



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

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **January 5**

Coffee, Tea, Connect

#### **January 6**

Lunch w/Pastor Shari

#### **January 12**

Rejoicing Spirits

#### **January 13**

Annual Reports Due

#### **January 22**

Bible Study

# **HOLY HAPPENINGS**

## **Sunday, January 5, 2025**

**\*8:30 am Spirit Worship**

**9:30 am Family Service**

**Coffee, Tea, Connect**

**CAT Class, High School Connect**

**10:00 am Sunday School**

**Gospel Reading/Sermon Replay**

**\*10:30 am Spirit Worship**

**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

December 24, 2024	In-person	Zoom
3:00 pm	163	N/A
5:00 pm	143	N/A
7:30 pm	154	14
10:00 pm	139	11

December 29, 2024		
10:00 am	130	24

January 5 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Lindsey K.		Becky Leiby
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Linda Devine Angie Niland	Jennifer Wetzel Volunteers Needed	Alice Mudge Glynnis Rea
<b>Readers</b>	Mark Wimmer	Amelia M.	Joseph Burke
<b>Children's Message</b>		Melanie Werley	
<b>Greeters</b>	Lorie Stout Sherman	Lorie Stout Sherman	Fern Schlegel
<b>Ushers</b>	Becky Keane	Lorie Stout Sherman	Ken Schlegel
<b>Production/ Technology</b>	Chris Pirrotta Heather Hetrick Glenn Hinderliter	Craig Kauffman Glenn Hinderliter	Craig Kauffman Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

**COFFEE-TEA-CONNECT** On Jan. 5th we will gather in the Fellowship Center from 9:30 to 10:15. As we wrap up the Christmas Season, Vi Ballard will be using a resource from Max Lucado entitled, *Because of Bethlehem*. Come and join the discussion of what it means to have *Immanuel* - God with us in and throughout our lives.

**REJOICING SPIRITS** first service of the New Year will focus on the baptism of Jesus. The special message is "Washed In God's Love." Please join us at 2:30 pm on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> in the Worship Center. Following the service, there will be a reception in the Fellowship Center. Invite your family and friends. All Are Welcome!

**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 Spirits, 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.



**Lunch  
with  
Pastor  
Shari**

**FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
LUNCH BUNCH WITH PASTOR SHARI**

Bring your lunch and join with Pastor Shari in conversation from Noon to 1pm. We will meet again on **Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** in the Fellowship Center. Conversation will include thoughts of faith relating to the Epiphanies. Prayer will conclude our time together. If you can't make this month, our next gathering will be on February 3rd.

**JANUARY 12 COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT** will welcome Louise Haines on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** are due to the church office no later than Monday, **January 13<sup>th</sup>** in preparation for our **annual congregational meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto: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 in the preschool office on the lower level. Priority registration is for Holy Spirit members, current students, and siblings of

current students. Registration will open to the community on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Karin Kahler with any questions.

### **Elementary Sunday School Teachers Needed for February**

Each of our elementary Sunday School classes studies a different portion of Luther's Small Catechism. Two adults are needed for each class. Materials are provided. Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) if you are interested in serving in this role.

### **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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> (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.



**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** - 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



## **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.



### **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. Light refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Center following the 10:30 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 (9:30-10:15).



**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, Jean, Norine, Billie, Trevor, and Bob.

**Pray for God's healing for: Our members and friends:**

Al, Joe, Connie, Faye, Rod, Bob, Scott, Carolyn, Glenn, Joe, David, Joan, Judith, Jameson, Josh, Janie, Lester, Dottie, Linda, Edward, Nancy, Nancy, Donna, Diane, Jan, Jayne, Carl, Kim, Jed, Larry, Nancy, Laura, Wilma, Chuck, Sherri, Margie, Don, Charles, and Judith.

**In times of sorrow** for the family and friends of Jeff Quay, Louise Metka's son-in-law.

**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.

## **CALENDAR**

Mon. 1/6	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch w/ Pr Shari (FC)
	6:30 pm	Finance Committee (116)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)
Tues. 1/7	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Faith Formation/Children (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
Weds. 1/8	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)
	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts #63034 (110/112)
	7:00 pm	Faith Formation/Adults (Zoom)
Thurs. 1/9	7:00 pm	Staff Support (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Tech Team (Zoom)
Fri. 1/10	10:00 am	Decorating
Sat. 1/11	11:00 am	Girl Scouts (Upper Level Rooms)
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)
Tues. 1/14	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	5:00 pm	NS Registration (Lower Level)
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)
	7:00 pm	Strategic Planning Committee (116)
Thurs. 1/16	8:00 am	NS Registration (Lower Level)
	6:30 pm	Mutual Ministry/Pr Tami (117)