

HOLY HAPPENINGS



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

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

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

Upcoming Events

March 9

Daylight Savings Time
Rejoicing Spirits

March 12

Noon – Lenten Discussions
6:00 pm Meal
7:00 pm Holden Evening
Prayer

March 16

Bear Creek Camp Sunday

Sunday, March 9, 2025

***8:30 am Worship**

9:45 am Family Worship

Coffee, Tea, Connect

CAT Class, High School Connect

10:15 am Sunday School

Gospel Reading/Sermon Replay

***10:45 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

March 2, 2025	In Person	Zoom
8:30 am	97	14
9:45 am	116	N/A
10:45 am	79	19

March 9 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Diane Evans		Bob Mueller
Communion Assistants	Leesa Wimmer Mark Wimmer	Jennifer Wetzel Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Readers	Lexi H.	Ben H.	Charlie K.
Children's Message		Melanie Werley	
Greeters	Dee Bauernschmidt	George Family	Fern Schlegel
Ushers	Al Bauernschmidt	George Family	Ken Schlegel
Production/ Technology	Bill Keane Diana Sorrentino Volunteer Needed	Bill Keane Jeff Gross	Ev Reggie Robert Neitz Volunteer Needed

COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT

Fellowship Center

9:45 am

March 9 - Children's Needs in LV Foster Care

Come to hear Maria Samaritano speak on what she is doing in Lehigh & Northampton Counties to help foster families as well as families at risk of losing their children to foster care.



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
Rejoicing Spirits

The March service for Rejoicing Spirits is on March 9th at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center.

The special message is **“God Loves Everyone.”** Please join us and stay for the reception following the service. All Are Welcome!

HOLY SPIRIT PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION: Let your friends and family know that registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now occurring. Limited openings remain. Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) if you are interested in registering or want to schedule a tour.



Holy Spirit Nursery School will be celebrating 50 years on Sunday, May 4th, 2025! A reception will be held in the Fellowship Center.

If you have any old pictures or stories you would like to share on that day, please send them to the church office for copying and inclusion in the day's events.



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. **Scholarships are available.** For more information, [click here](#) or you can ask questions as representatives from Bear Creek will be with us at all three services on March 16th.

COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT – SUNDAYS AT 9:45 AM

March 16 – Fellowship Join with other members to share in coffee, tea, and conversation.

March 23 - Growing Young

Join with ones from our Strategic Planning Group to hear about the challenging strategies that have come from three researchers from the Fuller Youth Institute. You are encouraged to read the book: Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church by Powell, Mulder and Griffin.

March 30 - LGBTQIA+

Information to bring understanding of gender diversity and transgender identities. Dispelling the myths, hyperbole, and pathological assumptions. Presented by Dr. Diana Sorrentino, Ph.D., Social Psychologist, who is an affirmed woman.

Lent 2025: The Anatomy of Grace

Grace can be viewed through a variety of lens, is the focus of a book by Pastor Peter W. Marty. During Lent this year, we invite you to come and join us to grow in the understanding of God's grace for our lives.

Wednesdays in Lent you can join us for Lenten Discussions at Noon and Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM. Bring your lunch at noon and spend time diving into the Grace scriptures of the bible, paired with written stories from Pastor Marty to bring home the point. The 7:00 PM Holden Evening Prayer Worship will include a Grace scripture reading and story with a reflection time to follow.

Each week we will explore the following themes:

March 12 – Serendipitous Grace

March 19 – Unobtrusive Grace

March 26 – Ordinary Grace

April 2 – Surprising Grace

April 9 – Weightless Grace

During Holy Week we will return to Mysterious Grace on Maundy Thursday. Hear of God's Ultimate Grace on Good Friday. Worship on these days taking place at Noon and & 7:00 PM. Anticipating that God has done a new thing, grace is no longer defined, but now defines. Our 8:00 PM Easter Vigil will be Grace In-Waiting, with Easter Sunday worships at 8:30, 9:45, and 11 AM focusing on Grace Transends.

May this incredible gift by God, grow in our hearts and minds through our Lenten Journey this year.

~ Pastor Shari

The anatomy of **GRACE**

Wednesdays in Lent

March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9

Noon Lenten Discussions

6:00 pm Meal

*7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer

Holy Week

April 13 - Palm Sunday Worship

*8:30, 9:45, *10:45am

Wednesday, April 16 - Meal and Intergenerational
Holy Week Activity at 6:00 pm

April 17 - Maundy Thursday Worship

Noon and *7:00 pm

April 18 - Good Friday Worship

Noon and *7:00 pm

April 19 - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday

April 20th

Resurrection Celebration - *8:30 and *11:00 am

Resurrection Celebration for families - 9:45 am

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 10:30 am

*In person and on Zoom



Slam the Scam Day was on March 6.

Slam the Scam is an initiative by the Social Security Administration to raise awareness and give you information to recognize scams and to stop scammers from getting your money and personal information. Scammers pretend to be from an agency or organization you know, say there is a problem or offer a prize. The pressure is put on to act now. Be aware of odd ways of paying, for example, gift cards or cryptocurrency. Scammers can be very persuasive and may use aggressive tactics to convince you that their call is legitimate. If you receive a suspicious call, remember to stay calm and HANG UP immediately. Do not engage with the caller or provide any personal information.

For more information logon to ssa.gov/slam.

Don't fall for their ways of manipulation.

Stay vigilant and safe! ~ Dean Black Faith Community Nurse

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you are a Thrivent client you may be able to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. To qualify for Thrivent Choice Dollars, you must meet one of the following qualifications:

1. Have \$750 or more in annual billed premiums of qualifying life or health insurance products.
2. Have \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying life insurance or annuity products.



Thrivent Choice Dollars are earned every calendar year and can be directed to the organization of your choice by March 31st of the following year. You have until March 31, 2025 to designate the direction of your 2024 Thrivent Choice Dollars. You can designate your choice of organizations on the Thrivent website. If you have questions, please review the program on the website or contact your Thrivent Advisor. Please consider directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to our church.



MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

The **Spirit Ringers** are in full swing again and are looking for at least one more ringer to fill out the choir completely. There is no experience necessary and only a minimum ability to read music is needed. The bell choir meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm or following the Wednesday evening worship service during Lent. If you think you are interested (or maybe would like to come out and try it sometime!), please speak to Reylene.

The **Spirit Voices (Adult/Teen Vocal Choir)** is also looking for voices to join us. You don't need to be a solo voice to be a great addition to the choir. Easter is right around the corner and we'd love to have you join us for the Lenten/Easter season (or more!!). The choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:15 pm. Give us a try!!

We are also looking to start a **praise band** in time for Easter and are looking for some people who would like to sing with the band at the 8:30 services. If you are interested, please speak to Reylene after a Sunday service or at 610-967-2220 ext. 109.

BLOOMIN' FAITH

Thank you for your support of Bloomin' Faith, our monthly flower ministry, which reaches all members of our church family
Upcoming delivery date is March 22.

Please let us know if you are able to help by clicking and [signing up here](#). Or, call the church office to sign up. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Walton or Leesa Wimmer.



~ To my church family,
Getting a Valentine from the Nursery School after checking in the hospital (it was a real bonus in life 😊). I also want to thank the Bloomin' Faith crew for the cheery bouquet. ~ Sincerely, Terry Kennedy

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS

March 19th – Come and watch the movie, “Thelma” in the All Saints Room at 10:00 am.

March 26th – Bring a friend (or two) to Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Center. Coffee’s on at 10:00am. Along with coffee or tea, we will have fresh baked goods, trivia and lots of laughs. We’d love to have you!



LCHS BOOK GROUP We will be meeting on **Monday, March 24 at 11AM in Room 117/119** at LCHS. Since we were unable to meet in January, we will be discussing “**The Silent Patient**” by Alex Michaelides. Everyone is invited to bring their lunch to enjoy together after the meeting. Our next meeting is on April 28 and “**The Frozen River**” by Ariel Lawhon is our selection.



BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH!

On April 6, at all Worship services (8:30, 9:45, and 10:45), we’re encouraging everyone to bring a friend (or two!) to experience the welcoming atmosphere of our church community. Mark your calendar, invite a friend, and help us make this a meaningful day! We will even have a special small gift for all friends attending.

EASTER EGG FILLERS NEEDED



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 20th at 10:30 am. We are asking for donations of items to fill the plastic eggs. Stickers, small toys, tattoos, bouncy balls, and **nut free** candy make great fillers. Donations can be placed in the marked donation bin the Fellowship Center lobby by Sunday, March 30th. Thank you!

Please mark your calendars and bring your family and friends to these upcoming Rejoicing Spirits services:

April 13th – Easter Pageant

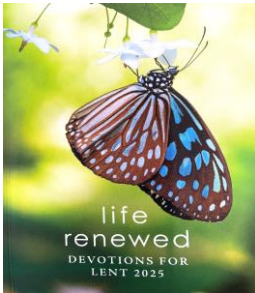
May 11th – Recognition of Mother’s Day

June 8th – In celebration of 17 years of ministry, Rejoicing Spirits will have its monthly service at 10:45 am in the Worship Center. All Are Welcome!

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a **Communion Assistant** at one of our Sunday morning worship services by [clicking here](#) or volunteer to be on the **Production/Technology Team** by [clicking here](#).

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



LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Devotionals are available in the narthex.



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.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

Road Trip: On the Go with God

June 16 – 20, 2025

9:15 am – 11:45 am

VBS DECORATING SESSIONS:

Come out, think summer, and connect with others as we create the decorations that will be used for Vacation Bible School. It's a wonderful fellowship opportunity. We will again partner with St. John's Lutheran in Emmaus. No artistic skills are required, and you need not attend all of the decorating sessions. Middle school youth are welcome to attend with an adult. Please enter at the church office entrance as we will meet in the Fellowship Center on the following dates:

Monday, March 17 – 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Thursday, March 27 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Tuesday, April 1 – 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Wednesday, April 30 – 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Monday, May 12 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm

VBS VOLUNTEERS:

VBS provides an opportunity for teens and adults to serve in a variety of ways. Please [click here](#) to complete the Volunteer Interest Form.

Our Protection of Minors Policy and the PA Child Protective Services Law requires VBS volunteers to have current background clearances. Please contact Nikki Clark in the office to inquire about the process.

VBS REGISTRATION:

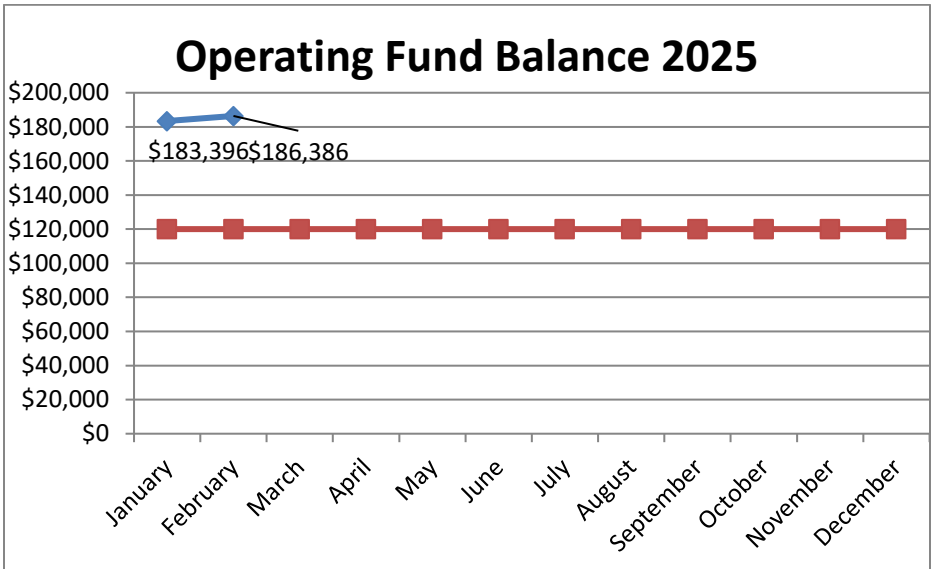
Children age 3 ½ - entering grade 5 are welcome to join us for a cool VBS Road Trip. Please [click here](#) for the Participant Registration Form. We ask that you return the form by June 2nd so that we can adequately plan for supplies. Feel free to invite a friend! **Paper registration forms** are available on the information table in the narthex.

February 2025 - Financial Results and Discussion

Operating Performance: February's income was \$75,920, \$16,558 or 17.9% below budget. Operating expenses were \$72,930, \$8,716 or 10.67% below budget. We finished February with a \$2,990 surplus, compared to a budgeted surplus of \$10,832. The graph below presents our operating cash balance shown against our monthly cash requirement January - December.

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

- **Straight Line at \$120,000:** Represents our 6-week 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 increased \$675.00 during the month and has a balance of \$3,241.44.

Mortgage Update: A \$10,000 principal payoff of the mortgage was applied in February. The mortgage balance as of February 28, 2025, is \$354,823.39.



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

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

Pray for God's healing for our members and friends: Alex, Pattie, Tom, Joe, Donna, Ron, Faye, Rod, Sally, Tom, Scott, Glenn, Judith, Jeanne, Robert, Jameson, Lester, Steve, Marcus, Nancy, Nancy, Donna, Jayne, Deb, Angie, Greg, Peg, Carl, Nancy, Laura, Diana, Wilma, Terry, Sherri, Margie, Don, Carole, and Judith.

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.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

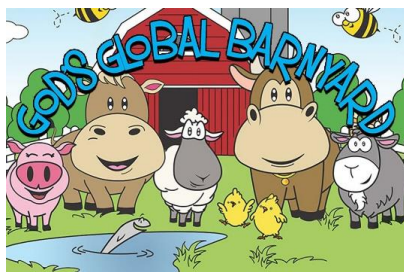
Spring Mission Trip to York, PA April 6th – April 10th. We will be providing home repair work to families. All skill levels welcome, carpools can be made available if you can't be with us the whole time. We will be staying at Camp Friendly Acres, run by Advent Lutheran Church. Contact Bob Mueller (610-442-7892) with questions.

ELCA World Hunger Appeal

During Lent, we will be supporting the ELCA World Hunger effort which provides valuable assistance around the globe, not only with good, but by establishing health clinics, micro loans, building water wells, advocacy to country and local governments and establishing animal husbandry programs. If you wish to donate, please note World Hunger on your donation.

You can download the ELCA **World Hunger Lent Calendar** by [clicking here](#) or by visiting the ELCA Website (type in search bar, "Media and Resources").

EHS Angel Network Spring Food Basket Collection is underway. We are collecting **cans of corn and laundry detergent** (pods, sheets, bottles) through the end of March. Please place your donations in the bins in the Fellowship Center Lobby. Thank you.



Sunday School Collection for God's Global Barnyard will be a noisy collection which starts on March 9th and runs through April 13th. God's Global Barnyard is an ELCA World Hunger initiative.



COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars and come listen to some 20th Century music 4:00 pm on Sunday, May 4th in the Worship Center.



Group Outing to **Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs**

July 19 – 6:35 pm

Tickets will be available soon!

**Sunday
October 5**

**God's work.
Our hands.**



CAT CAMP

Those attending Catechesis classes should mark their calendars and plan on coming to CAT Camp October 10 – 12.

**Fall Fest / Trunk-or-Treat
Saturday, October 18**
(Rain date October 19)



CALENDAR

Sun. 3/9	1:50 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Spirits (WC)
Mon. 3/10	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
Tues. 3/11	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	6:00 pm	Property Committee (116)
	6:30 pm	NS Board Meeting (117/119)
Weds. 3/12	8:30 am	NS Conferences (110/112)
	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	9:45 am	Staff Worship Planning (117/119)
	Noon	Lenten Conversations (FC)
	5:00 pm	Adult Faith Formation (Zoom)
	6:00 pm	Meal (FC)
	7:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer (WC)
	7:45 pm	Bell Rehearsal (WC)
Thurs. 3/13	8:30 am	NS Conferences (110/112)
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	6:30 pm	Jr. Choir (WC)
	6:30 pm	Mutual Ministry Pr Tami (ASR)
	7:15 pm	Spirit Voices (Music Room/WC)
Mon. 3/17	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	6:30 pm	VBS Decorating (FC)
	7:00 pm	Finance Team (116)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)
Tues. 3/18	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Council (117/119)
Weds. 3/19	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	9:30 am	M&M's Too (117/119)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Movie (ASR)
	Noon	Lenten Conversation (FC)
	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts #63034 (110/112)
	6:00 pm	Meal (FC)
	7:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer (WC)
	7:45 pm	Bells (WC)
Thurs. 3/20	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	6:30 pm	Jr. Choir (WC)
	7:00 pm	Church Growth (Zoom)
	7:15 pm	Spirit Voices (Music Room/WC)
Fri. 3/21	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)



EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

DUE TO OFFICE NO LATER THAN MARCH 30th.

NAME: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

_____ TULIPS \$11.00 EACH PLANT

_____ DAFFODILS \$11.00 EACH PLANT

_____ MUMS \$11.00 EACH PLANT

_____ LILIES \$11.00 EACH PLANT

_____ HYDRANGEAS \$25.00 EACH PLANT

\$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT



Flowers can be picked up after the last Easter Service.