



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

August 10

Rejoicing Spirits

August 24

Blessing of the Backpacks

September 1

Church Office Closed

September 7

Sunday School Begins

Sunday, August 10, 2025

***8:30 am Spirit Worship**

**9:00 – 10:30 am Summer Breakfast
by the Olszewski Family**

9:45 am Family Service

10:15 am Sermon/Gospel Replay

***10:45 am Worship**

2:30 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 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

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

August 3, 2025

8:30 am

9:45 am

10:45 am

In Person

124

74

59

Zoom

12

N/A

16

August 10 WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Diane Evans		Vi Ballard
Communion Assistants	Carol Walrod Don Walrod	Sheila Huff Melanie Werley	Tom Bradley
Readers	Linda Devine	Ben H. Maddy H.	Carole Wetherhold
Children's Message		Melanie Werley	
Greeters	Christine Bolen	Smith Family	Fern Schlegel
Ushers	Bob Bolen	Smith Family	Ken Schlegel
Production/ Technology	Bill Keane Volunteers Needed	Bill Keane Volunteer Needed	Volunteers Needed

SUMMER BREAKFAST: Sunday's Breakfast is sponsored by the Olszewski Family and will be served 9:00 -10:30am in the Fellowship Center to accommodate all services.



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Rejoicing Spirits

“Let Your Light Shine” is the special message of the Rejoicing Spirits service on Sunday August 10th at 2:30pm in the Worship Center. Join us and learn how we are like salt and light. Remember to invite your family and friends for worship and reception after the service.

AUGUST WORSHIP COLLECTION

During the month of August, Family Worship will be partnering with the Outreach Mission Team to collect items need for our God's Work Our Hands service project. Needed items are toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, bars of soap, chap stick, pocket packs of tissues, wide tooth comb and deodorant. These items are not to be trial size but do need to fit in a gallon ziplock bag.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you for the generous donations of diapers and wipes for foster care and kinship families. Grateful families who need a little help in their daily lives will receive diapers/wipes in August due to your giving hearts and hands.

A kinship family is where a relative other than the biological parent is raising the child(ren). One such family who will receive a donation is a grandmother who is raising four grandchildren. Money is tight and she was not expecting to have the expense of raising four young children at this time in her life. Periodically she receives assistance, so the children do not enter the foster care system and stay with family.

Maria Samaritano coordinates with multiple Lehigh County churches to assist families in need. If you have any questions or would like to receive a weekly newsletter on how you can help, notify Brenda Truhe at btruhe@hotmail.com or 484-725-2488.



To the congregation of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Thank you so much for your generous donation of diapers and baby wipes! Because of your kindness, so many families will be

blessed with the items that they need for their children. Your willingness to help families who are struggling is so very much appreciated and will make a positive impact on the lives of so many people in our community. Thank you!

Maria Samaritano

LVFosterCare@gmail.com

WORSHIP THURSDAY AT 6:30 PM

Your 8:30 Worship Advocates have been planning for some changes to distinguish a format of worship that reflects the style of worship that was experienced before COVID. In order to be ready to make these changes, we are worshipping on Thursday, August 14th at 6:30 PM in the Worship Center. Following this time of worship, ones in attendance can give feedback to the Advocates. We have not yet set a time when these changes might happen.

If you are missing Sunday Worship on the 17th, this Thursday night worship is an option for you to join us. Our 8:30 Worship Advocates are: Patti Bisbing, Eric Kahler, Kristen Newill, Marian Snyder, Susanne Wendt, Deacon Reylene, Deacon Mel and Pastor Shari.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Join us on **Sunday, August 24th** at the 8:30, 9:45, and 10:45 worship service as we mark the start of another school year. We invite all

(adults, youth, and children) who will begin a new school year to come forward for a blessing. We encourage our students to bring along their backpacks (or whatever they use to carry their books) to be blessed. Zipper pulls and luggage tags will be distributed.

CARDS WITH FRIENDS – Sunday, August 24th



- ♣ **Fourth Sunday of every month in the Fellowship Center after the 10:45am service**
- ♣ **Bring a lunch and your favorite card game!!!**

LCHS BOOK GROUP Our next meeting is **Monday, August 25 at 11AM in room 117/119**. We will be discussing: “***Leaving Time***” by Jodi Picoult. Bring your lunch to enjoy afterwards.

Coming Attractions...

September 22: “***Her Hidden Genius***” by Marie Benedict

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS

MOVIE – “My Penguin Friend” will be shown in the All Saints Room on Tuesday, August 19th at 10:00 am followed by lunch. Please join us.

BOOK GROUP – August 21st at 10:00 am in Room 117/119.

COFFEE HOUR – August 27 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center. Trivia, homemade baked goods, current events, fun and fellowship. All are welcome to join in.



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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Opportunities exist to get involved in our faith formation program this fall. We are seeking individuals interested

in teaching and assisting our classes as well as a Christmas pageant coordinator. Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) to let her know of your interest in serving.

INTERESTED IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP? OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND



Volunteering doesn't require a lot of your time - once every couple of weeks unless you decide you'd like to volunteer more. Training is provided so please pick up a form on the information table in the Worship Center Lobby. You can return

the form in the offering plate or bring it to the church office.

A BIG thank you goes to everyone who signed up to donate blood. Through your generosity and caring, the schedule is full with 32 donors. If you were planning to donate but haven't signed up yet, it's not too late! You can visit one of the Miller-Keystone Blood Centers. The closest location is at 1255 South Cedar Crest Blvd.

To ensure our church receives credit for your donation, please use our sponsor code: **0743**. For more information, you can call the blood bank at 800-223-6667 or visit their website at giveapint.org.



**Lutheran Church of
The Holy Spirit**

**Running from
Now- August 31st**

To schedule an appointment: Scan the
QR Code or Call MKBC at 1-800-223-6667,
ext. 2 and use **Sponsor Code #0743**.



APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

All donors must present valid ID with:

- First & Last Name
- Photo and/or Signature

Veterans, ask your coordinator
about your complimentary MKBC
Military Challenge Coin.



Before you donate, remember to drink plenty of fluids and eat within 2-3 hours of donation.

GIVEAINT.org | 800-B-A-DONOR |     

BEAR CREEK CAMP WOMEN'S RETREAT

Bear Creek's Fall Women's Retreat (October 3-5, 2025) is designed to provide women with an opportunity to enjoy time both individually and collectively, participate in creative activities, explore outdoors, have time for rest and renewal, and be in the beauty of God's creation in a peaceful setting. **The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit** is trying to get a group together to enjoy the retreat at Bear Creek. You can [click here](#) for more information or go to their website: bearcreekcamp.org. Please speak to Vi Ballard or Liz Moessner if interested.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Grief demands the support and compassion of fellow human beings. Grief support groups provide an opportunity for this kind of help. A 10-week Grief Support Group for those who have lost a loved one will begin on September 30th, Tuesdays 5:30 – 7:00pm and offered by The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. The group will be limited in number and registration is necessary. For information please contact: Sue Block at 208-569-1976, Rob Smith 484-547-9260 or Pastor Tami.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS – OCTOBER 5th, 2025

Our annual GWOH event will be Sunday October 5th from 9:30 – 10:30 AM. This is a great opportunity to help various local community organizations working side-by-side with fellow Holy Spirit members. We will be constructing care bags for the following organizations: Neighborhood House, Allentown Rescue Mission, Loads of Blessings (formerly Laundry on Linden), Turning Point, LV Conference of Churches and LV Foster Care. We are collecting the following for each care bag; toothpaste, toothbrush, bar of soap, shampoo, ChapStick, pocket pack of tissues, wide tooth comb and deodorant. These items are not to be trial size but do need to fit in a **gallon Ziplock bag**.

Additionally, we are collecting gently used (or new) backpacks for the Lehigh & Northampton County Foster Care children.

Collection boxes are outside the Fellowship Center. Please join us October 5th, 9:30 – 10:30 AM.



SIGN UP FOR CAT CAMP THIS FALL

We are preparing for Catechism Camp this fall. CAT Classes are available for those entering 6th through 9th grade. Please save the dates of October 10th -12th in your calendar and sign up using the link below so we know how many kids to expect! We would love to have parents as volunteer chaperones as well. Please indicate your interest by signing up now so we can plan appropriately! [CAT CAMP SIGN UP](#)

ALL CATECHISM UPDATES CAN BE FOUND BY USING THE QR CODE BELOW



JOIN OUR YOUTH PLANNING TEAM! We are looking to put together a team of CAT Class youth as well as their parent(s) to help plan out the calendar year with events. If you and/or your youth is interested, please indicate your availability using this google form! [FORM FOR PLANNING TEAM](#). If you have any questions, please email Amber at: obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org.

HIGH SCHOOL UPDATES CAN BE FOUND BY USING THE QR CODE BELOW



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.



GATHERING AT THE GATE Planned for September 16-17, 2025 in Washington, DC.

This is a grassroots movement, and we pray only a starting point. We are working to create the capacity for leaders to show up, listen deeply, and speak clearly. We gather to root ourselves in faith, amplify marginalized voices, and build trust that can carry lasting work forward. We gather as Lutherans, friends, and neighbors with and for the whole church and world.

More information can be found [HERE](#)

Registration information can be found [HERE](#)

If you were not able to attend the Zoom information

session, you can access it [HERE](#) and use passcode: 8QdQ6i=D



Handbells look like fun but I can't do that!

OH, YES, YOU CAN!!!

If you can count to 4 (OK, sometimes 12) and can see the little circles on the page (and we can blow them up, if needed!), then you can ring handbells! No previous experience or music-reading necessary! (Yes, it helps, but not necessary.)

The Spirit Ringers are in need of at least 2 additional handbell ringers for the upcoming season, and we'd like to have you join us! If you are interested or maybe just want to try them out with Reylene, one-on-one, please speak to Reylene ASAP. You'll see how much fun it can be!

LCHS MEMORIAL FUND AND ENDOWMENT PROGRAM

Gifting in memory of a loved one or yourself is a way to invite others into the life and love of Jesus, and a way for you to be a part of the Story of God to come. Please pick up a booklet explaining our program on the information table in the narthex, call the church office for a copy or [click here](#).

Join in an easy way to uplift that HUMANITARIAN AID TO GAZA Must Be Accessible and Safe - Despite assurances to the contrary, Gaza's population is still denied access to hygiene products, medication, and medical supplies by the U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Fund. [Write to Congress](#) to express support of accessible, safe, neutral access to humanitarian aid in line with international humanitarian law.

TRAVELING? CONNECT THE DOTS



As we grow in our connection with; God, faith, each other, and the wider community, may we ponder where travels have taken us this summer. We would love to hear where you have been and what you have experienced. Forms are available on the info table as well as outside the Fellowship Center. You can even attach a favorite photo of the trip. May we join in stewarding an appreciation for what God is up to in the many places we encounter and then share our insights with others. When your form is completed, you may leave it where you picked it up. Thank you!



Bloomin'
Faith Ministry

Thank you for your continued support of Bloomin' Faith, our monthly flower ministry which reaches all members of our church family. If you have a recipient in mind, please let Pr. Tami know. Upcoming delivery dates are Saturday **August 23** and September 27. **Ways you can help:** **Donations:** flowers from your garden are always welcomed. Please drop off in the church kitchen

before 10 am on the Friday before the delivery day. **Arrange:** bouquets are created the Friday morning before delivery in the church kitchen. **Deliver:** drivers are needed to pick up and deliver 2-3 bouquets, please sign up by [clicking here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Walton or Leesa Wimmer.



Dear Bloomin' Faith,
Thank you for the lovely flowers! It was totally unexpected, and they were beautiful. Since I have turned to Holy Spirit, it has been so wonderful to experience the joy and commitment of the members and pastors in this church.

~ Yours in Christ, Carol Goodley

Thank you, Bloomin' Faith Ladies, for the pretty bouquet in honor of my 91st birthday. It was so nice of you to think of me. Holy Spirit is very blessed to have you faithful ladies.

~ God's Peace, Harry Schell

Thank You! I am ever so grateful to the Bloomin' Faith Ministry for the beautiful bouquet to celebrate my 1-year anniversary in ministry with you. What a great surprise and a wonderful way to mark the year! Your thoughtfulness shined through in the care of its creation, meaningful note card, and determined delivery. Blessed joy to you all! ~ Pastor Shari

CONNECTING WITH THE WIDER CHURCH IS EASY

To connect with the wider church and hear about happenings near and far, we encourage you to check out ELCA Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod at: <https://nepasynod.org> and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA Churchwide located in Chicago) at: elca.org

YEHIEL CURRY ELECTED PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE ELCA

PHOENIX (July 30, 2025) — The Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected July 30 to serve a six-year term as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly being held July 28–Aug. 2 at the Phoenix (Ariz.) Convention Center.

Curry was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 799 votes cast, with 400 votes needed for an election. Curry received 562 votes, and the Rev. Kevin Strickland, bishop of the ELCA Southeastern Synod, received 237 votes. Curry is the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Speaking to the assembly after his election, Curry reflected on his membership at Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill., where he eventually became a lay mission developer while he participated in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries program, which prepares individuals for ordained ministry in the ELCA, with a focus on [emerging ministry contexts](#) like ethnic-specific, multicultural, rural and inner-city settings. He spoke to the assembly about his initial hesitation in accepting that first ministry role.

“Perhaps I’m out there in one of you,” Curry said. “I never saw myself as good enough, so for two years, I said no. I finally said yes. When I said yes, your support, this church’s support, of that ministry meant everything. So if you want to know what your benevolence dollars look like, it looks like me, and I want to say thank you. Thank you for your investment.”

Curry has served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019. He previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) in 2013. LSTC is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

REV. LUCILLE “CeCee” MILLS ELECTED ELCA SECRETARY

PHOENIX – The Rev. Lucille “CeCee” Mills was elected Aug. 1 to serve a six-year term as secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly being held July 28–Aug. 2 at the Phoenix (Ariz.) Convention Center.

Mills was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 782 ballots cast, with 392 votes needed for an election. Mills received 404 votes to 378 votes for the Rev. Matthew Riegel, bishop of the ELCA West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod. Mills will be the first Black secretary of the ELCA.

“I have to echo our newly elected presiding bishop (Yehiel Curry) — I’m the product of you. I’m also a TEEM candidate,” Mills said to the assembly following her election. The Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program prepares individuals for ordained ministry in the ELCA, with a focus on emerging ministry contexts such as ethnic-specific, multicultural, rural and inner-city settings.

“I do believe it’s a new season for our church,” Mills said. “I do believe that the reason why I, an African American woman who stands before you with no degrees in a church that cares so much about education, ... is because you saw the gifts and potential in me. I celebrate with you that we listen to God’s call and that we will become God’s beloved community.”

Mills has served as an assistant to the bishop in the ELCA North Carolina Synod since 2019. Previously she served as an interim pastor, as program associate for African Descent Ministries with the ELCA churchwide organization in Chicago; and as pastor of Rejoice Lutheran Church, Chesapeake, Va. She received a TEEM certification from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, S.C., in 2002.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, PHONE

Please contact the church office
610-967-2220 if you have recently
changed your address, phone number
or email. Thank you.



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, Ben, Phyllis, Tom, Joe, Donna, Ron, Rod, Scott, Glenn, Lisa, Gayle, Brad, Cheryl, Isabelle, Jameson, Diane, Keith, Laura, Chris, Marcus, Sue, Nancy, Jan, Helen, Fred, Laura, Norine, Betty, Sherri, Margie, and Don.

This weekend we celebrate the baptism of Maia James, daughter of Kaylyn and James. We welcome Maia into the body of Christ and our fellowship here at Holy Spirit.

In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency If you are in emergency need of having a pastor contact you, please call the church 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.

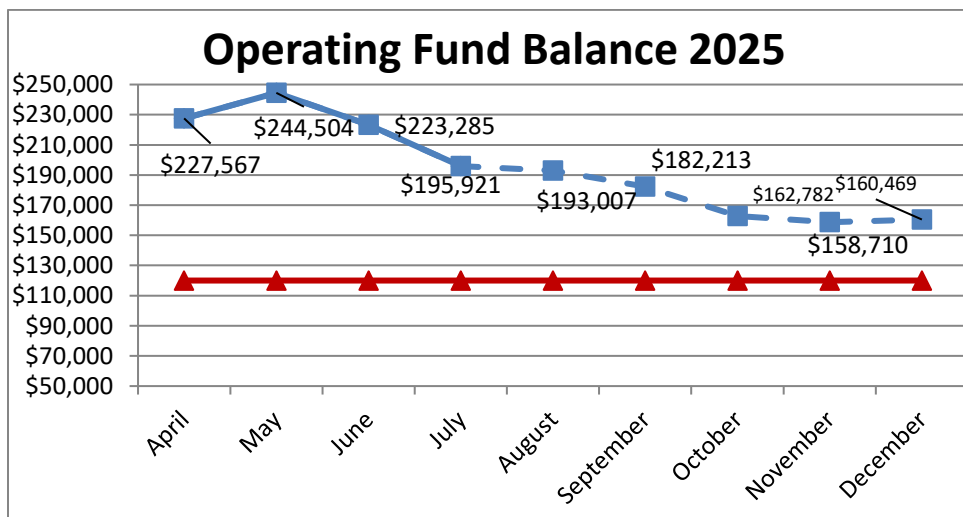
Prayer Request Reminder: Prayers requested for a particular individual will be spoken by name at Sunday worship for one month following the date of the request. Should prayers be desired beyond this initial period, another request may certainly be made. The names of our homebound members will be offered in worship at least once a month.

Financial Results and Discussion – July 2025

Operating Performance: July income was \$67,438, \$2,938 or 4.55% above budget. Operating expenses were \$94,802, \$7,132 or 7.00% below budget. We finished July with a \$27,364 deficit, compared to a budgeted deficit of \$37,434. The graph below presents our operating cash balance shown against our monthly cash requirement **April - 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 \$465.00 during the month and has a balance of \$7,527.44.

Mortgage Update: The mortgage balance as of July 31, 2025, is \$350,636.92.

CALENDAR

Sun. 8/10	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Spirits (WC)
Mon. 8/11	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
Tues. 8/12	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:30 pm	What then, shall we do (ASR)
Weds. 8/13	6:30 pm	Requiem Rehearsal (WC)
	7:00 pm	Adult Faith Formation (Zoom)
Thurs. 8/14	6:30 pm	8:30 Worship Rehearsal (WC)
Mon. 8/18	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)
Tues. 8/19	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Movie (ASR)
	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:00 pm	Preparedness Group (FC)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Council (117/119)
Weds. 8/20	6:00 pm	First Aid/CPR Class (FC)
	6:30 pm	Requiem Rehearsal (WC)
Thurs. 8/21	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Book Group (117)
	7:00 pm	Church Growth (Zoom)
Fri. 8/22	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)
Sat. 8/23	9:30 am	Bloomin' Faith (Parking Lot)
	4:00 pm	Rejoicing Spirits Snow Ball (FC)
Mon. 8/25	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastors Meeting (Office)
	11:00 am	LCHS Book Group (117/119)
Tues. 8/26	10:15 am	Staff Meeting (116)
Weds. 8/27	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Coffee Hour (FC)
	6:30 pm	Requiem Rehearsal (WC)
Mon. 9/1		Church Office Closed

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closing at 1:00 pm on Fridays
through August 29.