



Moving with the Spirit

Inspired for Ministry in Daily Life

January 2020

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Emmaus, PA

Stepping Into 2020

As 2019 comes to close, I wanted to share a few thoughts about what's next for Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Let's look at what's new as we step into 2020.

The congregation voted positively on December 8 (303 for and 1 against) to call Tami Reichley as our Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care and Outreach. This allows us to continue and expand on the ministries in the areas of Stephen Ministry, Eucharistic Ministry, visitation and community evangelism and outreach. Tami's Service of Ordination and Installation has been scheduled for Feb 16 at 4pm. Save the date!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for February 2 immediately following the 10:45 worship service and light luncheon. The agenda includes the usual business of adopting a budget for 2020 and electing Council members and Synod Assembly delegates, but also will include a recommendation concerning the next steps of our "Spirit Led -Spirit Alive" Campaign. We have a proposed expansion and renovation plan from Funk Construction which is currently under review by our Mission Teams and Council. A formal recommendation is expected for consideration at the Annual Meeting. There will be a Council Forum held during the Center for Faith and Life hour on Sunday, January 26th where the budget, nominees and building plans will be reviewed. Please plan to attend.



State-of-the-Church
REPORT

As we begin the new year, I want you to be aware that Council has been actively engaged in considering how best to make our facilities as safe as possible. We have met with the Pennsylvania State Police who audited our building for safety and threat concerns. We have formed an Action Team to begin to evaluate that report and begin to implement features to ensure safety and protect our members as best we can.

As we end 2019, we are hoping to end the year once again in a strong financial position. We won't be certain until December 31, but trends look good to end the year in a positive cash balance despite having adopted a deficit budget. Please make every effort to fulfill your commitments for 2019 so that we can enter 2020 with the financial strength we will need to meet a challenging budget for 2020.

Finally, we ask your prayers as we move forward. During a time when many congregations are shrinking and struggling, we continue to experience energy, strength and vision of the future. Your prayers, commitment and financial support make the difference. Help us step into 2020 with passion and faith in our Lord and Savior.

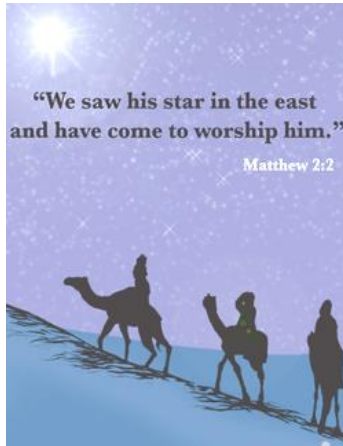
Pastor Ric

January Worship and Music



- 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
- Fellowship in 117/119 or Speary Café (Snacks in FC Lobby)
(Child Care Available)
- 10:45 am- Traditional/Blended Liturgy with Holy Communion
(Child Care and Word for God's Children)

Jan. 5 - Epiphany of our Lord
 Bear Creek Camp Visit
 7:30 am- Traditional Music
 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
 10:45 am- Adult Choir



Jan. 12 - Baptism of our Lord
 Eucharistic/Health Ministry
 7:30 am- Traditional Music
 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
 10:45 am- Adult Choir
 2:30 pm- Rejoicing Spirits

Jan. 19 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
 Stephen Ministry
 7:30 am- Traditional Music
 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
 10:45 am- Adult Choir

Jan. 26 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
 Council Forum/Global Mission
 7:30 am- Traditional Music
 8:45 am- Praise Ensemble
 10:45 am- Adult Choir

Sunday, Dec. 29th - Christmas Continues and New Year's
 No Sunday School, Catechism, Sr. High or CFL
 10:00 am- Lessons and Carols (child care provided)
 11:00 am- Brunch in Fellowship Center



Sunday, Jan. 5th - Epiphany of Our Lord
 7:30 am- Traditional Worship
 8:45 am- Spirit Alive! Worship with Praise Ensemble (child care provided)
 9:45 am- Sunday School, Catechism, CFL and Fellowship (child care provided)
 10:45 am- Traditional/Blended Worship with Adult Choir (child care provided)

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Rejoicing Spirits

Our next Rejoicing Spirits Worship is Sunday, Jan. 12th at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center followed by Fellowship.

Washed in God's Love- celebrating Jesus' baptism




Praise Kids Rehearsals

Our Preschool and Kindergarten classes are preparing a song for worship on Feb. 23rd.

Grades 3-5 prepare for participation in Global Mission Sunday, January 26th.

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



Congregational Luncheon

Sunday, Feb. 2nd

The Luncheon Team is asking for donations for the congregation luncheon. Please sign-up on the sheet is located in the Lobby in January.

For the luncheon, we will be offering an assortment of soups again this year.



Coffee @ 9:45 am

Fellowship every Sunday in Room 117/119 upstairs or the Speary Café downstairs.

Refreshments and snacks are now located in Fellowship Center Lobby.



Save these Dates:

Ordination and Installation: Sunday, Feb. 16th

IronPigs Game: Friday, June 5th

VBS 2020: June 22-26



Council Forum

Sunday, Jan. 26th in FC

Bob Stevens, Council President, will lead discussions concerning our 2020 goals and review the 2019 financials in preparation for our Annual Meeting.



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 2nd

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. 2nd

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.



BCC at LCHS

Sunday, January 5th at 9:45 am

Bear Creek Lutheran Camp will visit to bring camp to our congregation. It will be a great time to learn about the great outdoor ministry of our Lutheran Camp.

BCC is for all ages– All are welcome.



Prime Timers

There will be no Prime Timers breakfast in January.



Holy Spirit Christian Nursery School Registration

Tuesday, January 14th

It's registration time at the nursery school! Registration for Holy Spirit members and current students begins on Tuesday, Jan. 14th at 5:00 pm. Snow date: Wed, Jan 15th. Registration opens to the public on Thurs, Jan. 16th.

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.



Church News...

November 2019 Financial Results and Discussion

Operating Performance: November net income turned out to be higher than what was expected (-\$4,191 vs. -\$6,040 expected). Expenses were \$2,755 lower than expected (\$62,989) and income was \$906 lower than expected (\$58,798). Most mission areas were close or under budget. Though we finished the month with a deficit, we are still ahead of our YTD deficit. At this point, Faith Formation for Youth is the mission area most under budget YTD with \$3,677 actual versus \$7,603 budgeted.



Thrivent totals were \$464 while we had budgeted \$0.

Projected vs. Budgeted Cash Balance: At this point it looks like we will end the year with a cash balance of \$122,893. We thought we'd have a cash balance of \$95,754.

Spirit Led, Spirit Alive Capital Campaign Cash: The current total in our Spirit Led, Spirit Alive account is \$155,352. Total donations for the month of November (including transfers) were \$91,163. Please note we transferred all funds from the previous Capital Campaign account to the new Spirit Led, Spirit Alive account. I will report on this account only moving forward.

HVAC System: The balance on our Mission Investment Fund loan for the HVAC system is \$123,030.

Building Fund: Our building fund decreased to \$9,148 due to an expense for \$7,350 for an HVAC system replacement for the office. Donations totaled \$3,157 for the month of November. Thank you for your continued support of our Building Fund!

Your Estimate of Giving

Many thanks to those who have submitted their 2020 Estimate of Giving information. Your commitment and support of our church's local, national and international ministries is appreciated!

If you have not yet submitted your completed Estimate of Giving card, we would ask that you prayerfully consider your giving for the coming year. Our gift commitments provide the church leadership an effective means of mapping out our ministries for the year. Feel free to complete a 2020 Estimate of Giving Card manually or online at the church website.



Again, thanks to everyone for the continued support and enthusiasm for our church's mission and ministries.

~Stewardship Ministry Mission Team

LCMS Weather Cancellation Policy

If LCMS worship or activities need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be announced the following ways:



- [LCMS Facebook page](#)
- WFMZ or WFMZ.com
- Our website: <http://lchsemmaus.org/>
- If there is a heavy snowstorm and the roads are passable, there will be one worship service at 10:45 am
- Call church office for the weather related message
- If you call the church office and the machine does not answer, the church has no power
- During the week, the church activities follow East Penn School District Policies

Upcoming Events...

Sunday School Service Project

Sunday, Jan. 12th @ 9:45 am

Our Sunday School students will be participating in a community service project. Preschool through 5th grade classes will be making Tie Blankets and Valentine cards.



Youth Events

Game Night- January 5th the youth group will be having a game night at 6- 8 pm in the Speary Café. Please sign up with Signup Genius link.

[Sign up Here](#)



January Devotion Night- we will be having a High School devotion night. For more information please contact Pr. Spencer at prsteele@holyspirit-emmaus.org.

FLY to ABE (Adult Book Energy)

FLY to ABE will meet on Monday, January 27 at 10 am, we will discuss *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. On February 24 at 10 am, we will discuss *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict.

Please use downstairs entrance. We meet in room 1 / 2. Please sign-up on the Event Center in the lobby.



M&M's Too

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

We meet on Wednesday, January 15 at 9:30 am in the Speary Café downstairs. Please use downstairs entrance.



Center for Faith and Life

Our Adult Sunday School program to deepen our faith
Sunday mornings at 9:50 am in the Fellowship Center
No Sign-up Required. All are Welcome!



Jan. 5th - Celebration of Vicar Tami's Internship and New Call

Please join us to thank Tami for serving in ministry with us during her internship and as we look to her becoming an Associate Pastor of Holy Spirit.

Jan. 12th - In Proximity: Dr. Virginia Wiles

In her book, *Practicing Resurrection*, Janet Wolf writes about how the Church becomes the Church through "living in proximity to those who have their backs against the wall." What would it look like for us to listen to and learn from - to be taught by - "those who have their backs against the wall"? In what ways do we place ourselves in proximity to those whom Jesus mingled with? As we move forward through Epiphany and into Lent, what might we learn from the people who "taught" Jesus how to live among them?

Jan. 19th - Legacy Planning and Giving: Mark Stanziola & Mark Wimmer

What do you know about the importance of estate planning? Mark Stanziola will go over the general documents people should have and answer their questions. Mark Wimmer will cover legacy giving and how that ties into an estate plan.

Jan. 26th- Congregation Council Forum: Bob Stevens, Pastor Ric, Chris Carter, Sherilyn Scheetz

We will discuss the results of the 2019 operating year, the 2020 proposed operating budget, status of the Spirit Led-Spirit Alive Capital Campaign, and introduce new Council nominees. Please attend and join the discussion.

Ministry News...

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](#).

Global Mission Sunday- January 26th

We are all called to mission, but did you know the ELCA has a program called Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) where participants, aged between 21 and 29, commit to a transformative, year-long journey in international service? As they offer themselves in service, these young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world. As they work to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, they provide critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. At the same time these volunteers have the opportunity to enter into a journey of self-reflection on God's work in the world and their place within it all.

During worship on January 26, two participants in YAGM, Luke Swanson and Hannah Wolfe, will help us consider our place within God's work in the world as they share their experiences in Argentina (Luke) and South Africa (Hannah).



Spring 2020 LDR Mission Trip

April 26th – May 1st

Plans are underway for our spring 2020 LDR mission trip. We will be returning to New Jersey to continue assisting families who still have not returned to their homes following damage from Hurricane Sandy. This will be our fifth trip to this area.

We will be leaving Sunday, April 26th and return Friday, May 1st. This location is only two hours away allowing people to participate for a portion of the week if they unable to be away for the entire week. We are 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.

Our Church, Our Community, and Our World...

News from The Plaster House, Tanzania

To those of us living in developed countries, it's inconceivable that the legs of our children could weaken and bend because of the drinking water. Sadly, it happens every day in the Rift Valley of Africa, because the landform of the Rift Valley has a high level of fluoride which leaches into the ground water. People take the water from wells and bores to be used for drinking and cooking. Fluoride levels in water up to 1.5 parts per million are safe, even beneficial to people. Above that level fluoride is dangerous, as the excess fluoride in the water weakens the bones of children. As they grow and their bodies carry more weight the bones bend. The condition is called skeletal fluorosis.

Right now, three-year-old Fortunatus is being treated at The Plaster House for fluorosis. Fortunatus' family lives in a village near Katavi on Lake Tanganyika, close to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. When the Plaster House outreach team visited their village a few months ago, Fortunatus' mother sought help for her son. With support from the Nomad Trust he has been able to travel to Arusha and he is scheduled for surgery to straighten his legs and set him on a new path through life. Thanks to the generosity of donors and surgeons and the skilled and loving care at The Plaster House, Fortunatus will soon be able to run with his friends after surgery to straighten his legs.

It only costs \$28 to support a child like Fortunatus for a week. Holy Spirit's Shelter for the Savior drive continues through January 26th, when we celebrate Global Mission Sunday and dedicate this season's donations for Plaster House. Please look for the Shelter for the Savior tree in the narthex.



New Camp Director

Bear Creek Camp is excited to announce Collin Grooms as our new Executive Director! For the past five years, Collin has served as the Site Director for Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center, a United Methodist camp in Central Wisconsin. A lifelong member of the ELCA growing up in Northwest Ohio, he graduated from Ohio University and Capital University, respectively. Collin and his wife Katie moved to Minneapolis/St. Paul where Katie earned her Masters of Divinity from Luther Seminary and Collin served as the Out-of-School-Time Programs Director for The Salvation Army. Their son, Owen, was born in April 2017 and baptized at Lake Lucerne.



Collin's passion for camp ministry is in building community by bringing together people from all walks of life for meaningful time spent apart from the routine of daily life, while simultaneously equipping those individuals to make a positive difference in God's world beyond their time of camp. As Collin learned as a camper and continues to strive to create today, camp is a space where everyone can be supported as the truest version of themselves and empowered to grow through new experiences and connections.

Collin joins our year-round staff of Karen Heser, Denise Abrams, Karissa Elser, Bill M. Pfeffer, Bill R. Pfeffer, Joyce Gombeda, and Lauren Dessoie.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Rev. Jimmy Lee Werley for acting as our Interim Director and the Board of Directors for working through this transitional period with the Lord's guidance and counsel. Please join us in prayer and celebration as we welcome Collin, Katie, and Owen to the Bear Creek family!

Coming Soon...

Upcoming Congregational Calendar

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday, Feb. 3rd | Souper Bowl of Caring Cat Club @ 9:45 am (Grades 1-5) Congregational Annual Mtg |
| Feb. 7 & 8th | Council and Staff Retreat |
| Sunday, Feb. 9th | 8:45 Boy Scout Sunday Install Congregation Council Cat Club @ 9:45 am (Grades 1-5) Rejoicing Spirits |
| Sunday, Feb. 16th | Cat Club @ 9:45 am (Grades 1-5) Ordination & Installation of Tami Reichley @ 4pm |
| Sunday, Feb. 23rd | Transfiguration Sunday, Farewell to Alleluia Cat Club @ 9:45 am (Grades 1-5) New Member's Q&A @ 9:45 am |
| Wed, Feb. 26th | Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7 am, noon, 7 pm |

| February 2020 | | | | | | |
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Circle of Friends

Circle of Friends is created to extend our circle through intentional fellowship opportunities with other people of Holy Spirit. We have three Circle of Friends styles. Whatever the style of the gathering, the goal is to connect, share a meal or experience, and expand their Circle of Friends.

- Family Adventure 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 will be comprised of six adults- couples and/or singles, who will each have an opportunity to host a gathering. In addition, the hosts have to option to invite two adult guests.
- Adults Venture-Out will be comprised of eight adults- couples and/or singles, 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 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 guests do not bring anything. 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 Venture In hosts provide 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.

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. 23rd. Your new circle of friends will be notified in March.

For more information or questions, please contact
Jennifer Day Roth, Pattie Bisbing or Deacon Jane Elliott

Thank You!

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

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



Thank You to all who participated in this year's Christmas Ingathering! Whether you provided one of the **65 wrapped gifts** for the children at Topton Home and Keenan House or donated some of the **2300 unwrapped donations** to be shared among **10 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 Nikki Clark for doing a great job with the bulletin notices and flyer and also to Alice Mudge, Ricki Stringfellow, Deb Stevens, Angie Tobey, Cindy Clark, Yvonne Gilbert, Mary Anne Keating, Amanda Steele, Wilma Stewart and Lisa Walton who came to help sort and pack this year! And those who were there in spirit!

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

~Diane McMenamin



Thank you to Diane McMenamin for her 20+ years of service to the Christmas Ingathering and the Lehigh Mission District of Lutheran Churches.

Each year, Diane has been instrumental in the success of the Ingathering which provides so many gifts and donations to those in need. It is a huge event and Diane has been great at keeping everyone and everything organized perfectly!





| January 2020 | | | | | | |
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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. 15th.

It will be issued by Wed, Jan. 22nd.

Submissions may be emailed to Angie at

newsletter@holyspirit-emmaus.org or placed in the

Newsletter Mailbox. Thank You!