives, if at all?

For many people in our country and state, church is a just a place that you go for weddings and funerals – you might even go to worship on Christmas Eve or Easter. Is there more to church than this? For many in our small church family here at Holy Spirit – myself included- the last few months have been a reminder to us of all that church can be. These weeks have been a time of great trial for many of our families, as we have had a large number of funerals, illnesses, hospitalizations, job changes, and other very stressful situations abounding. Throughout all of these difficult situations, it has been wonderful to watch so many members responding with care and concern for one another: members actively praying for one another, visiting one another, taking each other meals, and finding many other ways to support one another.

On top of the care that members are showing for one another, we are also reaching out to those in need in the community around us. A few weeks ago, I was so proud of our congregation when we hosted the Thrivent Builds, Habitat House Kickoff. While we are still a relatively small congregation compared to some others in the Flint area, we had the largest contingent of volunteers at the meeting. In addition, nearly a quarter of all funds that are pledged to the build so far are coming from Holy Spirit in one form or another. This is not even mentioning our food distributions and other ministries we sponsor, like Relay for Life and Crop Walk. Holy Spirit is a community of Christians who are putting their faith into action on behalf of those in need, both inside our church family and the broader family of God in the world around us. What a joy it is to be in this type of Community of Faith!

What is a church? The church is the body of Christ that gathers in a certain place. As a part of that body we:

- Pray for one another,
- Read our Bible together,
- Worship together as the family of God,
- Serve God and Others,
- Relate to one another,
- Give sacrificially to God’s mission.

I am so glad that you are all a part of this great body of Christ that gathers in this place and reaches out in mission and service to the world around us. May God bless us all as we go through times together that are both joyful, Spirit-led, challenging, Father-supported, stressful and Christ-filled.

In Christ,

Pastor Will

Spring Congregation Meeting May 18, 9:15am

Join us for our spring congregation meeting. This brief meeting will take place between the services at 9:15am. We will have the coffee ready, and we encourage you to join us for a brief meeting to elect a couple of new leaders to the congregation council, receive updates on our progress toward our 2008 goals, meet our new staff members, and look forward to the rest of the year.

Young At Heart Spring Meeting May 8, 11:00am

Come welcome SPRING with us and have some fun! We will be meeting at the church for a short meeting with a guest speaker, Joyce Thewalt, of Comfort Keepers, who will present info. about Comforting Solutions For In-Home Care. Lunch will follow, and then we will continue to the American Legion Hall in Grand Blanc to learn something new. Our very own Pat Hughes will be teaching us Line Dancing! Everyone can join in on the fun, if not dancing just watching and cheering the others on. Come join us for a fun

News Release

Pirate Alert!

Suspicious-looking pirates have been sighted near Holy Spirit Church. Pastor Will assures us that these pirates are the good-hearted sort. They've made port at the church in preparation for The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything- A VeggieTales® Vacation Bible School, scheduled for July 20-24. Kids from age three (and potty trained) through those entering fifth grade next fall are invited for a fun-filled week of Bible adventure. Registration starts in June. For further information, contact Danielle Stenke (dstenke@comcast.net) or call Amy Cochran at 810-695-8954.



Shipmates (crew leaders) wanted!! Sign up at the VBS table to help.

VBS training dates:

Captains and First Mates- Sunday, June 22th right after church
Shipmates (Crew leaders)- Sunday, June 29th right after church
Extra day for either- Wed., July 9th at 6:30pm

Simply Giving – A Simple and Faithful Way to Give!

The finance committee of HSLC encourages members to consider signing up for **Simply Giving** over the next few weeks. **Simply Giving** is a **safe and private** way of having your pledges **electronically transferred** from your bank account to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church. Many of you already use electronic transfer, having either your paycheck or your social security check deposited directly to your bank account.

There are many advantages to this process. There are no checkbooks to remember, no lost checks, no makeup checks to be written when you're out of town, and no checks credited to someone else's account by mistake. The counters will appreciate having one less check to process on a Sunday morning. The whole program is provided free by Thrivent for Lutherans.

The biggest plus may be the part people fear the most – **commitment**. When you sign up for Simply Giving you're saying "I'll give God my **"first fruits"**. Just like your mortgage, your car payment and your heating bill, this is something that is important for you to do, so you do it "first". If your financial situation changes, the pledge amount can be changed or cancelled in as little as two days.

Please pray about this and contact Jerry Tucker for information, H 810-658-9378, C 810-655-4737.

GEN-L has a new name! Out of the 40 Days of Purpose series, a new identity has emerged. After discussion with the group members, it was decided to rename our group "Koininia". The word is defined as a noun with the definition of "Christian fellowship or communion with God or with fellow Christians; said in particular of the early Christian community"

Music Notes

As we continue into spring the musicians at Holy Spirit are learning music for a special service on May 18th. At that service the gift of music will be emphasized and we will enjoy a time of appreciation for those who have participated in the music program this year.

It has been a tradition for many years to have a day when music is emphasized within the overarching theme of the service and it is something we all look forward to. All the choirs and musicians are involved and it is always a spiritually uplifting time for us and gives us an opportunity to emphasize music with the focus being on praising and worshipping God.

Between now and May 20th the choirs and musicians will be working hard on their music in anticipation of this day. I encourage you to pray for us as we prepare the music and to be in church on that Sunday to enjoy the time of worship and fellowship.

After the spring program, the rehearsal schedules for all the choirs will change. The adult choir will continue to rehearse on Thursdays until June 19th, but will only rehearse from 6:30-7:30. Kids Ring and Sing, SonBurst Ringers and Singers and the Youth Choir will not rehearse again until fall.

Those of us in the music ministry are looking forward to May 18th. We look forward to using our musical gifts to thank the congregation for the kind words and positive acknowledgments that we have received from you throughout the year.



Update - New Staff Positions at Holy Spirit!

The last month has been a very busy month for the personnel committee. We have been actively interviewing candidates for the Administrative Assistant, Financial Associate, and Nursery Coordinator.

Financial Associate

The personnel committee has finished interviewing for the Financial Associate position, and we are in the middle of doing background and reference checks. Early in May, we will officially announce the candidate's name when all of our checks are complete. Watch the Flame next month for information on the candidate who has been chosen and read her bio.

Nursery Coordinator

We want to welcome to our growing staff, **Lori Sells**, the new nursery Coordinator. Lori replaces Stephanie Anderson who moved with her family to Texas last December. We are glad that she is joining our staff to lead the very important ministry to families with small children. In the weeks ahead, be prepared to see a number of changes to our nursery, including some new policies and a new appeal for volunteers. For many young families visiting a church, the nursery is a key factor on whether they join the congregation or not. In addition, it is in those very early years that much of a child's faith life is developed. We are glad that Lori is here to lead us. May God bless her ministry at HSLC. Please take a moment to read her bio below...

My name is Lori Sells. I am a mother of 2 boys, and 4 (almost 5) grandchildren. I've lived in Mundy Township for the past 3 years and have attended Holy Spirit Lutheran Church since last August. In my spare time I enjoy gardening and playing with my grandkids. I am looking forward to meeting new people within the church and working with the children.

Confirmation News

Confirmation Camp – Sponsor a Student

This summer, six youth from HSLC will be attending Confirmation Camp, during which they will participate in Bible Studies, challenge courses, waterfront, camp fires, small group exercises, and many other fun and exciting activities.

The registration fee for students to participate in camp is \$320. While we would like all students in our confirmation ministry to be able to experience this faith-changing experience, not all families can afford this type of expense. In order to help defray the cost of camp, HSLC has formed a Camp Scholarship Fund. Members who would like to support youth in their efforts to go to camp can sponsor a youth for camp. Those interested can make a check payable to HSLC with Camp Sponsorship in the memo line. You will then be matched with a student who will correspond with you during camp, allowing you to share in their journey. Thank you to all who support camping ministry and the change it makes in the lives of our youth!

Confirmation Sunday

May 11, 10:30pm

On May 11, two of our youth will stand in front of the Congregation to Affirm their Faith in Jesus Christ and become adult members of our congregation. Those receiving their Confirmation this year are:

Nathan Bradley

Owen Nash

Please keep these two young men in your prayers as they make this important step in their faith journeys.

Confirmation Schedule for remainder of School Year

May 4	Theme Event 6:00 – 8:00pm
May 11	Confirmation Sunday 10:30am
May 18	Final Theme Event 6:00-8:00pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Pre-K through 5th grade

Lesson- Jacob deceives Esau, Isaac, Joseph, and his brothers

Song- Happy All the Time

Bible Verse "You intended to harm me but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done." Genesis 50:20

Thank you to our Rotation Leaders!

Margaret Mitchell-Greeting cards made by each class and sent to our members and our servicemen.

Stacy Reynolds-Decorated Thrivent "house" banks

Sandy Willoughby- 2 games "Joseph and His Brothers" and "Out of the Pit"

Junior and Senior High

Dwight Bobo teaches the Junior High Class and Jerry Tucker continues with the High School Class. A new format for each class is being considered for the fall.

The Adult Class is presently doing a video and discussion class led by Pastor Will called "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Phillip Yancey. Please join this class any Sunday at 9:15am for a cup of coffee and a relaxed informative discussion.

VBS News

VBS dates are July 20-24 (Sunday through Thursday). Mark your calendar!

Women's Bible Study

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10am and is studying the Beatitudes. All women are encouraged and invited to attend!

Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity News

House Building Week – July 28-Aug 2

All are welcome to come and join 17 other Lutheran churches in building two homes in Burton, across from the Meijer on Center Rd. We are partnering with Thrivent Builds to build the two homes this summer, with HSLC sponsoring the week of July 28. Sponsoring means that we encourage our members to go out and build from 8:30-3:00 on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday on that week, though volunteers are welcome to build during any week from June through August. Our congregation will also provide the meal for volunteers on those days. All skill levels are welcome to join in the building, and all ages can help provide the meals. Sign up on the Table in the Narthex!

Average Monthly Worship Attendance for March

	2007	2008
8:00am	40	52
10:30am	127	163
Total	167	215

Join Hands Day: Full Bellies and Warm Bodies Event

Saturday, May 3, 9:00am—2:00pm

All Holy Spirit members are invited to join us for a service event for ALL AGES. Come and help the disadvantaged in our county to have full bellies and warm bodies. In the morning, we will be staffing a Mobile Food Pantry of the Eastern Michigan Food Bank, handing out free food to the hungry families of southern Genesee County. Bring your blankets, quilts, socks, scarves, hats, mittens and gloves (old or new) to donate, as we spend the afternoon assembling Homeless Packs to keep the homeless in our area clothed and warm next winter.

A simple lunch will be provided for those who RSVP. There will be nursery in the morning for children 5 and under and fun activities (bounce house) for young children, beginning at 12:00 noon.

RSVP to 810-424-6707

RELAY FOR LIFE—June '08

The Relay is just around the corner! We are once again looking for walkers on Saturday, June 7th @ 10am to Sunday, June 8th @ 10am. In order to get your free t-shirt, we are asking all walkers to try and raise at least \$50. This is a lot of fun and we would love for you to participate and help find a cure for this disease that has infected so many of our loved ones. Please sign up on the board in the hallway today to walk for an hour or two. We also have the luminary bags on sale for \$10 to decorate in honor or memory of a loved one. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sandy Willoughby at 584-0510 or Sue McComb at 695-1944.

PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

ADDRESS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

ENI Cliff Cleary
ACB-2 SEABEES
CAMP DELTA
APO AE 09331

CAPT James Babbitt
TF 1-293rd IN Team HHD
OIF 08-10

Do You Enjoy Softball?

HSLC Softball Begins in June

Holy Spirit's softball team is once again looking for a few good recruits. Men and women are both encouraged to play in our co-ed league. Last year, we had almost enough players to field two teams, and we would love reach that milestone this year. If interested, sign up on the kiosk in the Narthex or contact the Langers at 810-953-0627. Play begins in June.

HSLC

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH - May 2008



Thanks a "brunch!"

HSLC's Habitat for Humanity kick-off brunch was very well attended and no one went away hungry! Many thanks to our parent and student volunteers for all your time with set-up, preparing, serving and clean-up (and all those borrowed glass pans!) Hats off to Grand Blanc WalMart for their \$50 donation toward our brunch expenses and to Thrivent Financial for supporting our summer camp fund.

May 3 – 9:00a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Full Bellies & Warm Bodies



We're in business! Pastor Thuli was so impressed with our brunch, that she's working on booking our services to feed the "up to 100" volunteers needed on May 3rd. Grilled hot dogs with all the fixin's are on the menu. Look for more info via e-mail as we firm up our plans.

Later, May 3 ... a reward for all our hard work

Family Friendly comedy concert featuring Tim Hawkins at Central Church of the Nazarene. Tickets: \$8 at the door, children under 12 are free ... OPEN TO ALL. Meet at church around 6:15 p.m. to caravan/carpool to Bristol Road. Websites with more info: <http://www.timhawkins.net/> or <http://www.centralnazarene.org/>

Sunday, May 4 – Planning Meeting

Let's keep on top of our events by meeting again after late service. We'll plan on the Piggott's house unless another host wants to step forward ☺ Lunch provided!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Relay for Life – June 7 & 8 (GBHS grounds)

Help our team pack the track! HSLC's Kids of the Kingdom has a successful history of raising funds for the American Cancer Society. Walkers needed 10am Saturday until 10am Sunday. Sign up to walk an hour or two on the sheets in the narthex and take time to hang out at the team campsite.



Please feel free to contact Sally Piggott with any questions (or ideas!) you may have ☺
Home: 603-0260, Cell: 394-6948, piggott48439@aol.com

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Ed Chan, undergoing treatment
Carol Clark, in Hospice Care
Nan Hudson, recovering from surgery
Lila Horwath, homebound
Peggy Hunt, homebound
Jacob Sarsfield, homebound
Jeri Steward, under doctor's care
Barb Wyrwicki, under doctor's care
Ron Hay, (Nan Hudson's son-in-law),
undergoing treatment
Stacy Reynolds-recovering from surgery
Joe Wyrwicki- recovering from surgery
Bob Roberts-under doctor's care
Virginia Brinker-under doctor's care

Join the Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain has a new leader—Ellie Hunt-Goebel. We are blessed to have Ellie share her gift for prayer and organization with this vital ministry of prayer and support for all of those in need. If you would like to join the prayer chain, please either call 248-634-0262 or email her at Pehuntgoebel@peoplepc.com.

Thank You's -

- Thank you to Jacob Tucker for the leadership that he showed through the Eagle Scout project that organized our Garage and created new storage units. Jacob led a group of scouts and adult leaders from Troop #168. Thanks, Jacob!
- Thank you to all of those who worked as substitute secretaries in the office throughout April. We greatly appreciate all of the time and technical assistance that members have shared.
- Thank you to the youth of the congregation who provided a wonderful meal for the Thrivent Builds / Habitat for Humanity Kickoff that was held at Holy Spirit this last month. Everyone attended remarked upon the great work that our youth did to create a warm, welcome, and delicious meal.



5/1 Cliff Cleary
5/2 Beverly Cook
5/3 Alesha Black
5/3 Mark Reese
5/6 Lauren Beck
5/6 Robert Kuerbitz
5/10 Carol Johnson
5/11 Taylor Porter
5/13 Dee Baker
5/13 Christopher Utter
5/14 Brian Geiser
5/14 Nellie McKay
5/19 Jan Wenstrom
5/22 Lonnie Moore
5/23 Nicole Ballard
5/25 Marci Augenstein
5/25 Gerald Engstrom
5/25 Taylor Steward
5/26 Dave Alley
5/28 Stephen Hoisington



5/12 Timothy & Kim Houle
5/14 Dave & Julie Alley
5/14 David & Stacey Jameson
5/24 Ed & Michelle Loney
5/26 Ed & Beth Chan
5/29 Leon & Lonnie Moore

Real Finances, Real Help Series: Your Credit Score

Wednesday May 28, 6—8pm

The HSLC Finance Committee is sponsoring a workshop for members and individuals from the community on finding and interpreting your credit score. Join us for a light dinner (free will donation) as we explore the sometimes confusing world of credit scores. If interested, sign up on the Top opportunities sheet or on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

May 2008

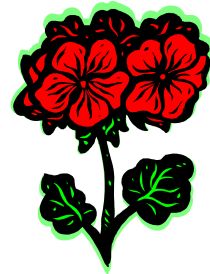
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Blended Worship 3pm Thrivent Builds Ground Blessing 5pm Youth Choir</p>	<p>5 6:30pm 1st Communion Workshop</p>	<p>6 7am Mundy Township Voting</p>	<p>7 6pm Dinner 6:30pm Kids Ring & Sing & Sonburst Ringers</p>	<p>8 6:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9 5-8pm Spaghetti Dinner @ Our Risen Lord in Burton</p>	<p>10 9am High School Food Prep 10am-2pm Warm Hands, Warm Bellies Food Distribution</p>
<p>11 Pentecost Sunday Confirmation Sunday 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Blended</p>	<p>12 1st Communion Workshop 6:30pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 6pm Dinner 6:30pm Kids Ring & Sing & Sonburst Ringers</p>	<p>15 6:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 Eugene Ritter Wedding</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Blended Worship 6:00pm Confirmation</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 6:30pm Congregation Council Meeting</p>	<p>21 6:00pm Children and Youth choir end of year party</p>	<p>22 No Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 8am Traditional Worship 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Blended Worship</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 6:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

Pentecost Flowers for May 11

*Pentecost is a Sunday to wear red and put up red decorations. Please help us make our church red....Order a Geranium to beautify our sanctuary for Pentecost, Sunday, May 11. After the late service, you can take the plant home as a Mother's Day gift or use it to beautify your garden. You can also donate it to the church for our gardens outside. Geraniums can also be ordered to beautify the church in honor or memory of a loved one. **Complete the form below and return to the church office with payment by May 5, 2008.***

Geranium Prices:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Small (approx) 3" pots w/ 1 plant | \$3.25 |
| Large (approx) 7" pots w/ 3 plants | \$8.00 |



(please detach lower section and return to church office with payment)

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of Small Plants _____

of Large Plants _____

In Honor or Memory (please circle one) of:



THE FLAME

HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

7234 FENTON RD.
GRAND BLANC, MI 48439

**FORWARDING AND ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED**

HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

7234 FENTON RD. GRAND BLANC, MI 48439

OFFICE: (810) 424-6707

Website: www.holyspiritlc.net

Email: info@holyspiritlc.net

8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

9:15 am Education Hour for Children, Youth, and Adults

10:30am Blended Worship with Holy Communion

Spring Congregation Meeting—May 18, 9:15am