



**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**

**May 18**

New Member Welcome

**May 21, 28**

Bible Study

**May 26**

Church Office Closed

**June 1**

Graduate Recognition

**June 8**

Summer Breakfast

**June 16 - 25**

Vacation Bible School

# **HOLY HAPPENINGS**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

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

**9:00 am Coffee, Tea, Connect -**

**New Member Welcome,**

**9:45 am Family Service,**

**CAT Class, High School Connect**

**10:15 am Sunday School**

**(pre-school - Grade 5)**

**Sermon/Gospel Reading**

**Replay (All Saints Room)**

**\*10:45 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**

May 11, 2025	In Person	Zoom
8:30 am	138	19
9:45 am	75	N/A
10:45 am	96	19

May 18 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	JoEllen Rooney		Alice Mudge
Communion Assistants	Carol Walrod Sue Mathieu	Leigh-Anne Wimmer Terri Hinderliter Sheila Huff	Vi Ballard Robert Neitz
Readers	Lisa Walton	Gabriella C.	Craig Kauffman
Children's Message		John & Theo	
Greeters	Barb Roba Ricki Stringfellow	Sarah Smith	Ava Killingsworth
Ushers	Gerry Masteller	Eric Smith	Larry Killingsworth
Production/ Technology	Eric Kahler Glenn Hinderliter Volunteer Needed	Glenn Hinderliter Volunteer Needed	Carol Osenbach Robert Neitz Volunteer Needed

**NEW MEMBER WELCOME BRUNCH!** Join the Church Growth Team and other members of the congregation for a time of fellowship and sharing as we offer a warm welcome to Holy Spirit's new members. Stop in for breakfast in the Fellowship Center on **Sunday, May 18th anytime from 9 – 10:30am** for fellowship and sharing. Get acquainted with our new members, re-acquaint with others, and enjoy conversation over a light brunch.

**CALLING ALL GRADUATES !!** Please notify Amber O'Brien ([obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org)) if you are graduating from high school or college this spring so we can inform the congregation of your accomplishments! Please include your name, school graduating from and date, any activities, your picture, and your future plans. **Submission deadline is May 18th!**



**Graduate Recognition Sunday is June 1st!**  
**We welcome all graduates to come worship and receive a special gift to honor their achievements!**



**BEATITUDES BIBLE STUDY (May 21,28)**

Join us on Wednesdays at 2:00 PM in room 116 to look more closely at the words from the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus was showing a new way by turning the world upside down with these words. Through this understanding, how might we engage in living out these words today.

**MAY M&Ms GATHERING**

All women and their friends are invited to the third Wednesday of the month gathering of M&Ms on **May 21** at 9:30am in rooms 117/119. This month Reylene Starego will do a presentation about hand bells.

**PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS FOR MAY**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Book Group.** We will be discussing, “*The Ministry of Time*” by Kaliane Bradley. 10:00 am in Room 117/119.

**May 28<sup>th</sup> – Coffee Hour** – 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!

Check out our bulletin board in the hallway to find out what other adventures we go on and join us! All are welcome.



**COFFEE, TEA, CONNECT**

**Sundays in the Fellowship Center - 9:45 am**

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** - Memorial Day Weekend – Coffee and fellowship.

**June 1st** - "Red"ying for **Pentecost**.

An Intergenerational gathering of learning and preparation for Pentecost Sunday on June 8th.



## A MATTER OF BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Many older adults are concerned about falling or have experienced falls, which leads to more restricted activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is

an eight-week evidence-based national program designed to reduce falls and increase activity levels. This free program is offered by the SLUHN Trauma Outreach Program and will take place at Christ Lutheran Church, 69 Main Street, Hellertown, on Mondays from June 2nd to July 21st, from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon. Space is limited to a small group. Call Enid Rank, RN, Faith Community Nurse at 610-349-2970 by May 28 to register.



### **SUMMER BREAKFASTS STARTING ON JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>**

We are excited to announce that we will resume Summer Breakfasts starting June 8th through August 24<sup>th</sup>. Each week breakfast will be prepared by a different group from the congregation (for example Council, Mission Teams, Committees, Music groups/Choirs, families/friends and so on). Each group will be responsible for set-up, cooking, serving and clean-up. Breakfast will be served 9:00 am -10:30am in the Fellowship Center to accommodate all services. Sign up by [clicking here](#) to choose your summer Sunday and provide your group's contact. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Devine at 610-703-1471.

### **CARDS WITH FRIENDS CANCELLED FOR MAY 27TH**



- Our next get together is **June 22**
- After the 10:45am service
- Bring a lunch and your favorite card game
- We will meet in the Fellowship Center for some fun and fellowship!

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** is the next Rejoicing Spirits service, and it is a special one. We will be celebrating our 17<sup>th</sup>

anniversary during the **10:45am service**. It will be a full Rejoicing Spirits service (Processional, Rejoicers doing readings, Rejoicing Ringers will play, etc.) during a regular worship service with communion. **\*This service will not be live streamed.\***

There will be a luncheon right after the service for our Rejoicing Spirits community. We hope to see you there!

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025**

Road Trip: On the Go with God

June 16 – 20, 2025

9:15 am – 11:45 am



**VBS SNACK DONATIONS NEEDED:** We are collecting donations of individually wrapped items for use at VBS. Please review the list of items needed and sign up using the sign up genius link by [clicking here](#). Please note brand names of items being requested. Snacks should be dropped off at the church office by Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**VBS VOLUNTEERS:** VBS provides as 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. There are two **Volunteer meetings** scheduled, please mark your calendars **and plan to attend one**. Both are in the Fellowship Center. You can attend either June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm or June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.



**IRON PIGS BASEBALL GAME** Saturday, July 19 at 6:35 pm. Gates open at 5:15 pm. Youth Hawaiian jersey giveaway to the first 1,500 fans 17 and under and fireworks after the game. Tickets are \$11/person (third

base side) and include \$2 to spend at concessions. Only 70 tickets are available. Sign up using the google form link: <https://forms.gle/3Hn8m8RsjgUEVFC6A> or by contacting the church office. Payment is due by **Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** and can be made via cash, check (payable to LCHS), or online. Please be sure to **mark Iron Pigs** on the payment.



***Would you like to help at church,  
but don't have a lot of time?***

Preparing the altar for services is the perfect choice! 15 minutes before and after the service you attend is all that is needed. We will train and support you until you are comfortable. Join alone or with a partner! Contact Carol Osenbach or Nikki in the church office.



**BLOOMIN' FAITH** Thank you for your continued 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 Saturday **May 31 and June 28.**

Ways you can help: **Donations** of flowers or a monetary donation welcome. Help **arrange flowers** the Friday before delivery date. **Delivery of bouquets.** Please let us know if you are able to help on the sign up genius by [clicking here](#) or call the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Walton or Leesa Wimmer.



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. It doesn't take much of your time to serve a few Sunday's. You can **call the church office** if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions.



To our church family – the cards, flowers, caring messages: all the love and support for my family as a whole is true testament to being God's hands and feet in the world today. I thank God for all of you!  
The family of Robert "Bumper" Hermley  
~ Dianna, Ryan, Molly, Zac Olszewski

Dear Bloomin' Faith,  
Thanks ever so much for the beautiful flower arrangement I received during my time in the hospital. That and your prayers made my recovery time a lot more bearable. The doctor finally signed me off several weeks ago. Prayer is very important to me and made my recovery period much more livable. God bless you and thanks again for your blessings. ~ Peace, Jim Madara



### 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.



### **HOLY SPIRIT NURSERY SCHOOL 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.



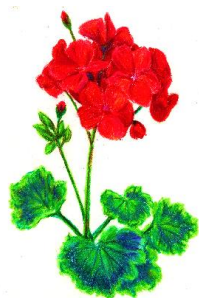
### **May is Mental Health Awareness Month.**

There are hundreds of mental disorders. The most common include Anxiety, Depression, PTSD, Bipolar Disorder, Personality Disorders, and Obsessive-Compulsive

Disorder, to name a few, but the list of diagnosed disorders goes on and on. Fortunately, resources and help are available.

Recognizing mental health issues and finding the courage to ask for help can be challenging. Lehigh County operates a Warm Line 24/7, which provides support and information about available services. The number is 1-833-899-1331. The Hot Line is for individuals in crisis who may pose a danger to themselves. Call 911 or the Lehigh County Crisis Intervention service at 610-782-3127; in Northampton County, call 610-252-9060, or to reach the national suicide hotline, call 988. Other local resources include the National Alliance on Mental Health ([nami-lv.org](http://nami-lv.org)), located at 802 West Broad St, Bethlehem, PA. 18018. Phone 610-882-2102. Both hospital networks, Lehigh Valley Health Network and St. Luke's University Network, offer behavioral health services. Additionally, there are numerous private counseling services throughout the Lehigh Valley.

If you believe you may have a mental illness, there is no need to endure the suffering and pain alone. If you suspect that someone you know is struggling with a mental illness, the best approach is to be patient, empathetic, and understanding while providing support and reassurance. Engage in an open, non-judgmental, gentle conversation with them. Such a discussion should come from the love and concern you have for this individual.



### **FLOWERS FOR PENTECOST**

Pick up an order form in the Worship Center Lobby. Geraniums in honor or memory of someone are \$16.00 per plant and orders are due to the office no later than May 26<sup>th</sup>.





**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, Lee, Darla, Larry, Jean, Norine, Billie, and Bob.

**Pray for God's healing for our members and friends:** Alex, Tom, Joe, Rod, Tom, Scott, Mike, David, Glenn, Brad, Gordon, Cheryl, Jameson, Margaret, Laura, Lester, Eleanor, Marcus, Sue, Nancy, Megan, Jayne, Angie, Jeff, Carl, Mariah, Beth, Nancy, Fred, Laura, Wilma, Sherri, Margie, Don, and Judith.

**In times of joy and celebration we welcome our newest members into our community of faith:** Stephen, Andrew, Christine, Paige, Connor, Brent, Tara, Bennett, Emmalyn, David, Jennifer, Gabriella, Patrick, Lillian, Jack, Stephen, Tara, Gerard, Nick, Ashley, Tobias, and Charlotte

**We pray for the health and safety** of our Tanzania team of Dean, Linda, Rick, Ruth, Pr. Tami, Victor, MaryJo, Deb, Dianne, Adrienne, Donna, and Karen. Bless their journey and all those they meet along the way.

**In times of sorrow** for the family and friends of Jan Emling.

**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.

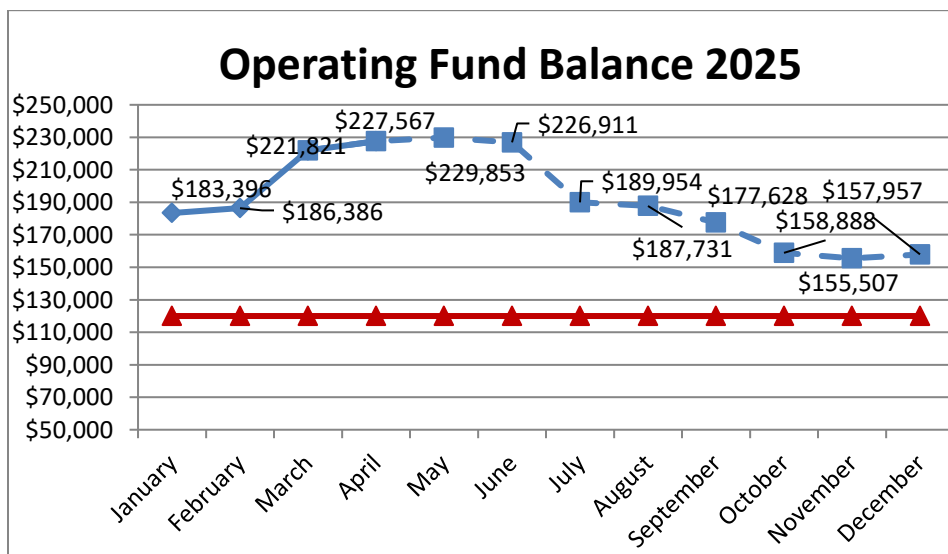
**If you, or a member of your family, are ever hospitalized**, please let the pastors know by contacting the church office at 610-967-2220. The hospitals no longer notify the church due to HIPAA laws.

## Financial Results and Discussion – April 2025

**Operating Performance:** April income was \$81,474, \$5,872 or 6.72% below budget. Operating expenses were \$75,728, \$8,240 or 9.81% below budget. We finished April with a \$5,746 surplus, compared to a budgeted surplus of \$3,378. 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.
- **Upper Dotted Line:** Represents our **projected** operating cash balance through year end.



**Building Fund:** The building fund increased \$515.00 during the month and has a balance of \$5,252.44.

**Mortgage Update:** The mortgage balance as of April 30, 2025 is \$353,792.42.

## **Global Refuge perseveres despite numerous challenges**

You may have read that it's been **50 years since the fall of Saigon** during the Vietnam War which brought hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese refugees to the United States. This crisis marked a turning point for **Global Refuge** (previously known as Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service), **transforming the organization from a four-person team into a 100-member crisis-response organization.**

By the end of 1975, LIRS had overseen the resettlement of more than 15,000 Vietnamese refugees. That call helped to lay the foundation for the work Global Refuge continues today, offering welcome and refuge in the face of profound upheaval and chaos.

Refugees like those who arrived in the '70s from Vietnam are now friends, grandparents, neighbors, advocates, and integral members of their communities—and, in some cases, are paying it forward to support other refugee communities.

In those days, the federal government compassionately served as an integral partner in this humanitarian effort. Such is not the case in 2025.

During an online town hall meeting on April 30, CEO and president Krish O'Mara Vignarajah and other Global Refuge staff members detailed the many challenges the organization has faced since January 20.

Entitled "The First 100 Days: Our Work of Welcome Continues," the presentation identified the stark reality of the pause in refugee resettlement and the stop work order which has made it increasingly difficult to provide much-needed help for refugees Global Refuge was already serving.

President Vignarajah talked about the chilling lack of due process and the importance of finding ways to connect clients with state and local resources, including churches, as well as attracting grants from privately-funded programs and individual donors.

"We are NOT going anywhere," Krish stated. "We are not giving up. America is still the shining city on a hill and we intend to keep it that way."

You can help families, whose lives are hanging in the balance, access critical programs like legal assistance by remitting an urgent gift at: [globalrefuge.org/Solidarity](https://globalrefuge.org/Solidarity).

## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Mon. 5/19	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	LCHS Book Group (117/119)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	6:00 pm	Finance Committee (116)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)
Tues. 5/20	9:15 am	NS Song Fest Rehearsal (WC)
<b>Election Day</b>	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (116)
	2:00 pm	Outreach Mission Team (Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Congregation Council (117/119)
Weds. 5/21	9:15 am	NS Song Fest Rehearsal (WC)
	9:30 am	M&M's Too (117/119)
	2:00 pm	Bible Study (116)
	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal (WC)
	7:00 pm	Girl Scout Service Unit (SC)
Thurs. 5/22	10:00 am	NS Moving On Ceremony (WC)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Book Group (117)
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal (WC)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (Music Room/WC)
Sat. 5/24	10:00 am	Praise Band Rehearsal (WC)
Mon. 5/26	Church Office Closed – Memorial Day	
Tues. 5/27	9:00 am	Counters (116)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (117/119)
Weds. 5/28	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Coffee Hour (FC)
	2:00 pm	Bible Study (116)
	2:15 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)
	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal (WC)
Fri. 5/30	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)
Sat. 5/31	9:30 am	Bloomin' Faith (Parking Lot)