

We are a Reconciling in Christ and Rejoicing Spirits Congregation

3461 Cedar Crest Blvd. Emmaus, PA 18049 610-967-2220

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UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>March 20</u> Mid-Week Lenten Service

> <u>March 24</u> Palm Sunday

<u>March 28</u> Maundy Thursday

> <u>March 29</u> Good Friday

<u>March 31</u> Easter Sunday

HOLY <u>HAPPENINGS</u>

Sunday, March 17, 2024

*8:30 am Spirit Worship 9:00 -10:30 am Breakfast 9:30 am Family Service, CAT Class, High School Connect 9:55 am Sunday School 10:00 am Sermon/Gospel Replay *10:30 am Spirit Worship

Nursery Care is available at all morning services.

*Our 8:30 & 10:30 am worship services are on Zoom.

If you are worshipping with us on Zoom, please remember to have bread, grape juice, or wine available and ready for digital communion. <u>Zoom Link</u>: Meeting ID: 511 504 8051 Audio only: 929-205-6099

Bulletins are available on the <u>website</u> prior to the Sunday service for those who wish to follow along.

If you are interested in watching the Pastor's sermon and listening to the Gospel, please visit our <u>website</u> and click on the "Watch a video recorded Sunday service" button.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE					
	In-person Zoom				
Mid-Week Lenten Service					
7:00 pm	37	N/A			
March 10, 2024					
8:30 am	122	12			
9:30 am	94	N/A			
10:30 am	63	19			
2:30 pm	38	N/A			
March 17 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM		
Assisting Ministers	Eric Kahler		Vi Ballard		
Communion Assistants	Lorie Stout Sherman JoEllen Rooney	Jennifer Wetzel	Jackie Leipert		
Readers	Susan Reiss	Weston B.	Ava Killingsworth		
Children's Message		John and Theo			
Greeters	Rob Sandoval	Rob Sandoval	Victor Schmidt		
Ushers	Chuck Whirl	Rob Sandoval	Brenda Truhe		
Production/ Technology	Kristen Newill Bill Newill Volunteer Needed	Jimmy Lee Werley Eric Kahler	Robert Neitz Volunteers Needed		

SUNDAY BREAKFASTS - March through May 2024

Breakfast will be served from 9:00 -10:30am in the Fellowship Center on the following Sundays, with all proceeds going to the National Youth Gathering being held this summer in New Orleans, LA. Here is the schedule:

- March 17th (hosted by Church Council)
- April 21st (hosted by Worship and Finance Mission Teams)
- May 19th (New Member Welcome hosted by Church Growth Team)

Stop by anytime to enjoy breakfast and fellowship.

STITCH AND CHAT As you look around the church Sunday morning you will see the 70 quilts created by members of the Stitch and Chat group. After being blessed, the quilts will be delivered to New Bethany Ministries, The Cay Galgon Life House, and Laundry on Linden. The quilts are able to be made by using fabric donations, offerings from the Sunday School classes, and donations from members of the congregation. This year we also received a Thrivent Action Team Grant and used it to help purchase the fiberfill batting needed for each quilt.

Come and join us! The Stitch and Chat group meets the second Monday and last Wednesday of each month in Room 113 from 9:30 to 12:00 to create quilts for those who need them. During the sessions we tie the quilts after adding the batting and back, cut fabric, prepare kits to be taken home to sew, and design tops. We can also use home sewers who like to create quilt tops. Contact Linda Letts (<u>letts@ptd.net</u>) or Nancy McClain (<u>nancymcclain16@gmail.com</u>) if interested for more information. We would love for you to join us!





EASTER EGG FILLERS NEEDED

We are asking for donations of egg fillers (stickers, tattoos, bouncy balls, **peanut and nut free candy**, etc. for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Donations can be placed in the marked donation bin in the Fellowship Center

Lobby by Sunday, March 17. Thank you.

EASTER EGG FILLING – Please join us on Sunday, **March 17th** and Sunday, **March 24th** in room 117/119 at 10:00 am as we gather to fill the Easter eggs for our annual egg hunt. Many hands make this a quick process.

LCHS BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting will be Monday, **March 18** at 11 am in Room 117/119. We will be discussing: The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict.

Coming Attractions... April 22 Selection: The Guncle by Steven Rowley. The May 20 Selection is: Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult.

Everyone is welcome. Please join us!

<u>VBS DECORATING SESSION</u> Planning for our 2024 VBS has begun. Come out, think summer, and connect with others as we create the decorations that will be used for Surf Shack VBS. The March date for decorating is **Tuesday**, **March 19th** from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Please enter at the church office entrance. No artistic skills required. Catechism students receive service hours for participating.



MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE "JOURNEY TO PEACE" Join us Wednesday for a family-friendly evening of fellowship and worship as we explore and pray about ways to find peace in our hearts, our relationships, our communities, our country, and our world.

March 20 6:15 Easter Chimes Rehearsal (children) NO SOUP SUPPER – ANGEL NETWORK IN FC 7:00 Worship with Prayer Stations 7:30 Spirit Ringers Rehearsal



<u>CHILDREN'S EASTER CHIMES</u> We are inviting our elementary children (K-5) to share their musical talents on Easter Sunday at 9:45 am by joining our

Children's Chime Choir. Rehearsals are Wednesday, **March 20** from 6:15 – 6:45 pm and Wednesday, **March 27** from 6:15 – 6:45 pm. Rehearsals will be held in the Music Room. Any questions, contact Sharon MacCabe at <u>maccabe@holyspirit-emmaus.org</u>.



PRIME TIMERS EVENTS FOR MARCH

Thursday, March 21st - **BOOK CLUB** will meet in the All Saints Room at 10:00 am to discuss "*The Personal Librarian*" by Maria Benedict. A story about the J.P. Morgan's personal librarian, a

black American forced to pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation.

Wednesday, March 27th – PRIME TIMER'S COFFEE HOUR

10:00 am in the Fellowship Center. It's very important that as seniors we get out and socialize. It's good for our mental and emotional well-being. We are reviving our Coffee hour so come out, bring a friend, and try a new challenge, "Name that movie", enjoy fellowship and goodies will be served. Bring your own coffee. We also have trivia and you will hear about the activities for April. **BLOOMIN' FAITH** Thank you for your support of Bloomin' Faith, our monthly flower ministry, which reaches all members of our church family no matter what their age: those who are grieving, those facing difficulties, and those celebrating milestones. If you have a recipient in mind, please let Pr. Tami know. **Upcoming delivery dates are March 23 and April 27.** Please let us know if you are able to help on the <u>sign up genius form.</u> If you have any questions or comments, please contact Leesa Wimmer or Lisa Walton.

WORSHIP HELPERS NEEDED

Are you willing to volunteer once a month or on a more regular basis? If you'd like to volunteer please click the link below:

<u>Communion Assistants</u> <u>Ushers/Greeters</u> for the 11:00 am Easter Service <u>Technology Production Team</u>



<u>The Knitting In Faith Group</u> will be offering Pocket Prayer Crosses on Good Friday and Easter Sunday to members and friends of Holy Spirit. The crosses will be available in baskets in the narthex.



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISER: ENVELOPES OF PRAYER

Thank you so much for your support! To date, we have raised \$7,275 toward our trip to the national youth gathering through our prayer envelopes.

We continue to look for more prayer partners so that each one of our sixteen participants have the same number of people praying for them!

Please consider taking an envelope to pray for our participants without contributing any money. Your well wishes and prayers mean so much to us!

You can pick up an envelope with a bio in it through the church office during business hours or on Sunday morning outside the worship center.

Our finance team will accept envelopes with money in them through March 24th.

If you have an envelope with no money, please drop them off on Sunday mornings to the basket in the high school connect room or give them to Amber O'Brien. Thank you!





EASTER CANDY SALES ARE BACK!

We will be selling our delicious homemade candy at all three services on **March 24th!** They look great in Easter baskets and taste even better! This year you can purchase chocolate covered pretzels and bunny bark! **Be sure to bring cash** with you on Sunday,

March 24 so you can get some of these goodies!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR AMAZING YOUTH AND ADULTS GOING TO NEW ORLEANS FOR THE ELCA YOUTH GATHERING IN JULY!

WORLD HUNGER APPEAL During this Lenten Season we are focusing on supporting the ELCA World Hunger effort. Ending hunger is about more than just providing food; it is about providing a road to long-term sustainability and change. The ELCA is actively involved in: connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water; provide education, health care and sources of income to bring about long-term sustainability.

Here are the various ways you can donate:

- Go to the Holy Spirit on-line donation form <u>here</u> and enter your donation amount on the World Hunger line.
- Use your weekly offering envelope by entering "World Hunger" and your donation amount on the Special Gifts line or use the special Lenten Offering envelope, contributions to which will go to World Hunger this year.
- Send your check to the church office payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, noting World Hunger on the check memo line.

Your donations will be life supporting, sustaining, and appreciated. Thank you!

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

We begin our annual drive to support these local non-profit organizations that devote resources to families in need and homeless **men**. Our collections will continue through the month of March. Please place your donations in the designated bins located in the lobby outside the Fellowship Center.

We are collecting the following items for:

Allentown Rescue Mission (all items for men): Men's Watches, Alarm clocks, Notebooks, Men's Wallets

Sixth Street Shelter:

Mops, Cleaning detergents, 2-gallon buckets, Rags

If you have questions regarding the collections please call Carole Wetherhold (610-965-0875).



SPRING BIBLE STUDY There are many books of the bible that we hear little about. One of those is 1 Peter. Come explore this epistle (or letter) with us, which, though short, has much to say about how God's people are trusted, called, and made holy to proclaim him. It also includes advice about relationships and suffering. Join us for this five-

week study on Monday evenings from 7 - 8pm in Room 110/112 starting on **April 8th and ending on May 6th**. Whether you are a regular participant, or someone newly interested, all are welcome.

YOUTH - MARK YOUR CALENDARS! NEW ORLEANS YOUTH GATHERING MEETING DATES We will meet from 11:30-1:00 pm on these dates: April 14, 2024 May 19, 2024 June 9, 2024

Rejoicing Spirit

REJOICING SPIRITS

Please mark your calendar and bring your family and friends to these upcoming Rejoicing Spirits events:

April 14th – Easter Pageant
May 12th – Recognition of Mother's Day
June 9th – In celebration of 16 years of ministry, Rejoicing Spirits will have its monthly service at 10:30 am in the Worship Center.
ALL are welcome! Watch for more details.

Masks are optional at these services.

APRIL COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT OPPORTUNITIES

9:30 - 10:15 am

April 7th - Please join us for updates from Church Council on a number of critical activities that are in progress. Included will be updates on the Call Process for a Senior Pastor, the search process for a new Director of Music, financial updates through the first guarter and more.



<u>April 14th</u> - Come and hear from our youth who are attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July.



SPRING GROUNDS CLEAN-UP

We will be cleaning up the grounds at Holy Spirit on **April 20, April 27** with a rain date of May 4th. Your help is

needed from 9:00 am – Noon to weed, rake leaves out of beds, prepare areas for mulch, spread mulch, etc. Please bring your own rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, pitch forks, work gloves and any other items you think might be needed. Please come at 9:00 am if you are willing to help. Trash bags, cans and water will be available.



April 21st 9:30-10:20 am All Saints Room

* open session.... stop in anytime throughout the hour *

Have questions about LCHS? The Lutheran faith? How to become a member? Join Pr. Tami and members of the Church Growth Team to hear about our church community and discuss your questions.

HOLY SPIRIT CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL Registration for



the 2024-2025 school year is underway for church members and the community. Registrations can be completed online at: <u>lchsemmaus.org</u>. Tell your friends. Don't want to wait until next year, limited openings remain for the current school year. Please see Karin Kahler for additional information.



Please remember these members and friends of Holy Spirit in your prayers

Our homebound members: Ray, Dale, Judith, Phyllis, Deb, John, Joyce, Dick, Linda, Gordon, Christopher, Grayson, Jean, Norine, Billie, Trevor, Bob, and Don.

Pray for God's healing for: Randy, Al, Norma, John, Joe, Jane, Kevin, Rosenia, Janice, Scott, Carolyn, Vickie, Glenn, Jane, Violet, John, Reinhold, Ed, Nancy, Andrew, Jen, Lester, Nancy, Liz, Tom, Bob, Royal, Sharon, Tom, Nancy, Fred, Jack, Julio, Wilma, Jim, Cat, Chuck, Sherri, June, and Judith.

In times of sorrow for the family and friends of Fred.

In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency, you find you are in emergency need of having a pastor contact you, call the office at 610-967-2220 and press the number 3 after the general announcement.

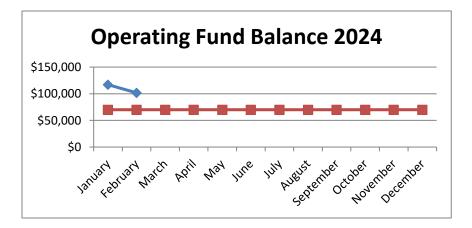
February Financial Results and Discussion

Operating Performance:

February's income was \$77,755, \$1,962 or 2.5% under budget. Operating expenses were \$93,100, \$3,727 or 4.17% over budget. We finished February with a \$15,345 deficit, compared to a budgeted deficit of \$9,656.

The graph below presents our operating cash balance shown against our monthly cash requirements.

- Straight Line at \$70,000: This represents our monthly cash requirement to operate the church.
- Upper Line: This represents our current operating cash balance at the end of each month.



Building Fund: The building fund increased \$5,665 during the month and has a balance of \$24,709.

Spirit Led Spirit Alive: The Spirit Led Spirit Alive fund had a \$20,000 principal paydown of the mortgage in February leaving a balance of \$5,540. The remaining funds will be used to pay the mortgage until the balance is depleted.



Reserve the Date April 13, 2024 3 to 5 pm "Stories and Song"

sic fee Come and celebrate the musical tenure of our Music Director, Sharon MacCabe Questions? Please contact Glenn Hinderliter.



Summer 2024 Vacation Bible School June 17 – 21 from 9:15 – 11:45 am

> VBS Registration Forms and Volunteer Forms are available on the Children's Ministry Table in the lobby

Group Outing to Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs July 12 at 7:05 pm Watch for the sign up after Easter





Holy Spirit is a place of welcome for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and their families, friends and allies. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation. All Are Welcome!



PALM SUNDAY: March 24

*8:30 am Service 9:30 am Family Service *10:30 am Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY: March 28

12:00 pm Service 7:00 pm – Service with Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY: March 29

Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm Service 7:00 pm Service

EASTER WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION: March 31

8:30 am Spirit Led 9:45 am Family Easter Celebration 10:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt for children through 5th grade 11:00 am Festival Worship

Childcare will be available at all Easter services

* In person and on Zoom

This year's Good Friday services will focus on the Stations of the Cross. The liturgy includes a series of Bible Readings telling the story of Jesus' journey to the cross on Good Friday. Each Bible passage will be depicted through art on the screens. You do not need to move to different stations. You will be invited to meditate on the art as you hear the Readings and listen to the message that follows each Reading.

CALENDARSun. 3/1710:00 amEaster Egg Filling (117/119)11:30 amYouth Easter Candy making			
	10:00	(117/119)	
	11:30	. , .	
3:00 pm Angel Network (FC)	3:00 p		
5:00 pm Girl Scout 689 (110/112)	5:00 p	•	
Mon. 3/18 10:00 am Counters (116)	10:00		
11:00 am LCHS Book Group (117/119)	11:00	o (117/119)	
7:00 pm Finance Committee (116)	7:00 p	e (116)	
7:00 pm Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)	7:00 p	(ASR & 117/119)	
Tues. 3/19 9:15 and 12:40 NS Chapel (WC)			
10:00 am Staff Meeting (117/119)			
6:30 pm VBS Decorating (110/112)	6:30 p		
7:00 pm Congregation Council (117/119)	-	• • •	
7:00 pm Community Justice Panel (SC)	•	e Panel (SC)	
Weds. 3/20 9:15 am NS Chapel (WC)			
9:30 am M&M's Too (117/119)		•	
5:00 pm GS 63034 (110/112)	-	•	
6:15 pm Children's Easter Chimes (WC)	-		
7:00 pm Mid-Week Lenten Service (WC)	-	• •	
7:30 pm Spirit Ringers (WC)	-	•	
Thurs. 3/21 10:00 am Prime Timer's Book Group (ASR)			
11:00 am Outreach Mission Team (Zoom)		• •	
5:30 pm 8:30 Musicians (WC) 6:30 pm Music Rehearsal (WC)	-	•	
Fri. 3/22 10:00 am Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)	•	•	
Sat. 3/23 9:30 am Bloomin' Faith (Parking Lot)			
10:00 am Palm Stripping (SC)			
11:00 am Paul Brndjar Service		-	
Sun. 3/24 10:00 am Easter Egg Filling (117/119)			
		Counters (116)	
Tues. 3/26 9:15 and 12:40 NS Chapel (WC)			
10:00 am Staff Meeting (117/119)		•	
Weds. 3/27 9:15 am NS Chapel (WC)	9:15 a	, .	
9:30 am Stitch-n-Chat (113)	9:30 a	3)	
10:00 am Prime Timer's Coffee Hour (FC)	10:00	fee Hour (FC)	
6:15 pm Children's Easter Chimes (Music Room)	6:15 p	Chimes (Music Room)	
7:00 pm Spirit Ringers (WC)	7:00 p	C)	
Thurs. 3/28 Maundy Thursday Services at Noon & 7:00 pm	Thurs. 3/28 Maundy Thursday Services at Noon & 7:00		
Fri. 3/29 9:00 am Decorating			
Good Friday Services at Noon & 7:00 pm		-	
Noon Church Office Closing	Noon	osing	