

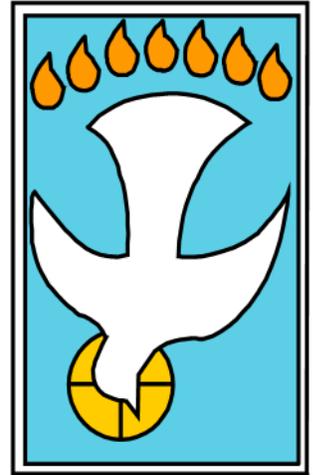
# “THE SPIRIT”

September 2020

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

57 Hurlbut Street ~ Albany, NY 12209 ~ 518-463-6224  
email: [holyspiritualbany@nycap.rr.com](mailto:holyspiritualbany@nycap.rr.com) ~ web: [www.holyspiritualbany.com](http://www.holyspiritualbany.com)

Laura Wayman, Editor



*God's purpose for Holy Spirit is to guide  
the Community to Christ with support and love*

## MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

### 1. DAILY PRAYER

- A. Prayer list in weekly devotional — please pray daily
- B. Personal prayer (needs/thanks/conflict) during Zoom service
- C. “Christ in Our Home” daily devotionals

### 2. WORSHIP

- A. Sunday Zoom worship at 10:00 AM\*
- B. Koinonia group via Zoom - **September 14 & 28**

### 3. BIBLE READING

- A. Individual daily reading
- B. Mid-week Message
- C. Koinonia group via Zoom - **September 14 & 28**

### 4. SERVICE

- A. Service needs for LCHS include: Altar Care & Greeters
- B. Individual spiritual gift counseling available from Patti Henry

### 5. SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

- A. Friendship Luncheoneers\*
- B. Fellowship Hour - immediately after worship via Zoom
- C. Faith, News & Brews\*
- D. Koinonia group via Zoom - **September 14 & 28**
- E. Yarn & Needles via Zoom - **September 21**

### 6. GIVING

- A. Donna in Ghana
- B. Albany Lutheran Cluster - **Overflow Shelter @ First Lutheran**
- C. St. James Food Pantry

**[\*Zoom and Outdoor Worship @ LCHS — September 6 & 20]**

**[\*not currently meeting in person]**

# SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 02 Gwendolyn Shutter
- 06 Erika Chapman
- 13 Greg Tennermann
- 17 Makenzie Shimkus
- 23 Casey Wayman
- 24 Komal Shaheen
- 26 Kurt Warnstadt
- 27 Bonnie Broden  
Penelope Parry
- 29 Katrina Capuano

# SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

- 11 Rick & Claire Vandenberg
- 15 Walter & Kathy Ross  
John & Katrina Capuano, Jr.
- 16 Shannon & Jill Kilkelly
- 17 Carmen & Jennifer Corazzini
- 20 Loren & Bridget Place



- for our "at home" members
- for Donna Rohrmiller (our missionary in Ghana)
- for Campus Ministry at UAlbany
- for our sister Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe
- for all those in service of our country



Sunday worship is via Zoom in **September**, paired with outdoor worship @ LCHS on **September 6 & 20**

Worship & Music committee meets via Zoom on Tuesday, **September 8**

A Back to School Blessing will be part of our Worship on **September 13**

October SPIRIT deadline is **September 13**

Koinonia meets via Zoom on Mondays, **September 14 & 28**

Book Club meets via Zoom on Tuesday, **September 15**

Church Council meets via Zoom on Wednesday, **September 16**

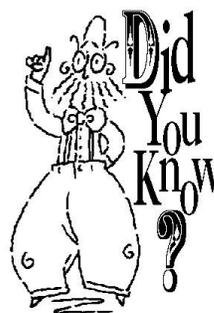
Yarn & Needles meets via Zoom on Monday, **September 21**

Anti-Racism Group meets via Zoom on Wednesday, **September 23**

Rev. Betty L. Krafft leads us in worship via Zoom on Sunday, **September 27**

Social Ministry Committee meets via Zoom on Sunday, **September 27**

In **September** we are collecting supplies for the Emergency Overflow Shelter @ First Lutheran



## Koinonia and Yarn & Needles

use the same Zoom link? This link has been updated for September — so please check out the new link on page six of the SPIRIT!

19 August 2020



Dear Holy Spirit Family:

As I step outside, I see the first leaves on the ground and the air smells of autumn. But I'm not ready for fall! Does that make me more open to what might come or less? To live with an open heart during a pandemic can require effort. To start the day with gratitude makes all the difference.

A big heartfelt thank you to all who worked so, so hard to make possible our first "hybrid" worship service last Sunday! Thanks to you, our worship could consist of different platforms, including (but not limited to) an in-person worship component on the Greens. What a great gift that we were able to be **simultaneously present** in worship in these different ways and that none of the platforms overshadowed another. We could come **together as one before the Lord**. Thanks be to God. Let's do that again!

The nature of the pandemic's challenges also got clearer for me last Sunday. Remember how we would say, "Sharing is caring"? Now, it seems the opposite is required: "Not sharing is caring!" Arrgh! How contrary that is to our innermost wish to show that we care, how contrary to our desire to be helpful, lend a hand, shake a hand, hand someone a Kleenex, or share a pen! How hard it is to hold back and not do what feels good and the right thing to do! Much in those guidelines seems to go against our core, against those dearly held, emotionally invested parts of our identity.

Besides, just think of the joy of coming together in person! How powerful a factor this emotional response (and not only emotional reality) is! To experience this fellowship, just being together like that — how good to be with those we have longed to be with for so long! And the more wonderful it feels, that coming together, the more readily we might also then hold more lightly that other stuff ... without even being aware of it or acknowledging it to ourselves. ... You know, the stuff that, in the sheer joy of coming together, can seem so nitty-gritty and tedious... like having to hold back. Having to forego hugs, handshakes, and all those ways of expressing our joy over seeing each other? And instead?? Wear a mask and wear it properly?? Let's face it: we do know how important and serious a matter that is but who would pick green peas over ice cream? (Or choose green peas now so that down the road someone else can still have ice cream??)

Now, lest you think I am just joking or hung up on another health-talk, let me share the following:

As I watched Claire go around on the Greens last Sunday, spray can in one hand and a long white stick, properly marked at 6ft. in the other, to set up sitting spaces at the appropriate distance, I heard my worship teacher's voice. He used to say, "Symbols are discovered, not made." No kidding! That white stick was a symbol that spoke volumes, and this is what it said: We at Holy Spirit care

enough **to model** the proper distance. We don't just wing it or do what we get away with. We **care**. We want to make sure people know and see and feel comfortable and confident they can trust the distance and us. Amen. That is Church outreach.

Whether social distancing or wearing a mask (properly) or holding back from doing what we really would like to do: **out of love for our neighbor!** That is who we are. **That** is what we, as Church, are **to model** for the sake of others. No doubt, all our behaviors broadcast and model to others (also what we don't want to model and broadcast). If then you see me wear a mask while preaching — I have been assured it does not diminish delivery — and if you see me work at trying to keep it on my nose at all times, even when it gets uncomfortable and frustrating, please accept that as my contribution to our outreach, and please, for the sake of that work, do correct me when I slip. Chances are, I am not even aware of it. Indeed, let us all continually encourage (and correct) one another to that very end, which is the love of Christ spent on and for the sake of the world.

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Yours,

Pastor Rahel Hahn

---

## **Guidelines for In-Person Worship**

These guidelines are essential for the well-being of all people present. They concern first and foremost the safety and well-being of others (before ourselves) and they give us an opportunity to “embody” our mission.

- Please bring your own chair or blanket.
- A Health Screening & Temperature Check will be conducted for all persons attending.
- Attendance is kept along with phone number for contact tracing (if needed).
- Masks are mandatory and must cover both mouth and nose at all times.
- Social Distancing is mandatory at all times, Pastor included. Ushers will ensure all persons observe six foot distance. (Not required for those in same household.)
- Bulletins provided at pick-up station. Hand sanitizer provided for use before and after getting a bulletin.
- Offering box provided for those who wish to bring a gift with them.
- Front row of parking spots has designated spaces as a flat surface for chairs, and designated parking spaces for those in cars. (All cars must be turned off completely.)
- Downstairs restrooms may be used one at a time. Hand sanitizer provided at outside entrance. Surfaces must be cleaned (wipes provided) by each user before exiting restroom.
- A reminder that there is no singing at in-person worship.



**Upstate New York Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

July 22, 2020

Rick Vandenberg, Council President  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
57 Hurlbut Street  
Albany, NY 12209

Dear Mr. Vandenberg,

Greetings in the Name of the One who makes all things new. I trust this finds you and the good people of Holy Spirit safe and well as we find our way through these challenging times.

I write, a bit late and with apologies, to say THANK YOU to you and the people of God at Holy Spirit for your most generous sharing of Trudy Adair's bequest to the congregation. It was a wonderful gift to receive on behalf of the Synod. Trudy's life and ministry truly had an impact on you and all who gather under the name of Holy Spirit as it encouraged you to share so generously with others.

Trudy's generosity and your sharing of it will strengthen ministries across this synod in everything from Campus Ministry to raising up new leaders to supporting seminarians and growing new start congregations, among so many other possibilities. Thanks for being a part of the work we do together as God's Church. You are a gift and grace to so many.

May our God bless you for your kindness and generosity in the coming days and lead you to continue to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and in deed.

In Christ's Peace,

John S. Macholz, Bishop

---

Bishop John S. Macholz  
ELCA Upstate New York Synod  
5811 Heritage Landing Drive, 1st Floor, East Syracuse, NY 13057-9360  
Phone: (315) 299-4955 Fax: (315) 299-4981  
[www.upstatenysynod.org](http://www.upstatenysynod.org)

## KOINONIA

This group meets on two Monday evenings per month for Bible study.

We are continuing a series led by Pastor Rahel Hahn designed to teach how to read and evaluate scripture using examples from the New Testament. We are alternating sessions with a Bible study on Psalms. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Here is the connection information for the meeting on **September 14 & 28** at 6:30 PM:

## UPDATED ZOOM LINK

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054316198?pwd=Y0RoUmJ1aDFCY0FZKzA4RINpeWZzdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 5431 6198

Passcode: 874502

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,82054316198#,,,,,0#,  
,874502# US (New York)

+13017158592,,82054316198#,,,,,0#,  
,874502# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US

(Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 820 5431 6198

Passcode: 874502

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054316198>

---

## YARN & NEEDLES

will meet on Monday, **September 21** via Zoom at 6:30 PM. Please use **the same link** provided in the article regarding Koinonia.



---

## SYNOD HUNGER TEAM

About 3-4 years ago, Pastor Dave asked if I would like to be on the Hunger Team for Synod. We meet 3-4 times a year in Syracuse, to plan for Synod Assembly and also plan a hunger project. A past project was *Bridge Over Troubled Waters*, where people would buy a brick to make a bridge and raise funds to feed the hungry. We also did another project for *God's Work, Our Hands*.

Every year, ten of us from across the state interview congregations, groups, and organizations that have applied for Hunger Grants through the Synod Hunger Team. These grants are for projects that need funding. For example, backpacks for a local school where they would fill a back pack with food for over 100 children in need every weekend.

We usually go and interview the group in person, but this year it was through a phone call!

This year I interviewed *Open Door Mission*, which is in Glens Falls. They started out as a food pantry, and

then moved on to include: a homeless shelter, and a soup kitchen, as well as a food store where their guests can get items they like, have some one help them cook the items (fresh foods for healthy meals), and they have incorporated a family group at the homeless shelter — as well as eating together.

The next project for *Open Door Mission* will be to put a garden on the roof of a building they have acquired (after renovations are completed) to help people understand dirt to table, and help them to be self sufficient.

~ Claudia Wolfgang,  
Synod Hunger Team Member



### Social Ministry

Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies over the summer. The children of the Delaware Community School appreciate your generous donations.

Our next Social Ministry Committee meeting will be via Zoom at 12 PM on Sunday, **September 27**.

### BOOK CLUB



The Holy Spirit Book Club will meet on Tuesday, **September 15** at 6:30 PM via Zoom. The book to be read in advance is *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng.

To my Church Family —

I would like to thank you for your prayers, cards and phone calls during and after my recent hospitalization.



Your prayers have helped me feel God's healing power each day. I look forward to our seeing one another in person in the near future.

God bless you all.

~ Madeline Baestlein

Thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy for the recent passing of Alan Carnes. They were truly appreciated.



~ Shirley Gresens

Dear Congregation;

On behalf of the Capital Area Council of Churches, I would like to thank you for the generous gift of \$150 to support the work of the Council for 2020. It is only through the financial support and prayers of congregations and individuals that we are able to carry out our ministries.



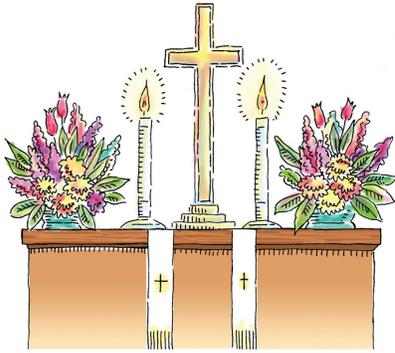
Gifts like yours enable us to shelter the homeless, organize the CROP Hunger Walk to feed the hungry, celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and provide opportunities for spiritual growth to students at the University at Albany through Protestant Campus Ministry, as well as participate in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.

As we move through our 79<sup>th</sup> year, we are grateful for the ecumenical network that has grown in the Capital District. We thank you for being a part of it.

May God bless you and yours!

Gratefully,

*Margaret Danes*  
President



In Memory or Honor of Our Loved Ones

### March 2020

- In honor of Ryan Donovan's 45<sup>th</sup> birthday ~ by his mother, Pat Donovan
- In memory of Keith' Gresen's 55<sup>th</sup> birthday [03.29.2020] ~ by his mother, Shirley Gresens

### April 2020

- In memory of Joyce Murphy's daughter Belinda ~ by Sandra Bruni and family
- In honor of our wonderful Choir and Organist ~ by anonymous
- In memory of John and Elsie Tanchak ~ by John and Karin Maag-Tanchak

### May 2020

- In honor of Madeline Baestlein's birthday ~ by her sister, Pat Donovan
- In memory of Martha Vandenberg ~ by Carol Albright

### June 2020

- In memory of Stanley Potrzuski on the anniversary of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of his death ~ by his daughters, Madeline Baestlein and Pat Donovan
- In honor of Richard Baestlein's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday ~ by his loving wife, Madeline
- In memory of the anniversary of Bob Kohinke's birthday ~ by his cousin, Pat Donovan

### July 2020

- In memory of Anne Potrzuski on the anniversary of her birthday ~ by her daughters, Madeline Baestlein and Pat Donovan
- In memory of my father, Clifford Winans' birthday [07.31.1911—03.02.1981] ~ by Angela Latal
- In memory of my cousin, Richard Todhunter's birthday [07.31.1930—02.17.2020] ~ by Angela Latal
- In memory of Ivan and Beverly Stillwell ~ by Craig Stillwell

### August 2020

- In memory of Harry Henry, Sr. ~ by Tom and Sandy Chillemi
- In memory of Betty Henry ~ by Tom and Sandy Chillemi
- In memory of Jack Donovan on the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death ~ by his wife, Pat Donovan
- In honor of Kate Latal's Birthday [08.31.20] ~ by Angela Latal

## **PLEASE NOTE**

Beginning in September, we will add the names of those to be honored or remembered (and their sponsor) to the weekly service bulletin and the monthly SPIRIT newsletter.



for the October SPIRIT is  
Sunday, **September 13**



# Thursday Evening Prayer Service

Members of the Worship & Music Committee are making preparations to provide a short prayer service from 6:30 PM — 7 PM on Thursday evenings via Zoom.

Information regarding the start date of the service will be forthcoming.

This brief service will include a structured liturgy as well as time for individual prayer requests and silent time for meditation.

---

## ANTI-RACISM GROUP

A new group is forming at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

Moved by recent events to figure out what we can do to help, we are learning to become anti-racist.

This is a process in which we will read and learn about racism; pray with each other and also do our own inner work around this subject; and help each other to become anti-racist.

Current reading is the book *White Fragility*, by Robin Diangelo. A workbook/study guide is also available for this title. We are reading the first 4 chapters of the book before our next meeting.

The group will meet via Zoom on every 4th Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be held on

Wednesday, **September 23**, 2020  
from 7-8:30 pm.

All are welcome! If interested, please send an email to our church secretary, Laura Wayman with the subject line

"Anti-racism Work Group", and you will be included in mailing list. You may also call the office.

Any questions regarding the group may be directed to Karin Maag-Tanchak. Please email Karin at [periwinklekarin@gmail.com](mailto:periwinklekarin@gmail.com) or call (518)728-7053 (leave message).

---

## OPTIMISM GROUNDED IN HOPE

"I am fundamentally an optimist," said anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela. "Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair."

Some say optimism is naïve, and distinguish it from hope. But Mandela's 27 years in prison and other sufferings would indicate that, in his case, optimism is anchored in deep hope.

Our hope is grounded in God's power to bring life from death, primarily in Jesus' resurrection, and in other acts of deliverance. God brings joy from sorrow, healing from brokenness, love from hate. We can't fathom what goodness awaits us down the road (Could Mandela, in prison, imagine becoming South Africa's first black president?!), so we keep looking up and moving forward.

Such optimism is rooted in profound hope — and is a gift of God.



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
57 Hurlbut Street  
Albany, New York 12209



## September Church Office Hours



The church office will be closed on  
Wednesdays during September.

Office Hours will be:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
8 AM-10:45 AM & 12 PM-2 PM