

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

- Shelter for the Savior Appeal: 11/29 – 1/24/21
- Global Mission Sunday: 1/24/21
- Collections for Local Shelters: beginning 1/4/21
- Tanzanian Scholarships Appeal: Spring 2021
- World Hunger Appeal: Spring 2021
- Contextual Outreach: Garden Raised Beds - Spring 2021

SERVICE ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY HAPPENING

Shelter for the Savior

Plaster House is a home where Tanzanian children with treatable disabilities such as burns from home cooking fires, club foot, cleft palate, and bent legs caused from skeletal fluorosis, can prepare for and recover from corrective surgery. It is one of many ministries envisioned and developed by ELCA missionaries Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson and many partners. Newly constructed housing now serves 160 children. Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit has been helping to support the Jacobsons for over 30 years. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Plaster House.

At the moment,

\$4 supports one child for one day at The Plaster House

\$10 provides one special feeding bottle for therapeutic feeding program

\$20 provides shoes/foot abduction brace for one child following clubfoot treatment

\$50 provides 10 locally made reusable diapers

\$100 provides one month of rehab and residential stay for one child

\$200 provides feeding program formula for one child for one month

\$500 provides monthly salary for one therapy staffer

If you would like to support The Plaster House through our Shelter for the Savior appeal, you can send your check payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, noting Shelter for the Savior on the check memo line. You may also give online to our congregation [HERE](#) by entering your donation amount on the "Other" line and specifying "Shelter for the Savior". If you would like a packet sent to you, which includes a Christmas ornament and greeting card by which you may tell someone you made this gift in their honor, please email Nikki Clark at our church office at <mailto:clark@holyspirit-emmaus.org>.

Allentown Rescue Mission & Sixth Street Shelter

We will start collecting the following items for the Rescue Mission and Sixth Street Shelter on January 4th. Donations can be put into the marked bins at the church canopy entrance.

Allentown Rescue Mission (men's shelter)

Slightly worn or new: Sweatpants all sizes, especially XL and XXL

Slightly worn or new: Sweatshirts all sizes, especially XL and XXL

Slightly worn or new: Winter hats and gloves

Socks (must be new)

Sixth Street Shelter (family shelter)

New - Twin-sized blankets or comforters

Toilet paper

Paper towels

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES HAPPENING IN NEAR FUTURE

Lutheran Disaster Response Spring Mission Trip

Our 2021 spring mission trip has been postponed for now due to Covid-19 issues. We will hopefully be able to schedule a trip later in 2021 depending on Covid-19 restriction guidelines, work site locations, team availability, etc.

World Hunger Appeal

We will be running a World Hunger Appeal during Lent. Information specific to the appeal will be included in the next *Outreach Outlook* newsletter. Ash Wednesday is February 17th, 2021.

Tanzanian Scholarships Appeal

In Tanzania they have less than one-half of the number of nurses needed. Join us in helping students make their way through the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center Nursing School and into critically needed health-care jobs. Spring 2021.

Contextual Outreach

Two raised garden 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 at: bu44@aol.com or 610-442-8112.

RECENT OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

Angel Network - A great big THANK YOU for your donations of canned corn, beans, peas, and fruit, laundry detergent, and gift cards. Because of COVID, this year we had a drive-thru distribution of the food baskets and gift cards in the church parking lot, helping 170 East Penn School District families.

Shelter for the Savior - Through December 15th, contributions to the Shelter for the Savior campaign total \$1,120. With continued contributions through January 24th, we at Holy Spirit will really be able to provide hope and a cure for children too often isolated from their communities by treatable disabilities.

Outreach Flash to help Kutztown University Former Foster Care Children

Our response to this request resulted in:

- 23 Pairs of Boots
- 13 Hats
- 5 Scarves
- 12 Pairs of Gloves
- 9 Sets of Socks

These generous donations were enough to provide for all of the students needs this semester as well as build a small closet to help replace items students have lost or damaged and to provide for the needs of future students. Thank you for your generosity. Your kindness has meant the world to these students.

CAUSE OF THE MONTH

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

For 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has been a champion for refugees and migrants from around the globe.

The LIRS legacy of compassionate service has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have found safety and hope in America's communities.

The LIRS history reflects American Lutheran's deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need.

Through the "Long Welcome", LIRS helps ensure that refugees and migrants are protected, embraced and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities. LIRS and its national network of service providers are uniquely equipped to provide holistic, trauma-informed, and age-appropriate care to the vulnerable individuals it serves.

LIRS is one of only two organizations that works with the government to support unaccompanied refugee minors (URMs). The URM foster care programming is catered to a uniquely vulnerable population. LIRS works diligently to protect these children and reunite them with loved one as quickly as possible.

Working with congregations, grassroots advocates, and compassionate individuals, LIRS has developed a number of initiatives and opportunities to bring communities together in support of new Americans.

[Note: a number of years ago, LCHS was involved in the settlement of Vietnamese refugees in Allentown.]

The information above is taken and adapted from wording on the LIRS website at lirs.org. There is much more information available on the website about how to engage with LIRS in its activities and to donate to its work.

REFLECTION SPOTLIGHT

A Fifth Great Awakening

There have been four Great Awakenings, starting in the early 18th century and ending in the late 20th century. Great Awakenings were times marked by religious revival and increased religious enthusiasm. As part of the last Great Awakening, take for example the Jesus Movement of the 1960's and 70's that emphasized a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Robert Fogel writes about phases and cycles of Great Awakenings in his book *The Fourth Great Awakening* – “Great Awakenings begin with religious revival, propelled by the tendency of new technological advances outpacing the human capacity to cope with ethical and practical complexities that those new technologies entail.” Does that sound like we may be ready for a fifth Great Awakening?

In 2 Chronicles 6 God answers Solomon’s prayer during a time of special need for an Awakening “.....if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” In today’s time of special need for an Awakening, pray this month that God will hear our petition for healing:

Gracious, loving, and healing God,
Have mercy on us and overlook our mistakes,
Thank you for our lives and for your creation,
Help us to seek you rather than pronounce judgement, denounce others, and think we can fix things on our own. Amen.

The First Great Awakening led to the American western frontier. Where do you think the Fifth will lead?

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