

Outreach Outlook

Issue #43 April 2024

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

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

- **Summer Lehigh Mission District Ingathering Collection** - During the month of April. Details below. **Sunday School Outreach** will also support this collection during April. Details below.
- **Spring Mission Trip** – May 5-9. Details below
- **Lutheran Day in the Capitol** – May 9th. Details below
- **Church Community Garden** – Update below
- **Through These Hands Collection** – During the Month of May. Details will be in the May Newsletter

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

Summer Ingathering

A new opportunity for Holy Spirit and the Lehigh Mission District



The Lehigh Mission District is requesting donations for a Summer Ingathering project this summer, a new opportunity to help meet the needs of our sister congregation, Holy Trinity Lutheran in Catasauqua. During the month of April, we will be collecting items to support the summer lunch program at Holy Trinity Lutheran in Catasauqua. *They provide free lunches in a local park to feed and support the children attending their community program during the summer months.*

We will be collecting the following items during April:

- Individual salty snack bags
- 16oz water bottles
- Walmart gift cards in \$10.00 increments (any amount for Holy Trinity to buy needed supplies for the summer program).

Donations can be placed in the bins located in the coat room of the Fellowship Center beginning April 7th and running through the 28th. Gift cards should be given to Nikki in the church office for safekeeping while the collections are ongoing. If you have any questions, please contact Alice Mudge at 610-400-5349.

Spring Mission Trip

Holy Spirit's spring mission trip is heading to York, PA to help repair homes damaged in recent flooding. 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 church camp run by Advent Lutheran Church in York. If you

can only work part of the week, we do have opportunities to coordinate carpools with other people. There will be work for all skill levels. Please contact Bob Mueller if you have any questions (610-442-7892).

Sunday School Outreach



Our Sunday School children continue their focus on spreading God's love and sharing with those in need. They recently concluded their Lenten collection of 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. We are anxious to share our total next month once we have counted all of the barn banks! **For the month of April, our Sunday School students will partner with the Outreach Mission Team and collect items for the Summer Ingathering. Donations of individual**

bags of salty snacks, 16 ounce water bottles and \$10 Walmart gift cards are needed. These donations will support the summer lunch program at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Catasauqua. Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Church Community Garden

- We have approximately 8 volunteers interested in helping with the garden. If you'd like to help, please contact Jeff Gross at jeffgross1@aol.com
- Straw mulch has been removed from the existing raised beds and we are letting soil dry out a bit before prepping it for planting
- Our garden is growing! We received approval for 2 additional raised beds. There is one new raised bed frame in the Lower Level outside storage room, and one additional frame will be purchased.
- We have received approval of the Community Garden effort as a Thrivent Action Team and we will be receiving a \$250 gift credit card to be used to acquire the second new raised bed frame and other plant materials/stock
- Garlic planted in the fall has wintered well and will be harvested in mid-summer. First spring crops will be onions, radishes and salad mix. Peppers, eggplant, and perhaps beans likely to follow later.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARIES

Angel Network



EHS Angel Network helped 143 families with a food distribution on March 20th and Holy Spirit was a big part of the success! We met our goal for this distribution of canned goods last winter, and we also met our goal for the laundry detergent collection. We also had congregation members help with inventory, box assembly, and food box distribution. We are successful in helping our families because you all help to make it possible! Thank you!

Tom and I wanted to send out a special thank you because we couldn't be there for this distribution. A number of you stepped in to help us out. So thank you again everyone! We are making a difference in our students/families lives!! Deb and Tom Walsh

Allentown Rescue Mission and Sixth Street Shelter

During the month of March our collection for these organizations that help homeless men and families in need in the Lehigh Valley amounted to:

24 notebooks, 9 watches, 10 wallets, 3 alarm clocks, 3 – 2 gallon buckets,, 3 bottles of detergent and 10 rags. These items have been delivered and were very much appreciated. Thank you!

LUTHERAN DAY IN THE CAPITOL



This year Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) has scheduled its day in the capitol on May 9th and will be marking their 45th anniversary along with ELCA's World Hunger's 50th anniversary. Quite a legacy of community building and justice seeking! It will be a day of inspiration, learning, and advocacy with workshops, speakers, worship service, and visits with our legislators. And if you wish, there's an evening gala of dinner and celebration at the Hilton Downtown Harrisburg which begins with a social hour at 5:30PM.

The event starts at Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill and includes transportation to the Pennsylvania State Capitol. Check-in begins at 8:30AM and the day concludes at 4:30PM.

Registration includes:

- Continental breakfast
- Learning sessions and policy updates on issues from hunger to housing and training for civic engagement
- Exhibits to browse and connect with exciting things happening across the church in PA and nationally
- Boxed lunch and preparation for legislative visits
- Worship with sermon by ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (offering goes to ELCA World Hunger)
- Transportation to and from the Capitol
- Legislative visits arranged by LAMPa
- Group photo in the beautiful Capitol Rotunda

You can learn more here <https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/about/lutheran-day-2024/>

Registration for just the day of learning and advocacy is \$60 but an early bird registration (before April 11th) saves \$5 and if we attend with three or more from our congregation, we each get another \$5 discount. The evening gala is an additional \$60. **We are going to carpool so if you're interested in attending please contact either Dean Black at black@holyspirit-emmaus.org (484-649-9784) or John Mosovsky at vistafarm@ptd.net (484-264-6151).**

It will be a focused day of being church together, reminded that in the midst of all that seeks to divide, we are united as the Body of Christ, gathered and sent for the sake of the world God loves.

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

- Team Convener: John Mosovsky vistafarm@ptd.net
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- Lutheran Disaster Response, World Hunger, and Benevolence:
Bob Mueller robtmueller@yahoo.com
- Angel Network: Deb Walsh deblwalsh613@gmail.com
<http://ehsangelnetwork.org/>
- Food/Shelter Assistance: Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com
Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com
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- Global Mission: Ruth & Rick Doty rrehome01@gmail.com
<https://lchsemmaus.org/our-sponsored-arusha-ministry/>
- Christmas Ingathering: Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com
- Contextual Outreach: Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com
John Mosovsky vistafarm@ptd.net
- Church Community Garden: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com
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