

OUTREACH OUTLOOK

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Issue #42 March 2024

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

- **Sixth Street Shelter and Allentown Rescue Mission Collection** – During the month of March. Details below.
- **Angel Network** – February laundry detergent collection follow-up. See details below.
- **ELCA World Hunger Appeal** – During Lent, February 14th through March 27th. Details Below
- **Sunday School Outreach** – Details below under “Outreach Opportunities”
 - ELCA God's Global Barnyard, February 11th – March 24th
- **Summer Lehigh Mission District Ingathering Collection** - During the month of April. Details will be in the April Newsletter
- **Through These Hands Collection** – During the Month of May. Details will be in the May Newsletter
- **Spring Mission Trip** – May 5-9. Details below.

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

Sixth Street Shelter and Allentown Rescue Mission

We begin our annual drive to support these local non-profit organizations that devote resources to families in need and homeless men. The Eastern Pennsylvania Continuums of Care's Point in Time (PIT) Count of individuals experiencing homelessness in January 2023 was 2,024. Previous PIT counts reported roughly two-thirds of this number represented individuals in Allentown.

Our collections will continue through the month of March. Please place your donations in the designated area located in the lobby outside the Fellowship Center.

We are collecting the following items for the **Allentown Rescue Mission** (all items for men):

Watches
Alarm clocks
Notebooks
Wallets

We are collecting the following items for the **Sixth Street Shelter**:

Mops
Cleaning detergents
2-gallon buckets
Rags

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

Angel Network February Collection Follow-up

EHS Angel Network



Hello Holy Spirit!

We collected 50 laundry detergents during our February collection. Thank you! But we are planning for 140 families this spring for our give-a-way. If you were planning to help with this effort, please drop off your items in the bins outside the Fellowship Center. EHS Angel Network could not provide our students and their families with these food/hygiene baskets without your generosity.

Thanks so much for helping to give them “a little breather” this Easter! You are the VERY best!

ELCA World Hunger Appeal



During this Lenten Season we are focusing our support on the ELCA World Hunger effort.

Over 821 million people in the world, 11% of the world’s population, are hungry. In the United States alone over 40 million people are unsure where their next meal is coming from.

The ELCA World Hunger program is making a difference around the world. 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.

In 2019, ELCA World Hunger support topped \$23 million in aid. The ELCA World Hunger program is active in 62 countries in the world including the United States. Projects supported by the ELCA World Hunger program include:

Establishing health clinics

Providing micro loans

Building water wells

Establishing animal husbandry programs

Providing community meals

Establishing advocacy programs to influence country and local governments

The ELCA World Hunger programs provides valuable assistance around the globe. This program depends on financial support from ELCA congregations like Holy Spirit. We can help support these efforts during this Lenten season. Matthew 25:35 states this best; “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”

Here are the various ways you can donate:

- Go to the Holy Spirit on-line donation form [here](#) 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!

ELCA has also developed new resources to support the Lenten theme of “The glory of the Lord shall be revealed” with a Lent Calendar which can be found [here](#) and a Lent Study which can be found [here](#).

Sunday School Outreach



Our Lenten collection from February 11th – March 24th will be monetary donations for God’s Global Barnyard, an ELCA World Hunger initiative. The program is designed to break the cycle of hunger and poverty by providing animals to families in need. The Sunday School children will receive a barn bank to fill with coins, paper money and checks. A donation of just \$10 provides for the purchase of chicks. The chicks begin to lay eggs within a few months and provide the family with protein rich meals. If an additional bank is needed, please see Karin Kahler.

Spring Mission Trip

Adult Volunteers Needed!

Holy Spirit’s spring mission trip is taking shape. We will be working in the York, PA area helping to repair homes that have been flooded. We will be traveling to York on **Sunday May 5th and returning Thursday afternoon May 9th**. We will be staying at Camp Friendly Acres which is a camp run by Advent Lutheran Church in York. If you can only work part of this period, we do have opportunities to coordinate carpools with other individuals. There will be work to do for all skill levels. Please contact Bob Mueller (610-442-7892) if you have any questions.

Denise Rohrbach

The past January issue of the Outreach Newsletter included a tribute to Denise who passed away on December 18th, 2023. Denise was a dedicated servant member of our congregation and the Outreach Mission Team. She was always on the lookout for ways to help our neighbors in need and always willing to jump in, take the lead, and make a difference. We give thanks for her being a part of our lives and we celebrate her life.

CELEBRATION
OF LIFE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

DENISE
ROHRBACH

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

10:00 AM Calling hour
11:00 AM Service
Light Appetizers to follow
in the Fellowship Center

OCTOBER
7TH
1954

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DECEMBER
18TH
2023

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARIES

Sunday School Outreach



Our Sunday School and preschool students recently collected toothbrushes and toothpaste for children in the Allentown School District. A total of 272 toothbrushes and 186 tubes of toothpaste were donated. Thank you for your generous hearts!

SPOT LIGHT on ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION

The Allentown Rescue Mission has been a benevolence partner of our congregation for many years. We support their goals to rescue, rehabilitate, and restore homeless men. Our support includes monetary benevolence as well as in-kind collections such as the one highlighted above for the month of March. The Rescue Mission is a non-denominational, social services organization that provides critically-needed goods and services to homeless men regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, or religion. They have been helping those less fortunate for over 100 years!

A review of our social ministry archives found a November 1990 issue of *A Resting Place*, a publication of the Rescue Mission. An article titled “Homeless on Thanksgiving” asked these two questions, “Are the homeless of the Allentown Rescue Mission thankful? Or are they bitter, sad, and lonely?” Here were some responses when asked “What are you thankful for?”

“I am thankful for the Bible.”

“I’m thankful for the place here, and what the people have done for me.

I’m thankful for my job.”

“I am thankful that I have a place to stay and 3 square meals a day.

That may sound corny but it’s the truth.”

“I am thankful for being alive. Every day I get up; I’m thankful for that.”

“I am thankful for having the Mission and a place to eat and sleep, and having clothes.”

The Apostle Paul wrote, “*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION!

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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