

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

- **Christmas Ingathering Collection, November 5th – 26th:** Details below.
- **Love for the Least, November 26th – January 21st:** Fundraising for the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU in Tanzania. See description below and the December Outreach newsletter for information on how you can participate in this appeal.

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

Christmas Ingathering



The Lehigh Mission District Ingathering Program for 2023 is underway. As we have done for the previous three years, *Holy Spirit will be providing the “unwrapped” portion of gifts for two agencies – Daybreak and the Topton Home.* The following lists represent those items we have been asked to collect. There will be designated bins for each agency in the **Fellowship Center Lobby** starting November 5th. Please place your donations in the designated bins. ***We will collect from November 5th through November 26th.***

We are also collecting 65 gifts for the children at Topton. Below you will see the link for the Sign-up Genius to select your gift. Be sure to read the details of the Topton gift selections and instructions for gift value and wrapping.

Daybreak

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Shampoo / Conditioner
Shower Gel / Body Wash (unisex)
Shaving Cream
Disposable Razors
Hand Lotion
Shower Curtains
Pillows (standard size – NEW)

Pillowcases (standard size – NEW)
Sheets (Twin & Full – NEW)

Topton Home

Sand Art Bottles (small)
Colored Sand
Jars of Bubbles
Children's Board Games
Large Gift Bags (non-holiday)
Tissues
Stickers
Colored Construction Paper
Rolls of Large White Paper (to trace kids for prep lessons)
Crayons (regular or large size)
Fidget Toys (spinners, cubes and poppers)

GIFTS FOR CHILDREN AT THE LUTHERAN HOME AT TOPTON

This year we will collect 65 gifts for children in the foster care program at Tipton Home. Please keep gifts to a value of \$20-\$25. Gifts should be placed in a seasonal gift bag – **NO GIFT WRAP**, please. Gifts can be placed in the designated bin in the **Fellowship Center LOBBY** beginning November 5th. Gift sign-ups will be done via the Sign-Up Genius using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA8A82FA4F8C16-44571761-2023>.

Follow the instructions to sign-up. If you have any problems, please contact Alice Mudge at 610-400-5349. Thank you for sharing the spirit of Christmas with these children.

Merry
Christmas

Thank you for your kind and generous support of the
2023 Christmas Ingathering Program.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO THE
CHURCH *until the bins are in place*: NOVEMBER 5th.**

Love for the Least

CARING FOR NEWBORNS



Neonatal intensive care – a means of survival for very ill babies. In Tanzania, neonatal diseases remain the #1 cause of death, resulting in more annual deaths than any other disease or condition. While that is hard to believe, the good news is you can help change that statistic. For the Advent to Epiphany period (**November 26 through January 21**), Holy Spirit will be **fundraising for the NICU** at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. To save the lives of pre-term and critically ill babies, the NICU focuses on innovative, low-cost, low-tech care. Last year, the NICU treated about 350 children, with an average stay of 19 days each, for a total cost of \$250k. The entire annual budget for all the free and subsidized care at the NICU is equivalent to the cost of treating just one critically ill baby in a US NICU for three weeks. And the Arusha NICU's survival rate is over 92%. That outcome is the highest in Tanzania and among the best in Africa.

Going beyond day-to-day life-saving work, the Arusha NICU is offering neonatal-care training to Tanzanian nurses and doctors, and it also sponsors an annual Neonatology Conference to share the best care techniques among hundreds of attendees from many African countries. That means more babies' lives saved across the whole continent because of what starts in Arusha.

We'll be giving you more information in Holy Happenings over the next few weeks and in the December Outreach Newsletter on how you can participate in this appeal. In the meantime, just think about this: to save a baby's life - a cost to donors of less than \$70 per neonate day or less than \$1,000 for a neonate's entire stay.



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARIES

Kafika House – Transforming Childhood

On Sunday October 22nd, Sarah Rejman visited Holy Spirit as part of a short visit to the USA from her duties in Tanzania. Sarah is the Director of Kafika House, as she was for its predecessor, the Plaster House. She gave a short temple talk at the early and late services and “wowed” the audience in the Fellowship Center as she described the expansion of the treatment facilities over the past few years and the plans for further expansion over the next few years.





Kafika House now has two facilities and is preparing to open a third facility for treating children with correctable disabilities. About 1200 children are treated each year now, with expansion plans to treat up to 3000 children a year. Pre-surgery strengthening, surgery, and post-surgical recovery and rehabilitation cost about \$1000 per child and take up to 90 days of care. Holy Spirit members have contributed to Plaster House in the past and look forward to sending children back to their communities in the future, whole and full of hope.

Fall Fest Trunk or Treat

Our Fall Fest Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 22nd was a roaring success! We had almost 300 attendees from our church and the surrounding community not including numerous volunteers who made it all happen. It was a fun and safe way to enjoy the Halloween season with a day of music, crafts, games, food, and of course decorated trunks! Thank you to all who sponsored a trunk, all the volunteers, and all who came to enjoy and support the event.





Food Bank Garden



The 2023 growing season has officially ended for our Food Bank Garden. The recipients of the fresh veggies who participated in the Grace Lutheran Food Cupboard were so appreciative of our efforts. Thank you to everyone who helped especially Frank Egner, Carole Wetherhold, and Wilma Stewart! Garlic has already been planted for the 2024 growing season and we look forward to seeing it sprout in early spring.

If you'd like to help with the garden during the next growing season please contact John Mosovsky at 484-264-6151, vistafarm@ptd.net

Outreach Mission Team Action Groups and Leaders

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 OR Pastor Tami at prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org

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