



Moving with the Spirit

Inspired for Ministry in Daily Life

January 2019

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Emmaus, PA

Alphas (Beginnings) and Omegas (Endings)

As 2018 draws to a close, I'd like to share with you a few items related to ending 2018 and beginning 2019.



First of all, thank you! Thank you to those who have served so faithfully this year, staff (paid and unpaid), Council, and volunteers of all sorts. Thank you! Thank you as well to all who have shared so generously to support our congregation financially. It looks like, if the giving remains strong, we will end the year strong financially due to generous giving, careful spending and cost cutting. Thank you!

Secondly, we continue to seek input related to an expanded Capital Campaign (Spirit Led – Spirit Alive). Please visit the Campaign link on the church webpage to get informed. In the coming weeks, Council will be mailing/emailing a survey to seek your input, as well as, continuing to hold forums to gather feedback. We hope to bring forward a recommendation at our Annual Meeting.

Thirdly, our Annual Meeting will be held on February 3rd following the 10:45 am worship service. A light lunch will be served prior to the meeting. The agenda includes consideration of the 2019 budget, election of Council members and Synod Assembly representatives. To help you prepare for the meeting, there is a Council Forum scheduled for Sunday, January 27th in the Fellowship Center during the Sunday School hour. Make plans now to attend both important meetings.



State-of-the-Church
REPORT

Lastly, if you have not already done so, please complete a 2019 Estimate of Giving Form and submit it to the church office. I want to urge you to carefully and prayerfully consider how God has blessed your life and how you might share those blessings with others. This is not only an important step in your own spiritual walk of faith with Christ, but a helpful tool for the Council and staff as we look toward responsible budget planning for 2019 and beyond. We seek to be a congregation, growing in faith and growing in generosity!

Pastor Ric



January Worship Schedule

- 7:30 am- Traditional Liturgy with Holy Communion
- 8:45 am- **Spirit Alive!** Worship with Holy Communion
(Child Care and Word for God's Children)
- 9:45 am- Faith Formation: Sunday School, Catechism, Sr. High and Center for Faith and Life
- Coffee in Room 117/119 or Speary Café
(Child Care Available)
- 10:45 am- Traditional/Blended Liturgy with Holy Communion
(Child Care and Word for God's Children)

Jan. 6 - Epiphany of our Lord

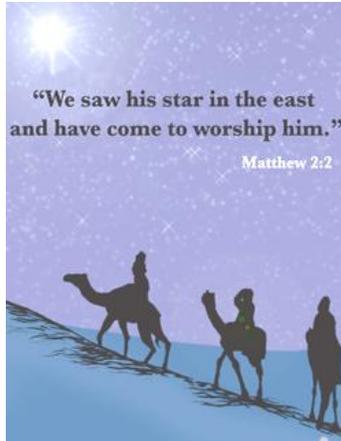
- 7:30 am- Traditional Music
- 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
- 10:45 am- Adult Choir



Jan. 13 - Baptism of our Lord

Stephen Ministers

- 7:30 am- Traditional Music
- 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
- 10:45 am- Adult Choir
- 2:30 pm- Rejoicing Spirits



Jan. 20 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Bear Creek Camp Visits

- 7:30 am- Traditional Music
- 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
- 10:45 am- Adult Choir



Jan. 27 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Global Mission Sunday

- 7:30 am- Traditional Music
- 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
- 10:45 am- Adult Choir

Praise Kids Rehearsals

9:45 am- Our preschool and K classes are preparing a song for worship on Feb. 24th.

9:55 am- Our 3rd-5th grade classes are preparing a song for worship on Jan. 27th.

Children can be dropped off and picked up at their Sunday School classroom.



Congregational Luncheon

Sunday, Feb. 3rd

New menu this year! The Luncheon Team is asking for donations of the following...sign-up sheet is located in the Lobby.

Soups (2+ qt each)

- Chicken Noodle
 - Vegetable Beef
 - Chili
 - Vegetarian Chili
- Rolls



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Rejoicing Spirits

Our next Rejoicing Spirits Worship is Sunday, Jan. 13th at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center followed by Fellowship.

Join us as we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord.

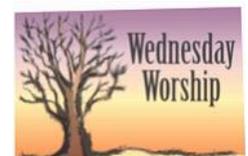


WOW: Worship on Wednesdays

Going to be away on the weekend? Once a month we will gather in the Fellowship Center for worship (8:45 style). The liturgy and sermon will be the same as the upcoming week, though briefer.

All are welcome.

Jan. 16 @7:00 pm



FLY to ABE (Adult Book Energy)

FLY to ABE will meet on Monday, January 28, to discuss *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. Please use downstairs entrance. We meet in room 1 / 2. Please sign-up on the Event Center in the lobby.



Coffee @ 9:45 am

Take time to relax and connect with your church family.

You are invited to Fellowship every Sunday in Room 117/119 or the Speary Café for coffee, tea, juice, and snacks.



Council Forum

Sunday, Jan. 27th in FC

Lorie Stout Sherman, Council President, will lead discussions concerning our 2019 goals and review the 2018 financials in preparation for our Annual Meeting.



M&M's Too

Join us for an inspirational time for women to talk, connect, and pray together.

We meet on Wednesday, January 16 at 9:30 am in the Speary Café downstairs. Please use downstairs entrance.



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 3rd

After the 10:45 am worship service, there will be a luncheon in the Fellowship Center and then the Congregational Meeting beginning at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Souper-Bowl of Caring

Sunday, Feb. 4th

Please bring a can of food or monetary donation to help the local people in need of a meal.

Our youth will be collecting before and after the worship services.



Prime Timers

There will be no Prime Timers breakfast in January, but the breakfasts will resume on Wed, Feb. 27th at 9 am.



Bear Creek Camp is Visiting

Sunday, January 20th at 9:45 am

Come to the Worship Center to hear about the fun and excitement of camp, sing some songs and hear about Winter Camp, Summer Camp and Family Camp.

BCC is for all ages- all are welcome.



Save these Dates:

2019-20 Preschool Registration: Tues, Jan. 15th

IronPigs Game: Friday, June 14th

VBS 2019: June 24-28

Global Mission Sunday- January 27th

Christmas may be past, but Global Mission Sunday is coming on January 27. This is the day in Epiphany when we celebrate our Global partnerships and helping those with various needs. It is also the Sunday that we dedicate the funds received through SHELTER FOR THE SAVIOR donations, which go to Plaster House in Arusha, Tanzania.

It's not too late to participate. Simply pick up an envelope packet at the 'Shelter' tree in the Lobby, place a donation in the envelope, and either place it in the offering or mail it to Holy Spirit. You can also use the Giving Kiosk or include the donation in your regular offering. No matter how you give, be sure to specify it is for Shelter for the Savior.



November 2018 Financial Results and Discussion

Looking ahead to year-end: In December, if we receive revenues of \$121,000 (challenging but possible), we can end the year with the same cash balance as we started the year. That would be great, because we had adopted a 2018 budget which included a \$27,254 deficit. So, if we all end the year by fulfilling our pledges and maybe giving a little extra "Christmas cheer," our finances will be in good shape to support our mission for the coming year.



Operating Performance: In November, pledged revenue came in at \$51,365 while we had budgeted \$50,888. Unpledged revenue came in at \$6,191 while we had budgeted \$6,458. Overall income was \$59,762 while we had budgeted a total of \$59,231. We came in very close to budget this month on the revenue side.

Overall expenses were \$7,248 under budget. Most mission areas were close or under budget.

Capital Campaign Cash: Our capital campaign balance decreased during November to \$29,729. Donations totaled \$295. The biggest expense was for interest on the Mission Investment Fund loan (\$554).

HVAC System: To date, we've borrowed \$170,465 from the Mission Investment Fund for our HVAC system.

Building Fund: Our building fund increased to \$11,612 due to generous donations totaling \$1,761 during November.



Thank you so much to my Holy Spirit family for the wonderful affirmation of my serving as a Minister of Word and Service in the ELCA for 40 years! I love my Deacon's stole and wear it with great joy as I serve with you as a Deacon. The cake was beautiful and so delicious! Thanks to Lorie and Pr. Ric for the poignant words. But most of all, I cherish the ministry we are called to do together in the name of the Christ child! Each of you are such a rich blessing in my life and in the lives of so many people. God bless YOU!

~Deacon Jane Elliott

Thank you to our many volunteers for their dedication to keep our ministry alive at Holy Spirit.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| •Decorating Team | •Faith Formation Teams | •Member Care Team |
| •Sunday Bulletin Team | •Rejoicing Spirits Team | •VBS Volunteers |
| •Newsletter Team | •Prayer Shawl Team | •Teachers/Mentors |
| •Property Team | •Stitch and Chat Team | •Global Missions Team |
| •Offering/Finance Team | •Church Growth Team | •Nursery School Team |
| •Church Office Assistants | •Technology Team | •Capital Campaign Team |
| •Worship Assistants | •Fellowship/Hospitality Team | •Health Ministry Team |
| •Altar Care Team | •Stephen Ministry Team | |
| •Outreach Mission Teams | •Congregation Council | |
| •Music Ensembles | •Greeters/Ushers/Readers | |
| •Kitchen Crew | •Crucifers/Acolytes | |
| •Flower Delivery | •Communion Assistants | |
| •Church Sign Team | •Stewardship Team | |
| •Worship Team/Coordinators | •Staff Relations Team | |



For Those Who Grieve

When death takes a loved one from us, we find our lives have become totally unfamiliar to what we knew and experienced before their death. Grief support groups help provide emotional, physical and spiritual support in a safe nonjudgmental environment. They offer opportunities to learn new ways of approaching problems; give a forum to search for meaning in life and death and they can help reawaken one's zest for life and give hope for healing.

Holy Spirit is offering a new group beginning Thursday, March 7 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. We will meet for 10 sessions concluding Thursday, May 9. Our group will be facilitated by Dodd Lambertson and Sue Block. Dodd is a retired ELCA pastor and musician who served congregations in Elmira, NY, Pottstown, PA. and Minneapolis, MN. As a cancer patient since 2012, he is personally attuned to the pervasiveness of grief, both major and minor, in our daily life, as well as to the power of God to help us heal as we share our grief with people we come to trust. Sue is a retired school counselor and has been a volunteer with Hospice for over ten years leading grief support for adults and children.



It is necessary to register for the group. For information or to register please call Sue Block at 208-569-1976. You may also pick up a registration form from the church office.

Your Estimate of Giving

We would like to thank all of you who have submitted your Estimate of Giving forms and indicated your support for the church's budget in the coming year. Your commitments are truly appreciated. Thank you very much!

If you have not yet submitted a completed Estimate of Giving form, please do so as soon as possible. The information on these forms helps our congregation more accurately estimate revenue, budget more effectively and better plan for our mission and ministries.

Please complete your [2019 Estimate of Giving](#) and return it to the church. You may also complete the form online. Simply go to <http://lchsemmaus.org/>, click on Stewardship and follow the prompts. Thank you for your faith-filled commitment and generosity!

~Stewardship Ministry Mission Team



Spring 2019 LDR Mission Trip

May 19th – 24th

Plans are underway for our spring 2019 LDR mission trip. We will be returning to New Jersey to continue assisting families whose homes still need work after being damaged during Hurricane Sandy. This will be our fourth trip to this area.

We will be leaving Sunday, May 19th and returning Friday, May 24th. This location is only two hours from home allowing people to participate for a portion of the week if they can't schedule being away for the entire week. We get involved in a wide variety of projects so don't be concerned if you are not overly skilled in any particular area. There will be plenty of work for everyone.

These trips have proven to be very rewarding and our group always has an enjoyable time during the work day and in fellowship in the evenings at our host facility. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Bob Mueller at 610-442-7892.



Holy Spirit Christian Nursery School Registration

Tuesday, January 15th

It's registration time at the nursery school! Registration for Holy Spirit members and current students begins on Tuesday, January 15th at 5:00 pm. Registration opens to the public on Thurs, Jan. 17th.

Holy Spirit Christian Nursery offers programs for three-year-olds, four-year-olds, and five-year-olds, an extended day option, and a Friday enrichment class for four and five-year-olds.

Program information is available in the Lobby, or by calling Karin Kahler at the preschool office (610) 965-5208.



CAT Club Begins

Each Sunday in February

CAT Club is coming each Sunday in February. CAT club is time to focus on Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*. Luther wanted to help carry out the ministry of the church by instructing children in the basic Lutheran teachings about God.

CAT Club is held during the Sunday morning Faith Formation time for the elementary classes here at Holy Spirit. Each elementary class will study a different portion of Luther's *Small Catechism*. Here are a list of the classes and topics:

- First Grade - The Lord's Prayer
- Second Grade - The 10 Commandments
- Third Grade - Learning to Use My Bible
- Fourth Grade - The Apostles' Creed
- Fifth Grade - The Sacraments: Baptism and Communion



CAT club is also a time for other members to serve as Sunday School teachers for a short time. Two adults are needed for each of our elementary classes. Materials are provided. If you are interested in serving, please contact [Karin Kahler](#).

Sunday School Service Project on Sunday, Jan. 13th @ 9:45 am

Our Sunday School students will be participating in a community service project. Preschool through 5th grade classes will be making Valentine cards for our shut-ins.



Sunday School Upcoming Schedule:



Sunday, Dec. 30th
 Sunday, Jan. 6th
 Sunday, Jan. 13th at 9:45 am
 Sunday, Jan. 20th at 9:45 am
 Sunday, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 at 9:45 am
 Sunday, Feb. 17th at 9:45 am
 Sunday, March 3rd
 Sunday, March 17th at 4:00 pm

No Sunday School Classes
 Sunday School Resumes
 Valentine Service Project
 Bear Creek Camp Visit
 CAT Club (Grades 1-5)
 Jesus and Jammies (Preschool and K)
 First Communion and Reception
 Family Book BINGO

EHS Angel Network - Thanks to You

Thank you to all our Angels at Holy Spirit Church for providing donations for the Angel Network food baskets and gifts. Thanks to an extraordinary effort, we were able to replace the food items lost in the flood. We were able to give out all of the winter coats and socks. The students were very thankful and excited for new winter coats and stylish new socks. It is so wonderful to see how much these little things mean to those in need. What a tremendous effort to help members in our local neighborhood.

~Laurie, Angel Network Coordinator



Souper-Bowl of Caring

Sunday, Feb. 4

Mark your calendars and bring a donation and support the local people in need of a meal.

Monetary and non-perishable food items will be collected at all worship services.

Youth volunteers are needed to collect the donations before and after the worship services.



Jr and Sr High Events

Youth group meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month for an activity night. Please join us for our January events.

Stay tuned for details.

Jan. 6th @TBD
Jan. 20th @TBD



CONNECT 2019: Winter Camp at BCC

CONNECT is a fun-filled weekend at Bear Creek Camp during the winter! It's a time to CONNECT with God and to CONNECT with your friends. We have a blast doing all of the fun activities that Bear Creek Camp has to offer during the winter, plus all the other great activities you've come to expect! The weekend kicks off on Friday night and runs until Sunday after lunch.

7th-12th Grade: January 11-13

4th-8th Grade: January 25-27

This year's theme is Love All ~Ephesians 4:1-2

Unity of the body of Christ

Therefore, as a prisoner for the Lord, I encourage you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God.

Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love



Registration is on the website: <http://bearcreekcamp.org/connect-winter-camp/>

Please contact Angie Tobey for more information. Many of our youth attend each year!

Upcoming Events- Mark your Calendars

- No Catechism or Sr. High Class on Dec. 30th
- Catechism and Sr. High Class resume on January 6th.
- On January 20th- Bear Creek Camp visits! It will be a great opportunity to learn more about this amazing ministry and all about Summer 2019!
- February 3rd- Souper Bowl of Caring/Congregational Meeting



Sunday, December 30 - Christmas 1 and New Year's Worship

10 am - Lessons and Carols Worship (childcare provided, no WFGC)

11 am - Brunch in Fellowship Center

Sunday, January 6 - Epiphany of Our Lord

7:30 am - Traditional Worship

8:45 am - **Spirit Alive!** Worship with Praise Ensemble (WFGC & childcare provided)

Procession of the Kings

9:45 am - Sunday School, CFL, Cat, Sr. High and Fellowship (childcare provided)

10:45 am - Traditional/Blended Worship with Adult Choir (WFGC & childcare provided)

Procession of the Kings

Table Talk

Table Talk will meet on Wednesday, January 9th at 6:30 pm in the Speary Café. Please park and enter by the lower entrance. Join us for the Lutheran perspective on the next Sunday's Bible readings which are Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Sign-up in the lobby to bring an appetizer or dessert. **Bring your favorite Bible translation.** All are welcome!

Circle of Friends

Circle of Friends is created to extend our circle through intentional fellowship opportunities with other people of Holy Spirit. We have 4 Circle of Friends styles. The goal is to connect, share a meal or experience, and expand your Circle of Friends.

- Family Adventure Circle of Friends will be comprised of three families who will each have an opportunity to host an adventure. All family units are welcome. In addition, the hosts have the option to invite another family as your guests.
- Adults Venture-In Circle of Friends will be comprised of six adults who will each have an opportunity to host a gathering. In addition, the hosts have to option to invite two adult guests. Couples and singles are welcome.
- Adults Venture-Out Circle of Friends will be comprised of eight adults who will each have an opportunity to make a reservation at their favorite restaurant for the Venture-Out Circle to enjoy together. Each person pays their own way. Couples and singles are welcome.
- Ladies Night Out Circle of Friends will be comprised of all women who will meet once a month to enjoy some girl time together. Each person pays their own way. All women are welcome.



The guests can be a neighbor, friend, or a member of Holy Spirit. The idea is to reach out to extend your circle of friends. Please ask someone who is not participating in Circle of Friends.

The gatherings may be as creative, traditional, formal, or casual as each Circle prefers. The style is initially determined by the hosts. It may be a dinner, picnic, appetizers with desserts, breakfast, brunch, play date, swim party, game night, or costume night. The hosts providing the main part (appetizers, entrée and beverages) and the others bring something to share. It is helpful if the hosts indicate what they will be serving. Please be aware of any allergies and/or preferences. The guests do not bring anything.

Each circle sets their own dates for their convenience. Hopefully, each circle can complete their rotations within 6-9 months. You are welcome to keep meeting after the first rotation. Please sign-up by Feb. 17th. Your new circle of friends will be notified by March 2019.

For more information or questions, please contact
 Jennifer Day Roth, coordinator, jendayroth@yahoo.com
 Pattie Bisbing, coordinator, psbisbing@verizon.net
 Deacon Jane Elliott, staff liaison, Jelliott@holyspirit-emmaus.org, 610-967-2220 x 108

Center for Faith and Life

Center for Faith and Life provides Holy Spirit's Adult Sunday School programs with a mission to deepen our faith. Sessions are held Sunday mornings at 9:50 am in the Fellowship Center (unless otherwise noted) and can be freely attended by simply showing up. No pre-notification or registration is required. All are Welcome!



Jan. 6th- A Hymn's story: Rev. Mark Wimmer

This will be a "behind the scenes" look of some familiar Christmas and Epiphany carols. We'll highlight the context of the music's original setting, learn a little about the composer and even sing a few of the songs! Perhaps the strains of Silent Night and We Three Kings will accompany us. Join us and enjoy the season of Christmas just a little longer!

Three Week Series - Luther the Theologian: Rev. Dr. Nelson Rivera

Martin Luther was professor of Scripture, preacher, prolific writer, Bible translator, pastor, counselor, and theologian extraordinaire. Our portrait of Luther will focus on how those aspects of his vocation helped to shape his theological mind and work as reformer of the Church.

- **January 13 - Reading the Scripture**

Study of the Scripture was more than an academic exercise for Luther. Interpretation of the Scripture became a hallmark of his lectures, sermons, and publications. As teacher and preacher, Luther developed new ways of reading the Scripture, looking in the text for what "pushes Christ", the task of proclaiming Christ to all.

- **January 20 - Theologian of the Cross**

Luther distinguished between "theologians of the cross" and "theologians of glory". His concern was with understanding God's gracious activity, how God acts in the world for our sake. Theologians of the cross see God in the Crucified One; they know only what God has revealed of God's self, viz., weakness and humility.

- **February 3 - Teaching the Faith**

In his two catechisms, Luther interpreted the traditional texts of Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, and Lord's Prayer, but he also engaged the meaning of Church practices, such as Baptism, Lord's Supper, and prayer. Through it all, we learn about the significance that Scripture and Christian doctrine had for Luther.

Jan. 27th- Congregation Council Forum: Lorie Stout Sherman

We will discuss the results of the 2018 operating year, the 2019 proposed operating budget, status of the proposed Spirit Led – Spirit Alive capital campaign, and introduce new Council nominees. Come join us for this important forum.



Thank You to all who participated in this years Christmas Ingathering! Whether you provided one of the **56 wrapped gifts** for the children at Topton Home or donated some of the **1500 unwrapped donations** to be shared among **9 local charitable organizations**, you made a positive difference in the lives of others this Holiday Season right here in the Lehigh Valley!

A special thank you to Alice Mudge for doing a wonderful job with the advertising and also to Cindy Clark, Gayle Getz, Yvonne Gilbert, Cindy Hastings, Mary Anne Keating, Donna Kemp, Amanda Steele, Wilma Stewart and Angie Tobey who came to help sort and pack this year!

Your generosity is very much appreciated and has made the Christmas Holidays much brighter for so many people!

~Diane McMenamin



Coming in Lent 2019

- Meeting God at the Cross is a new experiential time which we are creating to help us focus on Christ during Lent.
- It will be held on Mondays at 7 pm and Wednesdays at Noon in the Fellowship Center.





January 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

In the Event of Pastoral Emergency, please call the Office at 610-967-2220 and press #3 after the general announcement.

Website: <http://lchsemmaus.org/>
 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LCHSEmmaus>
 Church Office email: info@holyspirit-emmaus.org
 Sign-up for newsletter emails: <http://eepurl.com/tIRNf>
 Address: 3461 Cedar Crest Blvd., Emmaus PA 18049-1599
 Phone: 610-967-2220


Newsletter

The February Newsletter deadline is Wed, Jan. 16th.
 It will be issued by Wed, Jan. 23rd.
 Submissions may be emailed to Angie at newsletter@holyspirit-emmaus.org or placed in the Newsletter Mailbox. Thank You!