

Outreach Outlook

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Outreach Mission Statement

*Guided by the Holy Spirit we seek **to recognize** the spiritual and other human needs of individuals and communities near and far and **to respond** in a manner that is biblically sound, culturally relevant, and builds relationships as we work together **to support** God's Mission.*

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- God's Work Our Hands: 10/1 – 11/5
- Christmas Ingathering: 10/26 – 11/24
- Angel Network: 11/1 – 12/4
- Global Mission: December & January
- Contextual Outreach: garden raised beds - Spring 2021

SERVICE ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY HAPPENING

God's Work Our Hands (GWOH)

GWOH is an ELCA day of service initiative. For this annual service activity the congregation is invited to assemble personal care kits at home during the month of October and drop them off at church by November 5th (collection bin at canopy entrance. No need to pack kits in a separate box). Items will be shipped to Lutheran World Relief for global distribution. We will celebrate GWOH as a community of faith during worship service on November 8th.

For **instructions** go to:

[LWR Personal Care Kit Instructions](#) or watch tutorial at [LWR Care Kit Assembly Video](#)

To learn more about God's Work Our Hands please visit <https://www.elca.org/dayofservice>

To learn more about Lutheran World Relief please click [here](#)

Christmas Ingathering

Christmas Ingathering brightens the holy season of Christmas for those in need. This year we are collecting items for the Allentown Warming Station (a respite from the harsh elements of winter), The Boys and Girls Club of Allentown (<https://www.bgcalledtown.org/>), and gifts for children at The Lutheran Home at Topton (<https://www.diakonseniorliving.org/communities/the-lutheran-home-at-topton>).

Items needed for the Warming Station include White Bath Towels (new), Packaged microwave friendly meals, Bed Pillow (**The Big One**-no substitutes, please), Hand warmers, Feminine products (tampons), Deodorant, Lysol – spray can and wipes, Febreze and Hand sanitizer (individual and bottles w/pump).

Items requested for the Boys and Girls Club that serve children ages 6-18 include **NEW** math, reading and brain-based games, games that promote critical thinking such as Bananagrams, Chess, Checkers, Scrabble, Apples to Apples, Uno and jigsaw puzzles. These are just some ideas – there are many, many good games on the market.

Christmas gifts for Topton Home can be selected by following the instructions found at this link:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548abad2da5f49-lchs>

All items/games/gifts can be dropped off in designated collection bins located at the church canopy entrance on **Mondays and Wednesdays (only) after 12 noon during the entire month of November.**
Please do not Christmas wrap any items/games/gifts.

Angel Network

During the entire month of November we will be collecting canned beans, peas, corn, fruit, laundry detergent, and \$25 grocery store gift cards. Please drop off canned goods and detergent donations in the designated collection bin at the church canopy entrance any time during the month of November. Please mail \$25 gift cards to Jill Geosits, 4389 Newton Circle, Emmaus, PA 18049

To learn more about Angel Network please visit <http://ehsangelnetwork.org/>

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES HAPPENING IN NEAR FUTURE (with more information to come)

- **Global Mission**
Our annual appeal for funding the Tanzania based Plaster House/Shelter for the Savior (to provide for surgeries and post-surgical care for children with correctable disabilities) will occur during the months of December and January. Stay tuned for more information.
- **Contextual Outreach**
Two garden raised beds have been placed on the church property with the intent to grow food for local pantries. If you'd like to help grow and/or be a part of the planning for Spring 2021, please contact Marilyn Egner bu44@aol.com 610-442-8112

RECENT OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

As of 10/29, and with one more week to go, our God's Work Our Hands service initiative assembled and collected 169 Personal Care Kits to be donated to Lutheran World Relief.

Our Zoom Blessing of the Animals service on 10/3 collected \$50 for the Animals in Distress shelter.

CAUSE OF THE MONTH **Are you Comfortable Proclaiming the Good News?**

Jesus commands us to go make disciples and reminds us he will always be with us. **Evangelism is not about techniques or right practices** but rather about God working through us to become witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ. The very word "evangelism" has roots tied to angels and messengers announcing the Good News through word and deed.

Sometimes talking about Jesus with other believers can even be difficult, let alone with not-yet-believers. Fears of not knowing enough, feeling awkward, or thinking we might ruin a good relationship can stop us.

So what does it take to get us to feel comfortable talking about sharing God's love?

Maybe just taking the time to speak and hear words about Jesus in conversations with other believers can help. Everyone loves to hear a story so why not tell one about how you experience Jesus in your life. Our church is a safe place where we can comfortably speak to others about difficult topics. As church, we meet one another as bringers of Good News and we need to hear the Word spoken to encourage us when we are uncertain or in doubt.

During the next month, just off the cuff, ask someone, "Do you think you'll go to heaven when you die?" That should get the conversation going! And pray for guidance and courage to go where God is leading you to change lives.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT **Operation Bootstrap Africa**

Operation Bootstrap Africa (OBA) partners with Africans to strengthen their future through education, healthcare, agriculture, and other long-term development projects. Founded in 1965 by a Lutheran missionary, OBA is rooted in a "bootstrap" philosophy of **helping people help themselves**. OBA is the organization through which Holy Spirit channels funds to The Plaster House, the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center Nursing School and the MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School.

When the Holy Spirit team traveled to Tanzania in 2016, one of the places we visited was the Olchoki Primary School. There we witnessed the challenging circumstances under which dedicated teachers work with 1400 children, sometimes with 70 in one classroom seated three on a bench. Most importantly though we met the children.

During that visit a staff member showed us the cinder block building OBA was helping them build for a kitchen. At the time they were only able to cook in a big pot over a small open fire of sticks on the cement floor and could only feed the orphans (the poorest of the poor) one meal a day. We learned of their plans to raise funds through OBA to get 3 stoves and thus be able to feed each child at the school. After we returned, Dianne Fox and Ruth Doty shared the story of our trip with New Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Fleetwood. One of its parishioners then challenged the congregation to raise the funds needed for 1 of the stoves. That would take several thousand dollars, a challenge for a small congregation, but they did it. Today Olchoki School feeds every student. Thank God for OBA and for the way churches work together to help God's people.

To catch a glimpse of the fruits of the Spirit's work, [watch this video from OBA](#). It's short but so exciting. We can't stop smiling when we watch it.

The Global Mission Action Group

Outreach Mission Team Action Groups and Leaders

- Team Convener: John Mosovsky vistafarm@ptd.net
- Staff Liaison: Pastor Tami prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org
- Council Liaison: Nina McNally Ninamcnally@me.com

- Lutheran Disaster Response, World Hunger, and Benevolence:
Bob Mueller robtmueller@yahoo.com

- Angel Network:
Deb Walsh deblwalsh613@gmail.com
<http://ehsangelnetwork.org/>

- Food/Shelter Assistance:
Denise Rohrbach bcrohrbach@aol.com
Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com

- Global Mission:
Ruth & Rick Doty rrehome01@gmail.com
<https://lchsemmaus.org/our-sponsored-arusha-ministry/>

- Christmas Ingathering:
Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com

- Project Help:
Chris Carter cecarter@aol.com
<https://lchsemmaus.org/adult-ministries/#project-help>

- Contextual Outreach :
Mike Yablonski my6118@gmail.com
Marilyn Egner bu44@aol.com
Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com

- SALT (Serving And Learning Together) John Mosovsky vistafarm@ptd.net

If you would like to join an Action Group, please contact an Action Group Leader. If you have any outreach questions, ideas, or would like to include an outreach service opportunity in the newsletter please contact John Mosovsky - Outreach Mission Team Convener at vistafarm@ptd.net 484-264-6151 OR Pastor Tami at prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org 267-718-0851