



**We are an ELCA,
Reconciling in Christ,
Rejoicing Spirits, and
handicap friendly
congregation.**

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

info@holyspirit-
emmaus.org
www.lchsemmaus.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12

Coffee, Tea, Connect
Rejoicing Spirits

January 13

Annual Reports Due

January 22

Bible Study

January 26

Council Forum
Sacred Space Worship
Soup, Games, Conversation

HOLY HAPPENINGS

Sunday, January 12, 2025

***8:30 am Worship**

9:30 am Family Worship

Coffee, Tea, Connect

CAT Class, High School Connect

10:00 am Sunday School

Gospel Reading/Sermon Replay

***10:30 am Worship**

2:30 pm Rejoicing Spirits

**Nursery Care is available at all
morning services in Room 113.**

***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.

[Zoom Link](#): Meeting ID: 511 504 8051

Audio only: 929-205-6099

Bulletins are available on the [website](#)
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 [website](#) and
click on the "Watch a video recorded
Sunday service" button.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

January 5, 2025	In-person	Zoom
8:30 am	126	20
9:30 am	62	N/A
10:30 am	80	11

January 12 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM
Assisting Ministers	Lorie Stout Sherman		Marian Snyder
Communion Assistants	Beth Fatzinger Dave Fatzinger	3 Volunteers needed	Jackie Leipert Dianna Olszewski
Readers	Lorie Stout Sherman	Landon S.	Marian Snyder
Children's Message		Video	
Greeters	Carol Walrod	John McClain	Nancy Slimmer
Ushers	Don Walrod	John McClain	Rick Slimmer
Production/ Technology	Al Bauernschmidt Eric Kahler Bill Newill	Eric Kahler Bill Newill	Robert Neitz Bill Newill Kristen Newill

JANUARY 12 COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT We will welcome Louise Haines on Sunday, January 12th in the Fellowship Center. Louise will share with us about a new ministry in Allentown called the Neighborhood House. A group of Lutheran Churches have joined together to provide a warm place and meal for unhoused persons during colder weather months on Sunday mornings. On this day our Outreach team will be providing the meals and the hospitality for those gathering. Come and learn, be open to the ways you can also enter into this ministry.

REJOICING SPIRITS The next Rejoicing Spirits service is Sunday, January 12 at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center. It will include the story of the Baptism of Jesus with the special message of "Washed in God's Love" and includes the Rejoicing Ringers Handbell Choir. Please join us and stay for the reception which follows in the Fellowship Center. Invite your family and friends. All Are Welcome!

ANNUAL REPORTS are due to the church office no later than Monday, **January 13th** in preparation for our **annual congregational meeting on February 9th**. Reports should be brief with highlights of the year's accomplishments. Please email your reports to Nikki in the church office at clark@holyspirit-emmaus.org. Thank you.



Holy Spirit Christian Nursery School priority registrations for the 2025-2026 school year will be accepted on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 5:00 – 6:00 pm Room 117/119. Priority registration is for Holy Spirit members, current students, and siblings of current students. Registration will open to the community on Thursday, January 16th. Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) with any questions.

SUNDAY CAT CLUB TEACHERS NEEDED

During the month of February, our elementary Sunday School classes participate in CAT Club. Each class studies a portion of Luther's Small Catechism. An opportunity exists for two adults to lead each class. Materials are provided. Please [contact Karin Kahler](#) if you are interested in serving in this role.

SOS – SUPPORT OUR SISTERS As we move from 2024 to 2025, we often wish others “Happy New Year”. We hope you can help us make 2025 happy for girls in Tanzania by contributing to their safety and education. Please make a donation online, by Venmo, or by check to Holy Spirit, noting that the donation is to Support Our Sisters. Or, take an ornament off one of the Giving Trees and make a donation in memory or honor of someone.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Prayer and Service: Jan. 20th

Co-sponsored by the Synod [Racial Justice Team](#), the Synod [LGBTQ Task Force](#), and the [Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley](#), this event will bring people together to honor the legacy of the great civil rights leader. We will begin at 10:00am at The Lutheran Center in the sanctuary for worship. This will be followed by opportunities to participate in various service projects and conclude with lunch together. You can find out more on the [NEPA Synod Website](#).



BIBLE STUDY Starting on Jan. 22nd for 6 weeks we will gather Wednesdays at 2:00pm in Rooms 110/112 to explore *Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in a House Divided and a world on Fire*. This curriculum was put together for LAMPA by Dr. Lori Brandt Hale. LCHS Member leaders will lead participants in grappling with the world's deep

divisions, asking the questions about what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ in the midst of the divides. Dietrich Bonhoeffer's life and writings give us great insight to the struggle of figuring out what is the next most faithful step in a broken world with imperfect systems.

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Movie Group will meet at 10:00 am in the All Saints Room on Tuesday, January 21. We will be watching "You've Got Mail" and go to lunch afterwards.

Book Group will be reviewing the book, "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus, in the All Saints Room at 10:00 am on Thursday, January 23. Read "The Magnolia Castle" by Fiona Davis for our February meeting.

Coffee Hour Join us for fun, trivia, health tips, Elsie's fresh baked goods and coffee on Wednesday, January 29th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center. All Are Welcome!

See our bulletin board in the hallway for more information on our trips and events.

LEARNING MINISTRIES DAY - SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2025

(snow date, Saturday, February 1, 2025) **Theme: "What does it mean to be a Christian in a culture that challenges our faith?"** The day includes panel discussion with several different area professionals and those who attend can choose from several different Workshops being offered. **Location: Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield ~ Cost \$35.00. Registration Deadline is January 13. Find out more by visiting NE PA Synod website or by clicking [here](#).**

COUNCIL FORUM 2025 Budget Overview - January 26th

Please plan to join members of Congregation Council and the Finance Team on Sunday, January 26th from 9:30-10:15 for an overview of the proposed 2025 revenue and expense budgets. A copy of the 2024 Annual Report including the proposed 2025 budget will be emailed to members of the congregation during the second half of January prior to this forum. We will also provide a summary of 2024 financial results as part of this discussion. The proposed 2025 budget will be voted on by the congregation at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 9th (12:00pm start time).



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 January 25, February 22 and March 22.** Ways you can help: Donations: branches, small pinecones and evergreen are welcomed this time of year. Drop off in the church kitchen before 10 am the Friday the bouquets are made. Arrange: bouquets are created the Friday morning before delivery in the church kitchen. Deliver: drivers are needed to pick up and deliver 2-4 bouquets

Please let us know if you are able to help by [signing up here](#). If you have questions, please contact Lisa Walton or Leesa Wimmer.



We all need a concerned, caring friend at difficult times in our lives. A Stephen Minister can listen and care for you or for someone you know who is going through a tough time. Call a Stephen Leader or the Pastor to learn more:

Kitti Berkheimer 610-509-1674

Mike Berkheimer 610-509-1673

Lynn Snyder 484-431-3958

Pastor Tami Reichley 610-967-2220 (ext.122)



GAME DAY - Join us for food, community and fun on Sunday, January 26th following the 10:30 Worship. Soup will be on. Bring your favorite new board and card games. We will share in laughter and conversation and together we learn and play.

SACRED SPACE (a new worship opportunity)

On Sunday January 26th, a new worship that will be happening quarterly, will take place in the All Saints Room at Noon. Meeting the needs of a less busy and more quiet space, this time of gathering will include scriptures, homily, prayers, and holy communion. Following this worship, please consider joining the meal and community time for conversation and games.



LCHS BOOK GROUP

Our first meeting date of the new year is: **Monday, January 27 at 11AM in Room 117/119** at LCHS. We will be discussing “**The Secret Life of Sunflowers**”, by Marta Molnar. Everyone is also

invited to bring their lunch to enjoy together after the meeting. Please join us!

Book Group Coming Attractions:

Feb. 24: **The Silent Patient** by Alex Michaelides;

March 24: **The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawhon



BEAR CREEK SUMMER CAMP

Bear Creek Camp's overnight program is centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living, and small group development for all children who have completed grades 1-12. Each age group experiences a mix of small-group and all-camp activities throughout the week to meet

their group's spiritual, social, and developmental needs. For more information, [click here](#).



CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AND CELEBRATED!

The Children's Ministry table and basket in the worship center lobby contains a variety of items for children's use during worship. Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

QUITTERS DAY The start of the new year is exciting and fresh, and many people set resolutions for the coming year. This enthusiasm can fade quickly and turn into what is often referred to as Quitters Day, which falls on the second Friday of January. However, this doesn't have to be seen as quitting or failing. Reflect on why you might be considering giving up. Were your goals made without a plan? Are they too ambitious or unclear? Perhaps you set too many goals? A sincere assessment of what you want to achieve and how to reach it is vital for success. If you need assistance, especially regarding health changes like weight loss, changing dietary habits, or starting an exercise program, consult your healthcare team for support. Making lifestyle changes can be challenging, so begin with smaller adjustments and take it one step and one day at a time. You can build on your progress as you achieve smaller goals. Good luck and keep pushing forward. Have a healthy, happy, and blessed New Year. ~ Dean Black, Faith Community Nurse

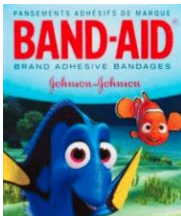
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a [Communion Assistant here](#).

Volunteer to be on the [Production/Technology team here](#).

Volunteer to be a Song Leader at 8:30 or 9:30 [here](#).

Volunteers choose what days they would like to serve. Training is available. You can also **call the church office** if you are interested in volunteering and Nikki will add you to the list.



SUNDAY SCHOOL COLLECTION

We will be collecting "child friendly" Band-Aids for local children's hospitals during the month of January.



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the event that in-person Sunday worship services are cancelled due to weather, power outage, etc., we will continue to hold worship that day with one online service at 10:00am via Zoom. Please check the church's website,

Facebook and/or MailChimp emails for updated news on worship cancellations. Information will also appear on WFMZ. Please remember the church office will follow the same schedule as the East Penn School District so if schools are closed, the office is closed. If there is a delayed start, the office opens on a delay.

Annual *meeting*

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING **Sunday, February 9th at 12:00 PM**

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual Congregation Meeting which will be held in the sanctuary (and on ZOOM) beginning at 12:00 PM on Sunday, February 9th. A light lunch will be available in the Fellowship Center following the 10:30 worship service prior to the meeting. A Council Forum to overview the 2025 revenue and expense budgets has also been scheduled on Sunday, January 26th during Coffee, Tea, Connect (9:30-10:15am).

Annual Meeting LUNCH

HELP NEEDED for the congregational meeting luncheon on February 9th.

A light lunch will be provided prior to the meeting. The hospitality team needs people who will be willing to donate an item for lunch. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the worship center lobby with the items that are needed. Your items may be brought to the church kitchen the morning of the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact [Linda Devine](#) or the church office. Thank you.



CHANGE IN WORSHIP TIMES STARTING FEBRUARY 2ND

The staff has been busy reviewing and making recommendations to the Council from the Worship Survey that was conducted in the middle of 2024. We heard and took seriously what you expressed about your worship experience here at Holy Spirit.

At the December Council meeting, a motion was made and passed to act on the following recommendations. We have included what we hope to accomplish with these changes.

Worship times will change to the following on Sunday, February 2nd:

8:30 Worship, 9:45 Family Worship, 10:45 Worship

What we hope to provide with the 15-minute change for our 2nd and 3rd Sunday morning worships: 8:30 worship to not feel rushed. Following 8:30 worship, plenty of time for pastor/member/visitor conversations. Allowing Altar Care and Production team time to prepare for the next worship. And adequate time for checking in with family worship leadership for the day.

Please note that starting on February 2nd, Faith Formation will begin at 9:45 for **Cat Class, Youth and Coffee-Tea-Connect**. The **Sunday School** time will follow the Family Worship, as is presently happening.

Along with this change we will also be moving the **Gospel/Sermon replay** into the All Saints Room. Through this change, we will be able to provide this opportunity every Sunday. This will free the worship space for any worship, music and program rehearsals that need to take place throughout the year.

May God continue to guide us,

Pastor Shari Duminy
Senior Pastor

Mike Berkheimer
Council President



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

Our homebound members: Ray, Dale, Helen, Judith, Phyllis, Dick, Gordon, Christopher, Grayson, Darla, Larry, Jean, Norine, Billie, Trevor, and Bob.

Pray for God's healing for: Our members and friends: Al, Joe, Faye, Fern, Joanne, Bob, Scott, Glenn, David, Joan, Judith, Jameson, Lester, Edward, Nancy, Nancy, Donna, Jan, Jayne, Carl, Nancy, Laura, Wilma, Chuck, Sherri, Wade, Margie, Don, Jimmy Lee, Charles, and Judith.

In times of sorrow for the family and friends of Dottie Levene.

Prayer Request Reminder: Prayers requested for a particular individual will be spoken by name at Sunday worship for one month following the date of the request. Should prayers be desired beyond this initial period, another request may certainly be made. The names of our homebound members will be offered in worship at least once a month.

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.

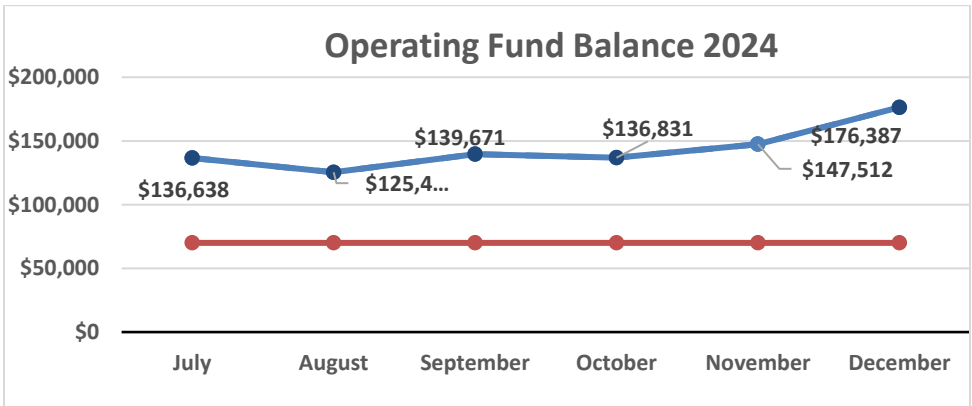
If you, or a member of your family, are ever hospitalized, please let the pastors know by contacting the church office at 610-967-2220. The hospitals no longer notify the church due to HIPAA laws.

Financial Results and Discussion – December 2024

Operating Performance: December's income was \$122,403, \$15,726 or 14.74% above budget, which we primarily attribute to members increasing their financial gifts in response to the Stepping Up 2025 stewardship campaign. Operating expenses were \$93,528, \$7,761 or 7.66% below budget. We finished December with a \$28,875 surplus, compared to a budgeted surplus of \$5,388. The graph below presents our operating cash balance shown against our monthly cash requirement July- December.

Thank you to everyone that continues to share their financial gifts in support of our ministries!

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



Building Fund: The building fund decreased \$2,745.74 during the month and has a balance of \$1,881.44.

Mortgage Update: The mortgage balance as of December 31, 2024, is \$367,881.5

CALENDAR

Sun. 1/12	1:50 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Spirits (WC)
Mon. 1/13	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	6:30 pm	Finance Committee (116)
	7:00 pm	RIC (Zoom)
Tues. 1/14	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	5:00 pm	NS Registration (117/119)
Weds. 1/15	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	9:30 am	M&M's Too (117/119)
	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts #63034 (110/112)
	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal (WC)
	7:00 pm	Strategic Planning Committee (116)
Thurs. 1/16	8:00 am	NS Registration (Lower Level)
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room/WC)
	6:30 pm	Mutual Ministry/Pr Tami (117)
Sun. 1/19	2:00 pm	Mink Estate HOA Mtg. (WC)
Mon. 1/20		Church Office Closed
Tues. 1/21	9:00 am	Counters (116)
	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Movie Group (ASR)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Congregation Council (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
Weds. 1/22	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	2:00 pm	Bible Study (110/112)
	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal (WC)
Thurs. 1/23	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Book Group (ASR)
	1:00 pm	Outreach Mission Team (Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room/WC)
Fri. 1/24	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)
Sat. 1/25	9:30 am	Bloomin' Faith (Parking Lot)