**WELCOME TO**

**HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, New Jersey Synod

1220 Bayshore Rd., Villas, NJ 08251

609-886-2414

holyspiritlutheran@comcast.net

holyspiritvillas.com

facebook.com/holyspiritvillas

Church Office Open on Wednesdays from 6-8PM

Pastoral Office Hours on Thursdays from 10AM-1PM

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, are People of God, who

are called by the Holy Spirit to pray, worship, joyfully proclaim Jesus Christ,

and compassionately witness and serve others in Christian Love.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 2022**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**10:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE**

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**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cape May County is in the Yellow. We are in a moderate area of community spread. Per CDC guidelines, you may choose to wear a mask. At this time, we are strongly encouraging masks to be worn by people with symptoms, people who have had a positive test, or if you have had exposure to someone with COVID. Please continue to refrain from handshakes or hugs, continue to social distance, and continue to be respectful of people’s various comfort levels. May you encounter God, connect with others, and go out to serve God and neighbor by letting your light shine in the world!

**AN ESPECIALLY WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

We are glad that you joined us for Worship today! Thank you for enriching our time together. We would like to get to know you better, and we would like you to get to know us better too. We invite you to let us know how we can help you. Some informational brochures, small welcome gifts, prayer shawls, Bibles, and more are available at our welcome areas throughout the Narthex. Our church members are happy to show you around the building, answer any questions you might have, and share about our ministries. Please don’t hesitate to speak up and ask questions.

**CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION**

We continue to conduct our Sunday Worship Service in coordination with our Conference Call. Join us on our Conference Call # 657-390-7423. If that does not allow you to gain access, please utilize our other # 701-802-5170 and the access code 8221190, then hit the # key. Please announce your name after you log-in.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

We utilize Pre-Filled Communion Kits with a wafer, and a choice of wine or grape juice. They will be provided during Worship Services that an Ordained Minister is presiding over to adults and children who have had First Communion instruction.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**

The month of November’s are given to the Glory of God & in memory of

THE KIROW FAMILY by Rose Lang, Vince & Heather Piekarski.

**ALTAR CANDLES**

The month of November’s are given to the Glory of God & in memory of

PHILIP ZIMMERMAN, JR. by Jean Zimmerman.

The Sanctuary and Altar Candles cost $10 each, and can be dedicated in

memory of someone. The sign-up sheet is located on a clipboard in the narthex.

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Offered by Assistant, Pastor, and Congregation.)

**INTRODUCTION**

A. The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today’s

readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know

neither the day nor hour of the Lord’s coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God

will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or

suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait

for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal

that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

**PRELUDE**

(Music offered by our Organist before the start of our Worship Service.)

(We invite you to stand if you are able.)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

who alone does wondrous things.

**C. Blessed be God’s name forever.**

**Amen.**

P. Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,

and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P. God of new beginnings,

**C. we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire**

**and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,**

**and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

P. People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ☩ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to remain standing if you are able.)

**FIRST HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

Lutheran Book of Worship – Green Book

**269 Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun**

**GREETING**

P. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of

the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C. And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

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**HYMN OF PRAISE**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray,

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us

from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of

your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,

now and forever.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to be seated.)

**FIRST READING**

R. Our First Reading is from the 2nd Chapter of Isaiah (Verses 1-2).

R. The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

  In days to come

  the mountain of the Lord’s house

  shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

  and shall be raised above the hills;

  all the nations shall stream to it.

  Many peoples shall come and say,

  “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

  to the house of the God of Jacob;

  that he may teach us his ways

  and that we may walk in his paths.”

  For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,

  and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

  He shall judge between the nations,

  and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

  they shall beat their swords into plowshares,

  and their spears into pruning hooks;

  nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

  neither shall they learn war any more.

  O house of Jacob,

  come, let us walk

  in the light of the Lord!

R. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

R. Our Responsorial Psalm is from the 122nd Psalm.

**C. I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”**

R. I was glad when they said to me,

  “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

  Now our feet are standing

  within your gates, O Jerusalem.

  Jerusalem is built as a city

  that is at unity with itself;

  to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

  the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

**C. I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”**

R. For there are the thrones of judgment,

  the thrones of the house of David.

  Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

  “May they prosper who love you.

  Peace be within your walls

  and quietness within your towers.

  For the sake of my kindred and companions,

  I pray for your prosperity.

  Because of the house of the Lord our God,

  I will seek to do you good.”

**C. I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”**

**SECOND READING**

R. Our Second Reading is from the 13th Chapter of Romans (Verses 11-14).

R. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake

from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness

and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling

and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and

jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the

flesh, to gratify its desires.

R. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

(We invite you to stand if you are able.)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**C.** **Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.**

**Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL READING**

P. The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew, the 24th Chapter. (Verses 36-44).

**C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

P. [Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the

angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah

were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the

flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day

Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept

them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in

the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal

together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do

not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of

the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would

have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore

you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P. The is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

(We invite you to be seated.)

**SERMON**

(Delivered by Pastor.)

(We invite you to stand if you are able.)

**SECOND HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

Lutheran Book of Worship – Green Book

**32 Fling Wide the Door**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

P. Let us confess our faith together by using the Apostles’ Creed.

**C. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the**

**power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under**

**Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at**

**the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the**

**dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of**

**saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life**

**everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A. As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that

yearns for new hope.

(A brief silence.)

A. God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church

to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and

unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your

mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. God of wonder, the earth’s beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your

ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the

wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the

neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for

lasting peace in the land of Jesus’ birth. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who

hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope

to any who are sick or needing your care, especially:

Mo Bixler (Skip & Bonnie Millard's Friend)

Christy Spero (Blanche Cameron's Family)

Donald Williams (Delores Basco’s Friend)

Lisa Mishler (Maryanne Lauer’s Family)

Megan Pratz (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Patty Cioce (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Rob Norcross (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Mildred McDonald (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Linda Bowker (Church Member)

Butch Mitchell (Mary Pierce's Family)

Carla Wagner (Betty Lang’s Family)

Tom McNamara (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Beth & Bill Knapp (Betty Lang’s Family)

Denny Lauer (Maryanne Lauer's Family)

Judy Po (Betty Lang's Family)

Janet Coleman (Church Member)

Eric Brown (Judy Brannan's Friend)

Allison Hopkins (Church Member)

Terry Davis (Alice Davis’ Family)

Pete (Maryanne Lauer’s Friend)

Dave Griffin (Sandy Hansen's Family)

Christine Fuller (Betty Lang's Family)

Rhiannon (Frank & Sharon Ford's Family)

Joe Basco (Delores Basco’s Family)

Bob Brady (Maryanne Lauer’s Friend)

Bill Kanass (Betty Lang's Family)

Betty Lang (Church Member)

Betty Becker (Church Member)

Mary Pierce (Church Member)

Kevin (Betty Becker's Friend)

Peter Berger (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Ed Borse (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Rosalie Stackhouse (Church Member)

James Kershaw (Audrey Kinka’s Friend)

Edna McCann (Maryanne Lauer's Friend)

BettyAnn Rich-White (Church Member)

Kay Call (Church Member)

Melissa Moore (Harry Streit's Family)

Salvatore Friscia (Diana DeNote's Family)

Debbie West (Church Family)

Patrick Brannan (Judy Brannan's Family)

Bandit (Betty Lang's Dog)

Charlotte Heigon (Judy Brannan's Friend)

Suzie Clark (Rose Lang's Friend)

Kathy Beard (Maryanne Lauer's Family)

Evy (Betty Lang's Friend)

Amelia Skyrm (Audrey Kinka's Family)

Cindy Irana (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Ed Watson (Betty Lang's Friend)

Bill Bickley (Betty Bickley's Family)

Joe Cox (Maryanne Lauer's Friend)

Francis Clock (Dianna DeNote’s Family)

Jacalyn Nehlig (Church Member)

Jamie Miller (Vicki Rinier's Family)

James Colubiale (Diana DeNote's Friend)

Frank Ford (Church Member)

Mike (Maryanne Lauer's Friend)

Dolores Johnson (Church Family)

Jean O’Brien (Diana DeNote's Friend)

Helen Schlereth (Diana DeNote's Friend)

Gary Waltz (Church Family)

Delores Basco (Church Member)

Joanne (Maryanne Lauer’s Friend)

Andrew Hudak (Rose Lang’s Friend)

Fred Lang (Betty Lang’s Family)

Viena Murtha (Bob Fritsch’s Friend)

Lorraine Fennimore (Church Member)

Amanda Testa (Betty Bickley’s Family)

John Lauer, Jr. (Maryanne Lauer & Betty Becker’s Family)

Craig Brearey (Judy Brannan & Mary Melnicoff's Friend)

Bruce Becker, Jr. (Betty Becker & Maryanne Lauer’s Family)

Joseph Sheretta (Ed & Fran Green’s Friend)

Sally Shaffer (Betty Becker's Friend)

Carmen & Brook (Maryanne Lauer’s Friends)

Christine Schneider (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Maisie Donnelly (Betty Bickley’s Family)

Alice Basco Matics (Delores Basco's Family)

Jackie Churchman (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Caroline Palush (Bonnie & Skip Millard’s Family)

Sharon Waicus (Skip & Bonnie Millard's Friend)

Jill (Maryanne Lauer & Betty Becker's Friend)

Tom & Anne Dickinson (Dianne & Ted Bell’s Family)

Bill Johnson (Maryanne Lauer & Betty Becker’s Family)

Charlie & Vicky Rowe (Kathy & Butch Poehler’s Family)

Karen O'Brian (Linda & Paul Bowker's Friend)

The Henning Family (Maryanne Lauer’s Family)

Mike Maguire, Jr. (Betty Becker & Maryanne Lauer's Family)

Mardella Allen (True Deliverance Praise & Worship Center)

Susan Horn (Judy Brannan's Friend)

Tommy Furey (Community Member)

Irv Fuller (Charlie & Karen Buckley’s Family)

Dellie Valcourt (Bonnie & Skip Millard’s Family)

(Additional Names Added Prior to the Worship Service.)

A. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide

congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils,

call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities

for mission. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the

faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all

the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

P. Watch over all of us who are worried and suffering, and especially those whose

names we now say aloud or within our hearts, (brief pause). God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

P. God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our

prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we

pray.

**C. Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P. May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us share God’s Peace with one another.

(Please remain in your pews and offer the sign of peace with a peace sign or wave.)



**OFFERTORY**

C:\Users\vpiekarski\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (Nelson) (Melody).tif

(Usher brings the Tithes and Offerings up front to the Assistant.)

(Assistant Prepares Altar for Communion.)

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P. Let us pray,

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

and make us messengers of your mercy and love

for all in need of your healing and justice.

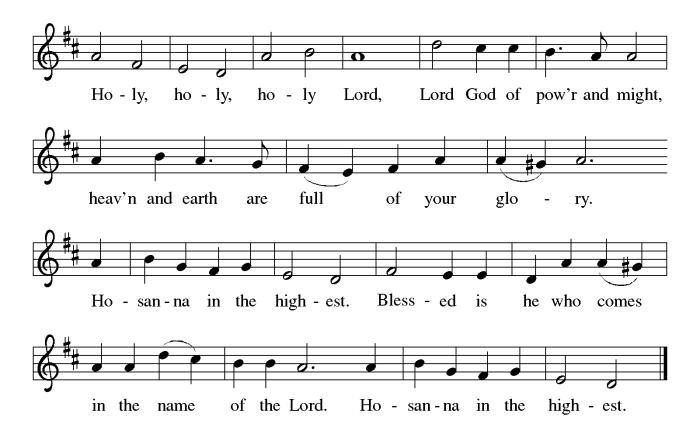
We ask this through Christ our Savior.

**C. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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P. It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, as he promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P. Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, in mercy for our fallen world you gave

your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have

eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us

through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may

receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

**C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P. In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, he gave

thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body,

given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, he gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,

saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people

for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**C. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LAMB OF GOD**

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(We invite you to be seated.)

**HOLY COMMUNION IN YOUR PEWS**

(Please utilize the Pre-Filled Communion Kits.)

P. Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

**C. Amen.**

P. The Body of Christ, given for you.

**C. Amen.**

(Extended Pause.)

P. The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

**C. Amen.**

(An Usher will be around to collect your empty Communion Kits for disposal.)

**COMMUNION SONG**

(Please enjoy music offered by our Organist.)

(Assistant removes Communion Vessels from the Altar.)

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P. Let us stand as we are able.

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us

always in His grace.

**C. Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

**C:\Users\Vince and Heather\Downloads\Thank the Lord, LBW Setting Two (Melody).tif**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A. Let us pray,

Faithful God,

in this meal you have remembered your mercy,

bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.

As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,

sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.

Guide us toward your promised future,

coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C. Amen.**

(Home Communion Ministers come to the Front of the Altar with Communion Kits.)

**SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION**

P. Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care: As you sent the

angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your

word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In

your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament,

and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood

of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

P. God the eternal Word,

who dwells with us in Jesus,

and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

☩ bless you now and forever.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to remain standing if you are able.)

**CLOSING HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

Lutheran Book of Worship – Green Book

**33 The King Shall Come**

(Assistant extinguishes the Altar Candles half way through the Closing Hymn.)

(Pastor processes out once the Altar Candles have been extinguished.)

(We invite you to be seated.)

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Offered by Assistant and Congregation.)

**BIRTHDAYS**

28th Linda Tatem

2nd Leon Stitt

3rd Mason Jenkins

**DISMISSAL**

A. Go in peace. Christ is near.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

(Music offered by our Organist as we depart following our Worship Service.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE** | | | |
| **6th** | **13th** | **20th** | **27th** |
| **31** | **29** | **32** |  |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

**ADVENT LEADS TO OUR CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE**

Advent 2022 begins **TODAY** and ends on Saturday, December 24th, when we will have our Christmas Eve Worship Service at 5PM. Please note the time change from the traditional time slot of 7PM we have utilized the past several years. We are blessed to have Pastor Jeff Elliott Presiding over the Worship Service and provide us the opportunity to have Holy Communion together.

**WOMEN OF THE CHURCH**

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 5th, at 6PM. New members are welcome to attend! Contact Judy if you are interested, or have any questions.

The Women are still gathering donations for their Annual Christmas Stockings, and have already collected some items. The Women are hopeful that you can purchase Gift Cards from CVS, Aldi, Dollar Tree, or other stores. The gift cards can be for any amount, and all donations are appreciated. You can also consider purchasing $5 Wawa Tickets from Kathy that can be added to the Christmas Stockings.

**COFFEE HOUR**

The Women of the Church host their next monthly Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 11th, following our Worship Service. See Judy or Kathy for more info.

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Share your comments, concerns, questions, or joys with one of our church council members who can bring it back to our meetings. Visitors are welcome to attend our meetings & listen to what is going on in and around the church. Join us In- Person & on our Conference Call at our next Meeting, Tuesday, December 20th, at 6PM. Please ensure that if you are a member of council that you do attend, as we have a topic that we need to discuss and vote on due to timelines and follow through. We currently have a vacant Church Council seat. If you are interested, or happen to have any interest or questions, please see Vince or any member of Church Council.

**STAINED GLASS REPAIR**

Cumberland Stained Glass, Inc. will be repairing the Stained Glass above the front entryway doors, and the other two front windows, sometime in December.

**NEWSLETTER**

We will begin working on our Winter Seasonal Newsletter. Please start to gather all of your info, stories, pictures, and committee reports for the upcoming Winter publication of the Newsletter. Feel free to submit them to Heather at any time.

**CLEANING & DISINFECTION SERVICES**

Bactronix & Stanley Steemer both completed their COVID wipe downs, sprayings, and disinfection services in September of 2021. Heather’s Heavenly Cleaning Services completed the cleaning of the entire building in May of 2022, and will be here on December 17th to clean again. Then, Dave from Bactronix completed the swab test on our surface levels in June of 2022. One level fell in the Food Safe Zone; several other areas fell in the Relatively Clean Zone which require minimal action; and one area fell in the Cautionary Zone and requires more action and attention. We can continue to keep mindful of all of this and ensure good cleaning each week to make sure we provide a safe environment for everyone. Bonnie will be reaching out to the cleaning company to have a thorough cleaning completed of our facility prior to our Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Come learn about the Heroes of the Bible on Sundays at 9AM. Children of all ages are welcome to attend in order to learn through Scriptures, Crafts, Games, Videos, and Activities. See Heather for more information or volunteering opportunities.

**BIBLE STUDY & FAITH DISCUSSIONS**

What makes the Lutheran confession of faith unique? Why is Lutheran worship different than at the church next door? Does it have to be confusing? If you're a lifelong Lutheran looking to dig deeper, new to Lutheranism and want answers,

or are just curious about the Lutheran church-this is for you! All are welcome to

join us as we explore Lutheranism 101 on Wednesdays from 7PM to 8PM.

**CHURCH OFFICE**

Open on Wednesdays from 6 to 8PM to serve the Congregation, the Community, and to continue handling the business of the Church. Feel free to stop in to talk, pick-up or drop off something, pray in the Sanctuary, or for whatever other reason.

**PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Jeff Elliott has office hours weekly on Thursdays from 10AM to 1PM for various levels of support and prayer as needed. He can also be reached via email

at Jeffrey.elliott2006@comcast.net or calls and texts at 609-770-3207.

**BULLETIN ENTRY DEADLINE**

The Bulletin goes to print on Wednesdays during church office hours. Changes need to be submitted to Vince or Heather no later than Wednesdays at 5PM. Thank You!

**PRAYER LIST**

Our Prayer List continues to lengthen and we realize the important need for prayers and healing. Sometimes the unfortunate result is that someone has passed on, and the words “The Family & Friends of” appear before someone’s name. However, sometimes we forget names are still on the list and “they are healed” or the “they are no longer struggling” and they can be removed. Share the good and bad stories as we continue to pray for strength and healing. Names can be added or removed from the list on the clipboard in the Narthex prior to the Worship Service, by calling the church office, or addressing it on the Conference Call. Please let us know the relation to the person(s) you listed so we can be more mindful with our prayers too. Names will stay on the list until removed by the person(s) who requested prayer.

**DONATION STATION**

Get on the train and place all purchased items in the specified project donation bins located on the counter by the front doors. The list below has the focus donation for that particular month and project. See Heather for more information.



**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A NEW MEMBER**

Have you been attending our church for a while? Have you just recently returned to church after being away for a bit? Maybe you transitioned from another church,

or just started to recently attend our church. We are glad to have you, and would love to have you as a member of our Congregation. Please feel free to ask Vince any questions, and for more information about becoming a member.

**HOME COMMUNION MINISTRY**

When an Ordained Minister celebrates with us during our Worship Service our Home Communion Kits will be blessed. A Minister is available if you have a loved one, or if you yourself desire services in the community. We look forward in sharing the Word and Holy Communion with you! We continue looking for anyone interested in being trained. Please inform the Vince, Kathy, or the Church Office so plans can be made.

**WORSHIP MINISTRY**

The most important thing we do each week is gather together as God's people to worship. God is the center and focus of everything we do. Participating in worship is active. Liturgy means the work and actions of the people gathered. Everything we do during the week to prepare for worship, and everything we do as we assist in leading worship, is important. Worship Leaders, Worship Assistants, Conference Call and the Computer, Readers, Greeters and Ushers, Communion Assistants, Home Communion Ministers, Altar Guild, Choir and The Music Team help make worship a meaningful experience. We are thankful for all the wonderful work being done. If you are interested in any position, please let Vince know so a training can be set-up. 

A Supply Pastor has been requested once monthly through the NJ Synod of the ELCA to Preside over Worship Services to allow for Holy Communion. If we are notified that we have been assigned a Pastor the Worship Leader will be replaced.

**FAVORITE HYMNS**

Charlie & Karen are willing to play your favorite hymns for the Prelude & Postlude

on Sundays. Let them know your requests so that they can be added to the list.

**TITHES & OFFERINGS**

We worship God with our tithes and offerings. These are monetary gifts in order to support our ministry for service in God’s name. Feel free to drop your envelopes in the offering plate, mail them to the church, or drop them off in the locked mailbox.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Prayer Shawls, Lap Quilts, and Scarves have been made with love for those in need. The blessed items are located in the Narthex, and are free for anyone. Members of the group continue to work at home on new stitches and patterns.

**FOOD PANTRY, COMMUNITY DELIVERIES, & MORE**

Open every Thursday, and the last Saturday of every month, from 10AM to 1PM.

65 people were served in October. 547 people have been served in 2022. We have been blessed to serve a total of 6,448 people since we reopened in May of 2014. Donations can be dropped in the basket in the Narthex, placed in the outdoor drop-box by the Church Office door, placed in the money jug in the back of the Church, mailed into the Church Office, or placed in the Offering Plate. Volunteers are needed each week. See Vince, Heather, or Bonnie if you are interested. We will be holding a Volunteer Meeting to address some changes, to provide refresher training, and to train new Volunteers. Stay posted for an upcoming date and time.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS** | | |
| **Thursday, 12/1** | **Thursday, 12/8** | **Thursday, 12/15** |
| Cathie & Tori | Cathie & Tori | Cathie & Tori |

Our local North Cape May Acme provides us with Expiring Soon, Recently Expired, and Slightly Damaged Foods weekly. Kathy helps those in need by delivering items each Saturday in the community. Kathy then brings leftover items to the Church for church members in need, and those who visit the food pantry during the week.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND**

We continue raising money for any unforeseen costs or repairs at the Church.Kathy is continuing to sell $5 Wawa Tickets, and the donation bin is in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness, donations, prayers, & support!

**TRUE DELIVERANCE PRAISE & WORSHIP CENTER**

Reverend Maria Brooks and her Congregation continue to utilize our facilities

from 1-4PM on Sundays. Their congregation helps us with the Food Pantry and hosts or assists with various other events throughout the year at the Church.

True Deliverance PWC also hosts a Prayer Line you can join on their Conference

Call # 1-657-390-7957 on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays at 5PM.

**VICE PASTOR APPOINTMENT ON JUNE 7, 2022**

The Rev. Jeffrey Elliott

Jeffrey.elliott2006@comcast.net

609-770-3207

Cape May Lutheran Church

509 Pittsburgh Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204

Dear Jeffrey,

With much appreciation, I write this letter to confirm your appointment as Vice Pastor of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Villas, New Jersey, beginning June 13, 2022. I shall recount the understanding and expectations discussed with you.

The Synod Constitution accords to the Vice Pastor the full rights of a regularly called

pastor (see Chapter 14, Section S14.17). There are seven specific responsibilities I have indicated for the Vice Pastor. They are:

(1) To meet monthly with the Congregation Council of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

and provide them with pastoral counsel and guidance. If there is a schedule

conflict, the Congregation Council should accommodate itself to your schedule.

(2) To preside, or arrange appropriate Lutheran presidency, at any extraordinary

worship services such as weddings or funerals.

(3) To supervise the educational program of the congregation, and, if possible, to

teach the catechetical program.

(4) To call upon and provide pastoral care for those members of the congregation

who are hospitalized or long-term home bound.

(5) To make yourself available, including how to be reached, to those who need to

see a pastor, e.g. crisis counseling.

(6) To see that the administrative matters of the congregation are well attended to,

and especially that the Parish Register is correctly maintained during the interim.

(7) To report on a monthly basis to the Office of the Bishop as to the status of the

congregation's life in the interim.

The Congregation Council of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church is responsible to assist and support you in every reasonable way so that the mission of the congregation continues to be well served. The Congregation Council is also responsible to compensate you for your services. The compensation proposal, to which I believe you agreed, and to which I trust the Congregation Council will also agree, is as follows:

(1) Compensation of $600.00 per month for serving as Vice Pastor.

(2) Extra compensation, not less than $175 per event, for any extra worship services

such as funerals or weddings.

(3) Reimbursement for travel expenses (1current I.R.S. standard for reimbursement)

including tolls, parking, and also for other usual expenses such as telephone

charges. If and when long distance travel to provide pastoral care is involved, say

in a distant hospital, such should be agreed upon in advance with the chief lay

officer of the congregation.

Again, let me tell you how pleased we are that you are willing to take on this responsibility. Thank you for your willingness to be the Vice Pastor at Holy Spirit. Blessings to you.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Tracie L. Bartholomew, Bishop

**IBBETSON FAMILY HOME REBUILDING PROJECT**

On July 23rd, 2021 a tragedy occurred in the Villas when the Ibbetson home caught fire. Unfortunately, due to family health and setbacks there was no insurance on the home. As a result, the cost of rebuilding is an overwhelming amount. Ted is a Board

member of Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission (CAM), a 501C3 organization, a part

of the community outreach mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Huntington, WV. CAM can function to receive donations that would be tax deductible, within the

IRS rules. In December 2021 more than $16,000 was raised and through a Corporate match from the company Ted works for, DEPCOM Power, Inc., that was increased to more than $32,000. Funds were disbursed to start framing to enclose the structure. The total estimate is that about $100,000 is needed. Even with the possibility of “hands-on” volunteers helping to reduce that amount, there is a long way to go, to finish this home. Mailing information for CAM, the 501C3 organization, for donations to meet the goal: Mr. Bill Likens, Director, Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission, PO Box 81, Dunlow, WV 25511 All donations should be identified for the benefit of the “Ibbetson Family”. To help physically, or if you have questions reach out to Ted & Diane Bell at 908-963-4500 or at tbell@depcompower.com

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| --- | --- |
| **2022 FINANCIAL STANDING** | |
| **OCTOBER INCOME** | $6,597.00 |
| **OCTOBER SPENDING** | $4,698.07 |
| **OCTOBER GAIN OR (LOSS)** | $1,898.93 |
| **2022 INCOME** | $95,736.12 |
| **2022 SPENDING** | $61,590.03 |
| **2022 GAIN OR (LOSS)** | $34,146.09 |
| **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND** | $25,049.56 |
| **FOOD PANTRY FUND** | $16,460.48 |

**CHURCH STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

**VICE PASTOR**

Pastor Jeff Elliott

**ORGANIST**

Karen Buckley

**CANTOR**

Charlie Buckley

**CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WORSHIP LEADER, EVENTS, & WEBSITE**

Vincent Piekarski

**CHURCH COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT & CHURCH PROPERTY**

Ed Green

**TREASURER, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY, & CHOIR**

Bonnie Millard

**SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHURCH OFFICE, FOOD PANTRY, & NEWSLETTER**

Heather Piekarski

**LICENSES & EXPIRATION DATES**

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**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE AND TREE TOUR!!!!!**

**THIS YEAR’S TREE TOUR FEATURES OVER 30 TREES & OTHER DECORATIONS!!!!**

WE WILL ONCE AGAIN OFFER 3 DIFFERENT DAYS AND TIMES FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO COME OUT, JOIN THE FUN, AND GET INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT.

(PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO MAKE 1 OF THE 3 DAYS OR IF YOU ARE UNCOMFORTABLE COMING WHEN OTHERS ARE HERE, LET US KNOW AND WE WILL SCHEDULE A DIFFERENT DATE/TIME FOR YOU TO COME.)

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND 7-9PM**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD  1-9PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH 1-4PM**

**\*\*\*FACEBOOK LIVE TREE AND HOUSE TOUR WILL BE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH AT 7PM FOR THOSE THAT CANNOT ATTEND IN-PERSON\*\*\***

COME ON OUT AND ENJOY SOME FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, AND HOLIDAY FUN!!!!

\*\*\*PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT DAY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO WE CAN PREPARE ACCORDINGLY\*\*\*

HEATHER PIEKARSKI 724-875-6895 OR HSTITELYADPC@YAHOO.COM

VINCENT PIEKARSKI 412-225-0287 OR VPIE8282@GMAIL.COM

16 W TAMPA AVE., VILLAS, NJ 08251

