

## 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\*

- **Through These Hands Collection** – During the Month of May. Details below
- **Sunday School Collection** – Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley. During the Month of May. Details below
- **Spring Mission Trip** – May 5-9. Details below
- **Church Community Garden** – Update below
- **Lutheran Day in the Capitol** – May 9<sup>th</sup>. Details below

## \* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES \*



### Through These Hands

## **A “LITTLE” GOES A LONG WAY DISTRIBUTING MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO THOSE IN NEED**

**In May**, members of Holy Spirit have the chance to send medical / non-medical supplies to those in need around the globe.

Through These Hands is a non-profit organization based in Slatington, which acquires and distributes supplies primarily (but not exclusively) to developing countries through other non-profit organizations. The group was started in 2000 and has been an incorporated NPO (non-profit organization) since 2007. The group is staffed by volunteers, and you may recall having heard Dorene Shannon talk about Through These Hands in January on Global Missions Sunday.

Items that are always available to us are often not available in developing areas of the world. **Through These Hands says that its priority needs right now are for the following:**

1. Supplies for newborn through 3-month-old babies: receiving blankets (new or very gently used), “undershirt” onesies, cloth diapers and diaper pins (remember those?), small soaps or shampoos
2. Wound care supplies, such as larger bandages, sterile pads, and gauze wraps
3. Toiletries for parents accompanying small children while in the hospital: toothpastes, toothbrushes, small soaps
4. Larger equipment in good shape: crutches, walkers, wheelchairs. Please call Dorene Shannon (610-428-2786) if you have questions about whether other medical equipment you might have at home can be donated.

Donations will be collected in the Fellowship Center lobby through the month of May.

## Sunday School Outreach

### Love in Every Bowl



HELPING KEEP PETS OUT OF THE SHELTER SYSTEM AND IN THEIR LOVING HOMES... ONE BAG OF PET FOOD AT A TIME.

During the month of May, the Sunday School classes will collect donations for the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley. The mission of the Animal Food Bank is to keep animals in loving homes and to prevent their surrender to the shelter system by supplying families with pet food in times of economic distress. **Items needed are dog food (dry and wet), cat**

**food (dry and wet), and pet food for rabbits, gerbils, fish, and birds.** Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our outreach activities.

## Spring Mission Trip



Holy Spirit's spring mission trip is heading to York, PA to help repair homes damaged in recent flooding. Ten to 14 people are planning to participate but there's always room for more. We will be traveling to York on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> and returning Thursday afternoon May 9<sup>th</sup>. 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).

## Church Community Garden



Our spring garden has expanded and is growing garlic, onions, radishes, salad mix, cabbage, kale, and more for our local food bank. As the weather warms and the danger of frost subsides more veggies will be planted. We have approximately 8 volunteers interested in helping with the garden but more folks are always welcome. If you'd like to help, please contact Jeff Gross at [jeffgross1@aol.com](mailto:jeffgross1@aol.com)

## \*OUTREACH ACTIVITIES SUMMARIES\*

### ELCA World Hunger Appeal



We were able to raise \$3,514.85 for this appeal during the Lenten season. This program depends on support from congregations like ours to provide valuable assistance around the globe. Thank you for your gracious support!

### Sunday School Collections



During Lent the Sunday School students filled paper banks for God's Global Barnyard. God's Global Barnyard is part of the ELCA World Hunger ministry. It provides animals to families in need so that they can escape the cycle of hunger and poverty. A total of \$655.27 was collected. Through this collection, 11 chicks, three goats, three pigs, six honeybees, and two roosters were purchased.

During the month of April, the Sunday School students also contributed to the Spring Ingathering collection by donating 16-ounce bottles of water, individual salty snacks, and \$10 Walmart gift cards.

## \*LUTHERAN DAY IN THE CAPITOL\*



Lutheran Day  
in the Capitol

MAY 9, 2024

LAMPa's 45th Anniversary  
Advocacy + Celebration

This year Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa) has scheduled its day in the capitol on May 9<sup>th</sup> and will be marking their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with ELCA's World Hunger's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A handful of us will be carpooling and there is always room for more. If you're interested in joining us please contact either Dean Black at [black@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:black@holyspirit-emmaus.org) (484-649-9784) or John Mosovsky at [vistafarm@ptd.net](mailto:vistafarm@ptd.net) (484-264-6151).

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

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](mailto:vistafarm@ptd.net) OR Pastor Tami at [prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org)

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<https://lchsemmaus.org/our-sponsored-arusha-ministry/>
- Christmas Ingathering: Alice Mudge [aemudge50@gmail.com](mailto:aemudge50@gmail.com)
- Contextual Outreach: Carole Wetherhold [crwether@icloud.com](mailto:crwether@icloud.com)  
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