



“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” Mark 6:31

Throughout the Bible there are clear indications of support for taking time for reflection, rest, and renewal. Jesus often “went away” to rest, pray, and for restoration of his soul and he encouraged his disciples to do the same. As present day followers of Christ we are also encouraged to take time for personal care and rest. In Hebrew it is called “nuach” (to rest) in Greek it is “anapausis” (refreshment). Today we may call it “down time”. No matter what we call it, it is important for our minds, bodies and spirits to be emboldened and renewed by a period of rest.

Summer has arrived! During this season we often take time out from our busy schedules and spend some time for leisure and recreation. We create opportunities to spend special time with family and friends. We take the time to do things we enjoy, for example: read a book for fun, do gardening, go camping, enjoy concerts, go boating or fly a kite. Not all places we choose to go during this time are quiet, but **all** can offer renewal. Perhaps a new perspective on life is gained, a reconnection with special people in our lives, or just time to have fun and play.

I particularly enjoy doing the latter with special people. A trip to Atlantic City, NJ with my niece, an outdoor barbeque near water, a spirited game of volleyball with friends, going to a movie with my nephew, visiting a few long distant friends, and spending time relaxing at the pool are among my plans for the summer. There will also be a few special events in which I hope to participate. Vacation Bible School at Holy Spirit is coming up in July (we could use some extra volunteers to help out). I have been elected to be part of the delegation of voting members from the Southeastern PA Synod that will attend the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA, as well as be a voting member of the African Decent National Assembly, both of which will take place at the beginning of August in Milwaukee, WI. Although the places I will be going are not quiet, I look forward to opportunities for renewal through worship, surprise encounters, the positive energy that will be generated by meeting new people (I am an extrovert), responding to different situations and using my skills and abilities in a different way.

Whether you will be experiencing the summer with a “Staycation” (stay home, stay in place), day trips to special places, time at the shore or in the mountains, or a full blown vacation away, **Enjoy!** Fortunately, God does not go on vacation. I encourage you to participate often in worship experiences as a part of your summer interactions. If you are in this neck of the woods join us here at Holy Spirit. If you are out and about join another community of faith for worship. Where ever you are this summer, backyards included, send us a post card or snap shot (along with your tithes and offerings, Holy Spirit still has bills to pay during the summer), we will post them on our bulletin board.

The author of Ecclesiastes rightly called his readers to the pleasures of life. *“Go, eat your bread in joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.” Eccles. 9:7* Travel well my friends, be of good cheer, and stay safe. May you be renewed in heart and spirit, and may you also find rest.

Blessings, peace and joy,

Pastor Gwen King, Interim Pastor

CHURCH NEWS



So summer has arrived. “Summer Time and the living is easy .” We start our vacations, take our trips and have our fun .We have all been told how important it is to take care of our church even if we are not able to be physically present. Hopefully we all have taken that to heart. Hopefully we are all continuing to pray for our church. Holy Spirit Church needs your support! As good stewards we must work hard to keep God’s house working and thriving. We are moving ahead. The Transition Team has been doing a phenomenal job. Pastor Gwen is working diligently to keep the process moving forward! Our new Call Committee has been formed and is anxious to get to work. Things are looking bright for our future and the best is yet to come. So please keep thinking positive, say your prayers and keep your money coming. We will make this work and we will be happy with the results. God willing of course.

Matthew Saporetti, Stewardship.

ELECTRONIC GIVING – This summer, if you can’t make it to church due to travel or other commitments, we encourage you to automate your regular donations. Holy Spirit relies on the consistent financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Call the office to get a form. We thank you for your continued support.

JULY

Elaine Kerns 7/2
Suresh Joshi 7/4
Samuel Stevenson 7/8
Kim Keenan 7/ 13
Joyce Shaw 7/15
Jeanne Warner 7/18
Charlie Fisher 7/20
Laura Taddie 7/20
Steven Pollard 7/24
Morgan Waterfield 7/29
Stephanie Oaster 7/30

AUGUST

Cyndi Kline 8/2
Trudy Fisher 8/4
Andrew Christensen 8/6
Kathy Dowd 8/7
Alex Gerakaris 8/12
Steve Keenan 8/14
Jackie Crepack 8/19
Vera Kuhn 8/20
Joyce Shaika 8/20
Jonathan Kline 8/23
Jane A. Croghan 8/24
Debbie Ulmer 8/24
Alan Daddona 8/26
Stephen Colahan 8/27
Katie Gerakaris 8/28
Christine Podgorski 8/28
Nathan Funchion 8/31

JULY EVENT S

ELDER BIRTHDAY PARTY –

Sunday, July
14th

You are all
invited to
celebrate our

elder's birthdays (80+) after church on
July 14th. We are gathering cake
mixes and cans of frosting again to
take to Loaves & Fishes food
cupboard. See you there!

**COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday,
July 16th at 7:00pm.**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will
be held the week of **July 22nd**
beginning Sunday thru Thursday the
25th 6:00pm-8:00pm. The theme this
year is “Miraculous Mission – Jesus
Saves the World”. VBS is for children
3-10 years old. Call the office for pre-
registration.

**Please see sign-up sheet outside the
office to volunteer. In order to be a
success we need volunteers!**



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL:

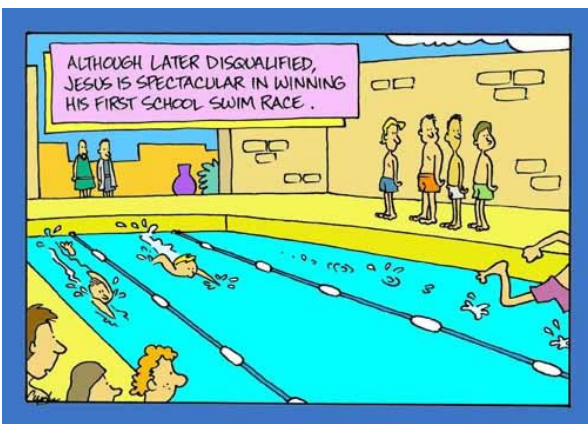
I would like to thank everyone who helped
with the Strawberry Festival this year. I
appreciate those of you who turn out to help
all the time. We made \$315 more than last
year. I also want to thank those of you who
helped set up in the morning and helped
with cutting the Strawberries.

I am thankful to the members of Holy Spirit
who attend the events we have at the church.
It is important to have you there as a show
of support to the church and to the members
who are helping.

For those of you who missed it, we had a
nice night with no rain, good food and good
music and the kids had fun playing the
games.

I will be asking for your help again next
year. This is a big community event for our
church and I would like to see it grow again.
If you could not help with the Strawberry
Festival, don't worry, we have more events
coming! Please volunteer to help with **at
least** one event a year.

Thanks again,
Cyndi Kline





UPCOMING EVENTS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 25th . Students, get your backpacks ready! On Sunday, August 25th at worship we will be blessing the bearers of the backpacks. God is with us everywhere we go, including to a new school year!

RALLY DAY – **Sunday, September 8th**. Blessing of teachers for Holy Spirit Day School and Sunday School.

CORN BOIL – **Sunday, September 8th** after church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins – **Sunday, September 15th at 10:00am.**



ALTAR HELP NEEDED –

Summer sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Can you cover one or two weeks during the summer? There are still some weeks open.

ASSISTING MINISTER, PSALM READER/ACOLYTE, USHER?

We are always looking to add to our list. If you are interested in becoming one of the above please see Kathy Dowd or Jeanne Warner. Training can be provided.

Please save your old clothes, bedding, etc.

Holy Spirit will hold a Clothing Drive again this year in October. Collection will be held during our Pumpkin Patch. Please do not bring in any bags until October 1, 2019, because there is no room to store them at the church. Items that will be collected are:

What they accept:

Adult and Children clothing, shoes, handbags, purses, sandals, sneakers, boots, jackets, coats, rain gear, leathers, belts, ties, pants, shirts, sweaters, vests, blouses, dresses, skirts, robes, undergarments, sheets, pillowcases, towels, linens, tablecloths, hats, scarfs, gloves, wallets, jewelry, watches, uniforms, jerseys, backpacks, and new diapers.

What they DO NOT accept:

Thrift store goods, books, games, furniture, (flea market, yard sales or sorted merchandise that has been picked through or separated which the better goods have been taken out), curtains, pillows, stuffed animals, bric-a-brac or toys.

Please bring in slightly used items and not ones in bad condition. Thank you.

More info will follow closer to October.



\$10 per child

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday – Thursday, July 21-25
6:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**“Miraculous Mission”
“Jesus Saves the World”**

The first night there will be a light supper for the children and their families.

Children ages 3-10 are invited.

Please call the church office to register.

Church office - 610-544-2707

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join in the Fun!!

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
2545 Franklin Avenue, Secane
Ridley Township