

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

- Sunday School Collections – See article below
- Community Garden – Summer harvest is here! See article below
- God's Work Our Hands – Save the date 10/5/25! See article below
- Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches Soup Kitchen – opportunity to serve! See article below

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

Sunday School Collection

Family Worship/Sunday School collections:

During the month of August, Family Worship will be partnering with the Outreach Mission Team to collect items needed for our God's Work Our Hands service project. Needed items are:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Shampoo
- Bar of soap
- Chapstick
- Pocket pack of tissues
- Wide tooth Comb
- Deodorant

God's Work Our Hands

God's Work Our Hands – October 5th, 2025: We will have our annual event on **Sunday October 5th approximately 9:30-10:30am.** This is a great opportunity to help various local community organizations working side by side with fellow Holy Spirit members. We will be putting together care bags to help those in need. 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. Various local organizations will receive the bags including Neighborhood House, Allentown Rescue Mission, Loads of Blessings (i.e. Laundry on Linden), Turning Point, Lehigh Conference of Churches, and LV Foster Care families. We will add a handmade card to the bags. We hope to prepare 450 bags so each organization receives 75 bags!

Additionally, we are collecting gently used (or new) backpacks for the Lehigh & Northampton County Foster Care children. While new backpacks are accepted, this is a great opportunity to put your used backpack to good re-use if you are shopping for a new one.

Collection boxes are outside the Fellowship Center.

Please join us on October 5th 9:30 – 10:30am. Exact time to be announced in September.

For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact Brenda Truhe at bltruhe@hotmail.com or 484-725-2488.

Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches Soup Kitchen

Have you ever thought about volunteering at a Soup Kitchen? The Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches is looking for volunteers to help serve at their soup kitchen at Day Break Drop-in Center at 457 West Allen Street in Allentown. The location is convenient and there are lots of time slots to help. It is a good way to serve people in our community who are in need of a meal, a chance at community with others, and a smiling face.

They need help as follows **Monday through Friday:**

Breakfast from 7:00 am – 9:30 am

Lunch from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm

Dinner from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Yes! That is a lot of time slots to fill! So, if you think this may be something you would like to do, please give it some consideration and ask a friend or family member or two or three to join you.

You can sign up individually or as a group for as many days/times as you want. Signing up as a group for an on-going day and time is most helpful for them as they have many time slots to fill, but they are grateful for individual/one-time volunteers.

You can contact Deb Walsh deblwalsh613@gmail.com or 610-217-2666 for more information. Or you can contact Amarelis Rodriquez at 610-433-6421 extension 6241 and she will be happy to speak with you. Thanks so much for considering this important ministry opportunity.

Community Garden

We harvested produce three times in July and delivered an additional 8 bags of salad greens, 6 cucumbers, 17 peppers, 23 yellow squash, and 2 eggplants to the Food Pantry at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie. ***If you have extra produce from your home garden to contribute, please bring it to the church kitchen by 9am Wednesday mornings.*** 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!

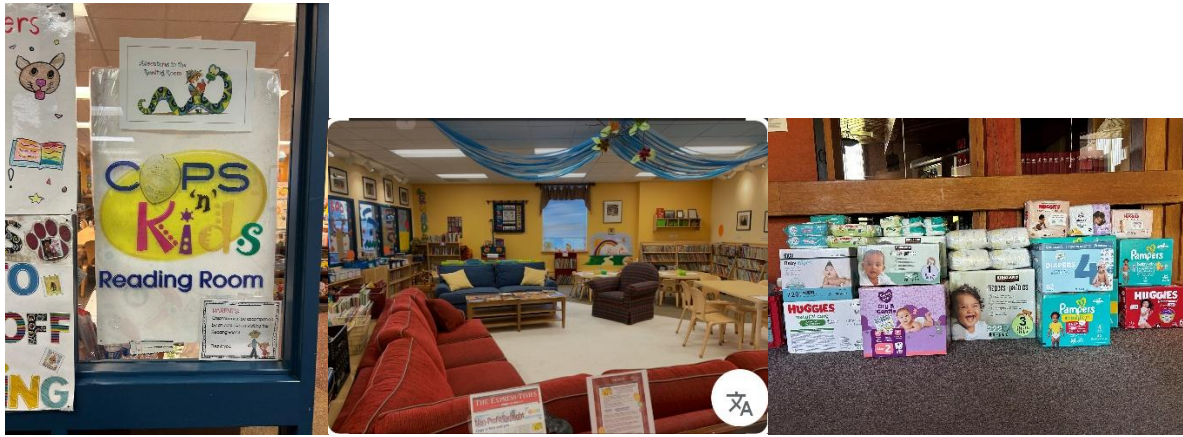


* OUTREACH SUMMARIES *

Past Sunday School Collection

Recently our Family Worship participants collected new and gently used books for Cops-n-Kids. We exceeded our goal of 1,000 books, and 1,249 books were recently delivered to their reading room located in Bethlehem. These books will be distributed to children at their summer reading room events as well as during several back-to-school supply events that Cop-n-Kids participates in.

During the month of July, we collected diapers and wipes for foster children who are served through Lehigh County Children and Youth Services. 1,377 diapers and 4,196 wipes were collected. These items will be delivered in August to help foster families and kinship placements meet the needs of children in their care.



Thank you to everyone who supported these collections!

Blood Drive

The Blood Drive 'sold out' at 32 donors. Thank you to all who participated in this valuable community service. There is always a need for donors so anyone who would like to donate moving forward can contact one of the local Miller-Keystone Blood Centers.

Foster Care Support

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 kinship family who will receive a donation is a grandmother who is raising four of her 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, simply notify Brenda Truhe at bltruhe@hotmail.com or 484-725-2488.

For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact Brenda.

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

- Council Liaison,
Lutheran Disaster Response,
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Benevolence:
Bob Mueller robtmueller@yahoo.com

- Angel Network: Deb Walsh deblwalsh613@gmail.com
<http://ehsangelnetwork.org/>

- Food/Shelter Assistance: Carole Wetherhold crwether@icloud.com
Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com
Brenda Truhe bltruhe@hotmail.com

- Global Missions: Ruth & Rick Doty rrehome01@gmail.com
<https://lchsemmaus.org/our-sponsored-arusha-ministry/>

- 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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