What’s Inside:
Words from the pastor’s pen
A calendar filled with events from SOC— including a women’s retreat and Valentine’s Dinner
Our Lent schedule
The worship assistant schedule
And more!
The days are getting longer and, so far, this winter has not been that hard.  
Sure, we’ve had a few nuisance snowfalls, but nothing too terribly bad unless you consider shoveling an inch of snow every few days unbearable.  
Now, I don’t mind the winter as you just have to dress warm, walk carefully, and drive a little slower.  
In fact, winter is one of my favorite seasons because it pairs up so nicely with our church seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, and the start of Lent.  
Church seasons where we wait for the Lord, celebrate with joy Christ’s birth, witness Jesus being revealed to the world, and then finally, were we’re invited to walk with our savior into deeper discipleship.  
And this year we not only will be finishing up the season of Epiphany by hearing Jesus’ most famous teaching, the Sermon on the Mount, but we will then be immediately moving into a midweek Lenten series on the “I AM” statements found in John’s gospel.  
So, mark your calendars as this Lenten series will begin on Ash Wednesday where we’ll take a look at when God came to Moses in a burning bush saying “I AM who I AM and then each Wednesday we’ll continue by hearing Jesus tell us - “I AM the Bread of Life,” “I AM the Light of the World,” “I AM the Door,” “I AM the Good Shepherd,” and “I AM the Resurrection and the Life.  
And then we will conclude this series during Holy week where on Maundy Thursday we’ll hear Jesus tell his closest followers, “I AM giving you these Commands” before concluding with our Good Friday service.  
All services will be at held at 7:00pm at either Spirit of Christ Community Lutheran or Vista Lutheran. (See below for a more detailed schedule and/or the posters that will soon be going up around church)  
But for as much as its’ nice to look forward to Lent, Holy Week, and then Easter, right now we’re still in Epiphany for a few more weeks so let’s slow down, take a breath, and enjoy this season of light!  
Blessings, Pastor Durk  

**Pastor’s Side Note**  
I also want to take a moment to personally thank the church council of Spirit of Christ for their hard work and dedication to the mission of Spirit of Christ.  
It has been a joy to work alongside these men and women this past year and I look forward to continuing our good work together with the new council in the coming year.  
I truly believe Spirit of Christ is poised for the future and that we have both the passion and commitment to keep pushing ourselves to share the gospel in relevant and new ways for the sake of our community.
Grace in the Park Lent

Ash Wednesday “I AM Who I AM” @ Vista
Vista Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
No Meal

March 4th “I AM the Bread of Life” @ SOC
SOC Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
Meal at 5:45

March 11th “I AM the Light of the World” @ SOC
SOC Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
Meal at 5:45

March 18th “I AM the Door” @ Vista
Vista Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
Meal at 5:45

March 25th “I AM the Good Shepherd” @ SOC
SOC Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
Meal at 5:45

April 1st “I AM the Resurrection and the Life” @ SOC
SOC Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
Meal at 5:45

Maundy Thursday @ Vista
SOC Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
No Meal

Good Friday @ Vista
Shared Music w/Pop Up Choir at 6:15
No Meal
### Calendar—February 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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| **Sunday, February 2nd**  | 11:00am Worship  
12:00pm Fellowship                                                   |
| **Tuesday, February 4th** | 6:00pm CYF meeting                                                                               |
| **Saturday, February 8th**| 6:15am Shelter Breakfast                                                                         |
| **Sunday, February 9th**  | 11:00am Worship (Christmas Pageant)  
12:00pm Fellowship                                                   |
| **Thursday, February 13th**| 7:00pm Church Council                                                                            |
| **Saturday, February 15th**| 6:30pm Valentine’s Dinner                                                                       |
| **Sunday, February 16th** | 11:00am Worship  
12:00pm Fellowship                                                   |
| **Thursday, February 20th**| 1:00pm Active Adults (potluck and program)  
6:00pm Men’s Group  
6:30pm Prayer Shawl group(youth room) |
| **Sunday, February 23rd** | 11:00am Worship  
12:00pm Fellowship                                                   |
| **Friday, February 28th–Sunday, March 1st** | Women’s retreat |
Worship Assistants this month

**Sunday, February 2nd**
Lector: Carolee Cohen  
Ushers: Team 6 (Lowell and Linda Brandt, Greg and Karen Flatten)  
Powerpoint Operator: Nikki Christensen  
Money Counters: Michelle Zins, Renee Compo

**Sunday, February 9th**
Lector: Carolee Cohen  
Ushers: Team 7 (Dick and Nancy Brammer, Anne Kraft, LeRoy Murray)  
Powerpoint Operator: Mark Cohen  
Money Counters: Volunteers needed

**Sunday, February 16th**
Lector: Nancy Malone  
Ushers: Team 8 (Renee Compo, Deb Schmitz, Jeanne Worm, Kristi White)  
Powerpoint Operator: LeRoy Murray  
Money Counters: Volunteers needed

**Sunday, February 23rd**
Lector: Nancy Malone  
Ushers: Team 9 (Mark and Carolee Cohen, Harding Hanson, Bruce and Dina Strachota)  
Powerpoint Operator: Bret Hanson  
Money Counters: Bruce Strachota, Anne Kraft
Calendar for February – April 2020

February 2020
8  Shelter Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30am
13  STEP Empty Bowls Event

March 2020
13 Shelter Supper 6:00 to 8:30pm

April 2020
11  Shelter Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30am

STEP Empty Bowls Event– February 13

Mark your calendars now! Community members of all ages are invited to join together for a simple meal of soup and bread provided by local restaurants for lunch (11:30-1:30) or dinner (5:00-7:30). The event will include music entertainment and children's activities. Participants will receive a handmade pottery bowl to take home as a reminder of empty bowls in our community. No tickets or reservations are required. A free-will donation will benefit the programs of the St. Louis Park Emergency Program.

STEP is also looking for volunteers to help with the event. Please check out their signup website https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/3139143/false#/invitation to view the opportunities if you can help out with the afternoon or evening times that are open.

SLP Bird Feeder collection in February!

Please Show your love to our students at the high school who are experiencing food insecurity issues. Recommended food items are ones that do not involve the use of stoves or ovens. The best type of items you can donate are full packaged meals that require few outside ingredients, along with meals that can be made within their packages. These are appreciated by the families who don’t have access to other cooking equipment.

Top 10 items:
Canned Fruits, Microwavable Meals, Pasta Sauce, Snacks, Bread/Tortillas, Nutritional Drinks/Bottled Water, Jelly, Canned Meat, Rice, Backpacks, $10 Gift Cards (Cub or Target)

Bring your contributions to church by February 23rd! Your support is greatly appreciated!

Get involved with Social Action!

The Social Action team (aka SOC SAC) welcomes everyone in the congregation to join us to plan and organize mission and social action events. This could be an ongoing activity or a one-time commitment. Talk to anyone on the Social Action Team (Mark or Carolee Cohen, Pat Latvala, Deb Schmitz, Joanne Stone or Jeanne Worm) if you want to help!
Valentine’s Dinner

Join us for a fun evening featuring a lasagna dinner, desert, photo booth, and more.

Date: Saturday, February 15th, 2020
Time: social 6:00pm and dinner 6:30pm
Place: Spirit of Christ Community Lutheran Church fellowship hall
Cost: suggested donation $15 per person
RSVP: email the church office at infosoccommunity@gmail.com or call 952-929-6465 by February 10th

Women’s Retreat—February 28 - March 1st

Want a weekend to recharge and enjoy time with friends, playing games, doing crafts, enjoying the outdoors, and devotional time? Join women from Faith Lutheran in Isanti and other women from Spirit of Christ for a women's retreat.
Cost is $120 and includes lodging for two nights at the retreat center at Luther Point Bible Camp, pizza the first night, brunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.
Please sign up by Sunday, February 16th.
Money needs to be turned in by Sunday, February 23rd.
To sign up or for more information, see the beautiful poster board in the narthex or talk to Di- na.