



# THE FLAME

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“Celebrating and Living God’s Message”*

*October 2008*

7234 Fenton Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 (810) 424-6707 [www.holyspiritlc.net](http://www.holyspiritlc.net)

## **Back to the Basics**

This fall, we have been going back to the basics. Through our sermon series, we have been spending time on Sunday mornings considering the basic questions of what Christians believe and teach. On Wednesday evenings, our Alpha class provides an opportunity for people – members and nonmembers – to think about and discuss the basic beliefs of the Christian faith. In both ways, we are spending significant time considering important questions about our faith. It is necessary for all Christians to spend some time reflecting on their faith.

It is equally important that we spend time reflecting on how our faith impacts our daily living – the intersection of faith and work. While our faith is important, if it has no application to our daily lives, if it has no connection to our hearts, then it is an empty and lifeless.

There are many ways that our faith impacts our daily lives:

- Our care of creation and the stewardship of natural resources,
- The faith and values we model for our children,
- The priorities we use to set our household budgets,
- The decision about how we spend our free time, and

Many others.

During this election season, we also have the opportunity to apply our faith to the decisions we make in the voting booth. If many of you are like me, you are all ready getting tired of the endless political commercials, telephone calls, and pieces of direct mail. It is easy to get election burn-out, as well as disenchanting with the candidates. Yet, both as Americans and as Christians, we need to exercise our right to vote. For the Christian, we are called to apply our faith to this important decision.

How does a person apply their faith to voting decisions? A fairly basic way is to say a prayer asking God to help guide your decisions. Another way is to consider the Bible would address various candidates or issues. If you believe that Jesus said, “The greatest commandment was loving God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength; and a second commandment was loving your neighbor as yourself”, then that should guide the choices you make. Is there a candidate that seems to be led by this mindset in the decisions they make and even the way they relate to others. A candidate does not need to be Lutheran (in fact it would be difficult finding just Lutherans for us to elect) for them to be guided, and live out, these values.

It is tempting to become disgusted and turned-off by the election process, but I encourage you to practice your faith by exercising your right to vote. Also, realize that well-meaning, faithful Christians can both look seriously at the candidates and come to different conclusions about who would be better to lead the country, the state, our local communities, or even a school board. What matters the most is that we learn about our faith and values, and then apply that knowledge to the decisions before us. May God guide and bless us all as we seek to make faith-filled decisions.

God’s Blessings to you all,  
Pastor Will

### Fall Free Food Distribution

**Saturday, October 4, 9:30 am — 12:30pm**

Join us as we hand out canned and boxed food purchased from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan to those in need throughout Genesee County. Help is needed to bag items, provide hospitality, and carry items to cars. All ages can help.

### Home Communion Ministers

The caring ministries of Holy Spirit have a new ministry to offer the congregation: Home Communion Ministers. Beginning in October, home communion ministers will be taking communion out to shut-ins in the congregation after service on Sunday mornings. This important ministry provides an extension of the Sunday morning gathered congregation, providing a very real and tangible way for people to still feel connected. Communion ministers are not a replacement for the regular pastoral care provided by Pastor Will, but they are an addition to his ministry. The ministers will be commissioned on Oct 5, and they will begin taking out the pre-consecrated elements that week. If you or someone you know in the congregation would like to receive communion, please contact the church office or Pastor Will, and they will be added to the list.

**Don't forget** to wear red to our Reformation Day service on Sunday, October 26!



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

Major James Babbitt  
TF 1-293<sup>rd</sup> IN Team HHD  
OIF 08-10  
APO AE 09391

## Drop a Note



### Connections: New Member Orientation September 20, 9:00am to 12:00pm

Are you interested in Exploring Membership at Holy Spirit? This workshop is an invitation for participants to join the members of Holy Spirit on a journey of faith. This interactive session will help participants to explore the mission, vision, and beliefs of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, discuss what church membership looks like, and discover ways to fit themselves and their families into our ministry.

### CHRISTIAN ED FOR ALL

\*\* We are off to a terrific start this fall with many opportunities for all ages.

*\*\* Pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade has an enrollment of 52 students!!! The new format during the second service is working out very well for parents and students. Our willing and able teachers are the following: Pre-school, Briana Willoughby and Diane Gregg, K-1st, Lonnie Moore and Leslie Sells, 2nd-3rd grade Melanie Piggott and Tammy Schild, 4th-5<sup>th</sup> grade Bailey Neubecker and Jennifer McEntire.*

\*\* The Junior High/Confirmation students continue to meet with Pastor every other Sunday at 6pm.

\*\* The High School group has been invited to attend the Alpha class on Wednesday evenings and will continue to look for other opportunities to get together for Bible study.

\*\* The Alpha Course is off to a great start. Last week, over 85 people from the Alpha class and families with children in the children's choirs shared dinner together before the class began. The format for Alpha is dinner, video, small group discussion.

\*\* Thank you to Beth Chan for providing another summer of Sunday School in the Garden on Sunday evenings for our children.

\*\*CHRISTIAN ED IS GOOD ALL THE TIME! ALL THE TIME, CHRISTIAN ED IS GOOD!

**Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty**

That is what CROP stands for, but what the CROP Walk MEANS is awareness of, and help for, poverty issues around the world and right here at home. HSLC has supported CROP walk and it's time to sign up to be a walker and raise pledges, or you can pitch in by donating to a walker. The walk takes place on Sunday October 12, at Holy Family church in Grand Blanc. Registration begins at 1:30. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk, or fill out your Top Opportunities sheet. Questions? Call Phil Holmblade at 655-4554.

**Announcements, Announcements, Announcements, Announcements:  
So much to share, and so little time.**

In order to focus our attention fully on worship during our services, we will no longer give verbal announcements, except in extraordinary circumstances or matters that pertain to the worship service itself. Please utilize the announcement sheets in the bulletin to inform you about what is happening here at Holy Spirit.

For those who have an announcement to post, please be certain to send it into the church office by Wednesday of each week. In order to also reach those who were not in services on Sunday, we will also send out weekly announcement updates via email. These weekly announcements will also be a way to keep us all better informed about matters that need a more timely notice or reminder than can be made through the Flame, our monthly newsletter.

Thank you for your understanding of this new way of keeping the congregation informed about important information and happenings in our shared ministry.

**Young at Heart Happenings**

Yah were busy making apple pies in September. They are frozen and will be for sale in time for you to bake up for your Thanksgiving gatherings.

October brings a fun trip to Frankenmuth for YAH. On Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, the group will meet at church then head north for a luncheon and to attend the Harmonica All-Star Revue. Don't miss out! Sign up at the Young at Heart table.

YTD 9/23/2008	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	
<b>Income</b>	216,500	216,000	301,000
<b>Expenses *</b>	218,500	226,000	301,000
<b>Surplus/Deficit (34 weeks)</b>	-2,000	-10,000	0

\* YTD expenses include the addition of \$9,000 to the Church's Operating Fund.

Cash Balances:

December 31, 2007      \$110,000      (Citizens Bank and Merrill Lynch)

\$38,600

\$71,400

September 23, 2008      \$117,000      (Citizens Bank and Merrill Lynch)

\$50,800

\$66,200

Cash Increase      + \$ 7,000

# HSLC

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH



**Food Distribution – Oct. 4**  
Beginning at 9:00 a.m. Plan to volunteer!

### Sunday, October 14 – Planning Meeting

- 11:30-12:00 Let's work on our calendar of events for the fall and winter Michigan Gathering Registration and deposit due
- 12:00-12:30 Lunch
- 12:30-1:00 National Youth Gathering planning meeting

### Thank you!

Hat's off to our Kids Against Hunger volunteers: Nathan Bradley, Trevor Houle, Melanie Piggott, Briana & Shane Willoughby. Your efforts were amazing – 40,000 meals were packaged at this event through the combined efforts of HSLC youth with several other area youth groups. Special thanks to Valerie Piggott who attended planning meetings and became a pivotal organizer of our group's efforts. Great job everyone!

### Prayer Concern

Keep on praying for healing for Aaron Houle as he continues to recover from his surgery to repair his broken jaw after his football injury. We love you and miss you, Aaron!!

### Michigan Gathering

December 27 – 30

Holiday Inn South, Lansing

Registration Fee - \$125

\$75 non-refundable deposit due October 14<sup>th</sup>.

See Pastor Will for scholarship opportunities.

For more information, visit the website at:

[migthathering.org](http://migthathering.org)

Or, hear first hand about this great experience from Pastor Will or any youth who've attended previously.

THE **GATHERING** 2008

**HEROES**

ACTS 1:8

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



# The Connection Corner

Michelle Traynor

[connectingministries@holyspiritlc.net](mailto:connectingministries@holyspiritlc.net)  
(810) 653-5983

*WELCOME to the Connection Corner of our newsletter.  
A tool for getting connected and staying connected!*

*~Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. ~ Galatians 6:10*

## **"GET CONNECTED" TO ~~ FELLOW CHRISTIANS!**



New Member Class

Saturday, October 5

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

## **"GET CONNECTED" TO ~~ YOUR FAITH!**

Alpha Bible Study

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm (10 wks) Every Wednesday

Women of the Spirit Bible  
study on prayer

10:00 am - 11:00 am (ongoing) Second Tuesday of the month

## **"GET CONNECTED" TO ~~ YOUR CONGREGATION!**

Discipleship	Gerry Setera	(810) 655-0367
Christian Education	Pat Ranta	(810) 629-1422
Worship Board	Jan Wenstrom	(810) 636-2800
Youth Ministries	Sally Piggott	(810) 603-0260
Church Property	Jeff Watson	(810) 694-2191
Congregational Care	Mark Reese	(810) 629-3501
Music	Jean Pike	(810) 655-6764

Special Congratulations and Gratitude!!!!

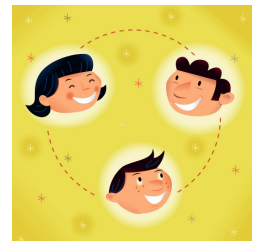
Karen Michelson has stepped up as our new Director of Outreach, if you are interested in this group please contact Karen at (810) 232-6583.

# LOOK!

### Help Still Wanted!

(if you are interested please contact Michelle as indicated above):

- Bible Study Leaders



## Music Notes



It is the beginning of October and we are at the end of the summer and edging into fall. Christmas isn't that far away and we are beginning to rehearse music for Advent and Christmas at our rehearsals. It is always a fun and exciting time when we start learning Christmas music as it reminds us that our biggest holiday is closer than seems possible at this time of year.

This year the children and youth are going to present "Sound the Bells! The Savior's Born!" on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the 10:00 service. There will be familiar carols as well as narration with congregational participation.

The adult choir will be presenting several pieces of music on Christmas Eve at the late service. We are all looking forward to learning the music for both of these presentations and I believe all our Advent and Christmas services will serve as an opportunity for us as a congregation to remember that God sent His only Son to earth for us and also provide an opportunity for un-churched visitors to become aware of God's love for them.

We are still taking new members into the choirs and continue to look for additional instrumentalists.

If you have considered joining a choir or bringing your child to one of the kids choir rehearsals, but feel that it is an extra commitment that you can't handle at this time, let me encourage you to commit yourself through the end of the year and encourage your child to be involved in the Christmas Program on December 21st. You can "get your feet wet" so to speak and see how it fits into your schedule. There is still time before Christmas to join one of the choirs or to be a part of Holy Spirit's music ministry by playing an instrument. I would love to talk to you about becoming a part of our music ministry.

If you are interested in you, or your child becoming a part of our music program please email Jean Pike at [jpik49@comcast.net](mailto:jpik49@comcast.net), [music@holyspiritlc.net](mailto:music@holyspiritlc.net) or call me at 655-6764 We love to get new people involved and it is always encouraging to those of us who are already part of the program.




10/1 Irma Crickmore  
 10/3 Stacy Reynolds  
 10/4 Phil Holmblade  
 10/4 Lisa Katzur  
 10/6 David Jameson  
 10/6 Terry Katzur  
 10/6 Courtney Utter  
 10/7 Cameryn Ballard  
 10/7 Tracy Beck  
 10/8 Anne Casselton  
 10/9 Paul Smith  
 10/10 Kaitlyn Robinson  
 10/12 Sandra Ireland  
 10/13 Jerry Baker  
 10/16 Michael Beck  
 10/17 Gerald Setera  
 10/18 Deryk Cleary  
 10/19 Nathan Bradley  
 10/19 Warren Wildey  
 10/21 Grant Hegenauer  
 10/24 Jared Hawley  
 10/24 Rick Shaffer  
 10/25 Sarah Wenstrom  
 10/26 Drew Zarzycki  
 10/30 Pat Ranta  
 10/30 Emilee Schild  
 10/31 Robert Brooks  
 10/31 Scott Gregg



10/2 Catherine and Brian Geiser  
 10/6 Robert and Pat Ranta  
 10/9 Michael and Tracy Beck  
 10/10 Scott and Diane Gregg  
 10/12 Michael and Janet McGillis  
 10/21 Rick and Barbara Shaffer  
 10/23 Rob and Sheryl Porter  
 10/25 Chet and Laura Wilkinson  
 10/25 Jeromy and Paula Weible

# Holy Spirit Lutheran Church October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 5:30 SonBurst Ringers and Singers 6:00 supper 6:00 Alpha 6:30 Kid's Ring and</p>	2	3	4 9:00 am-12:00 n Food Distribution
5 Worship 8:30 & 10 4:00 Worship at Genesis Convalescent Center :00-8:00 pm New Member class	6 6:30 pm Site Planning committee meeting	7	<p>8 5:30 SonBurst Ringers and Singers 6:00 supper 6:00 Alpha 6:30 Kid's Ring and Sing</p>	9	10	11
12 Worship 8:30 & 10 1-5:00 pm Swedish Group 1:30 pm CROP Walk 6:00pm	13 Columbus Day	14 10:00 am Women of the Spirit Bible Study 2:00 pm Sr. High Book Chat at Starbucks G.B.	<p>15 5:30 SonBurst Ringers and Singers 6:00 supper 6:00 Alpha 6:30 Kid's Ring and Sing</p>	16	17	18
19 Worship 8:30 & 10	20	21 5:00 pm Bind us Together 6:30 pm Congregational Council	<p>22 5:30 SonBurst Ringers and Singers 6:00 supper 6:00 Alpha 6:30 Kid's Ring and Sing</p>	23	24	25
26 <b>Reformation Day</b> <b>Wear red to church!</b> Worship 8:30 & 10 4:30 Apple Orchard 6:00 pm Confirmation Class Trick or Treat Trunk Kids Halloween party	27	28	<p>29 5:30 SonBurst Ringers and Singers 6:00 supper 6:00 Alpha 6:30 Kid's Ring and Sing</p>	30	31 Halloween	



## **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](http://www.holyspiritlc.net)

Email: [info@holyspiritlc.net](mailto:info@holyspiritlc.net)

**8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

**10:00am Blended Worship with Holy Communion/Childrens  
Sunday School**