

Outreach Outlook

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

- **Tanzania Trip** – See article below
- **Sunday School Collections** – See article below
- **Community Garden** – See article below

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

WE'RE OFF TO TANZANIA!



In May, after months of planning, travelers from Holy Spirit will make their (long) way to Tanzania to visit and learn from our siblings in Tanzania. The group will meet with representatives of 14 different organizations doing ministry in that east African country. **Thanks to your generosity we will be distributing over \$30k to those organizations to help them minister to some of the world's most vulnerable people. Thanks also to the Sunday School for**

collecting school supplies to take with us, and to the Youth Group for making friendship bracelets and writing letters to girls at the Lutheran secondary school.

Please remember, however, that a primary reason for the travel is that the team expects to learn from them as well, such as how to understand the people and the needs surrounding us, how to listen to God and learn His will under different circumstances, and how to appreciate what you have, even if that is not what you think you want. The group will be commissioned on May 18th. Please pray for the group, for safety and for their giving and for their learning. Please pray for yourselves as well, for helping the group take some Holy Spirit culture with them and for recognizing that lessons about God can come from every encounter, in nearby and faraway places.



Sunday School Collection

Family Worship/Sunday School collections:

On Sunday, May 4 and Sunday, May 11, we will be collecting **white socks, pens, and pencils**. The members of our congregation that are traveling to Tanzania in a few weeks will take these items along and distribute them to a variety of organizations that they will visit. The socks should be suitable for age 3 and up.

Beginning Sunday, May 18 and running through Sunday, June 8 we will be collecting items for students in East Penn School District by supporting the Emmaus Rotary Club and East Penn Food Coalition's food drive. Items needed are:

- Cans of soup (10-12 oz)
- Cans of pasta (14-16 oz)
- Cans of fruits and vegetables (14-15 oz)
- Cans of tuna fish and chicken (5 oz)
- Boxes of rice and pasta (14-16 oz)
- Boxes of cereal, non-sweetened (14-17 oz)
- Jars of peanut butter (16 oz)
- Shelf stable milk (32 oz/quart)
- Juice boxes (6-7 oz)



No glass containers please!



Community Garden

Garlic planted last fall is growing well. Lettuce, spinach, kale, radishes and onions have been planted. All produce harvested will be donated to the Food Pantry at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie. If you would like to help with this gardening effort, please contact Jeff Gross at jeffgross1@aol.com or 610-390-1074. No green thumb required!

* OUTREACH SUMMARIES *

Lenten World Hunger Appeal

Our Lenten World Hunger Appeal raised \$1,075 which will be given to the ELCA World Hunger Program. This ministry provides valuable resources to address ongoing hunger in the United States and around the world. Thanks to everyone who contributed this Lenten season.

LDR Spring Mission Trip



This year's Spring Mission Trip was a tremendous success. During our four days in York, 15 church members and friends provided home repair assistance to five families in the York area. At one home, we tore out a bathroom floor, installed sub-flooring and then retiled the bathroom. At another home, we removed carpeting and did major reconstruction work under the kitchen sink area which

had suffered extensive water damage. We stained three outdoor ramps, two of which we installed last year. It was a wonderful time sharing this rewarding work with a wonderful group of individuals. On the last workday, the lady whose bathroom floor we replaced, emotionally thanked us with tears in her eyes. She told us she could never have been able to get this work done on her own. Seeing her appreciation and thankfulness made all the work during the week worthwhile.





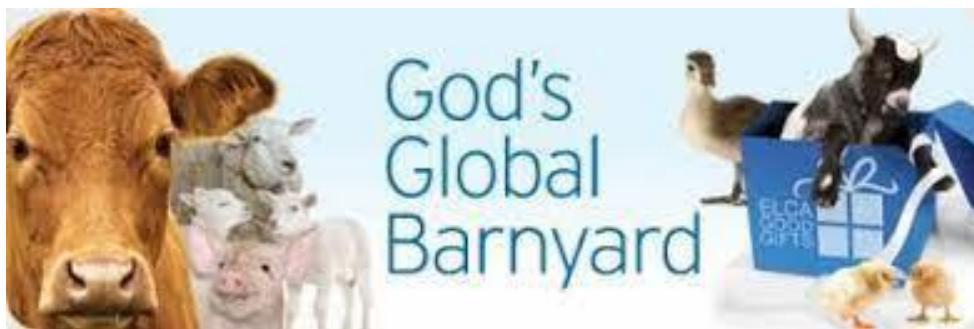
Angel Network

The Angel Network is approaching the end of the '24 - '25 school year and as we reflect on what we accomplished, of course our food basket/clothing/bedding give-a-way comes to mind. This spring we helped 137 EHS students and their families. As always, all of you at Holy Spirit make this possible with your generosity of both time and items. In twenty-two years, we have never missed our goals!! Really, that is AMAZING! Angel Network can't thank you enough! So once again, please accept our gratitude and sincere thanks. We have the best partners who open their hearts to help those in need. You have all made a difference in the lives of those EHS students and families who found it just a bit easier to make ends meet. Thank-you from the bottom of our hearts.

Deb Walsh and the EHS Angel Network

Past Sunday School Collection

Thank you to all who contributed to our God's Global Barnyard collection. We collected \$713.50, which will allow a variety of animals to be purchased. God's Global Barnyard is an ELCA world hunger initiative that works to help families escape the cycle of hunger and poverty by providing animals to families in need. These animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops, and offspring to sell at the market.



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 Jeff Gross - Outreach Mission Team Convener at jeffgross1@aol.com OR Pastor Tami at prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org

- Team Convener: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com
- Staff Liaison: Pastor Tami prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org

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- Global Missions: Ruth & Rick Doty rrehome01@gmail.com
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- Christmas Ingathering: Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com

- Contextual Outreach: Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com

- Church Community Garden: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com

- SALT: Deb Smith dsfotog@outlook.com
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