HOLY HAPPENINGS



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

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

info@holyspiritemmaus.org www.lchsemmaus.org

Upcoming Events

December 1

Lunch Bunch w/ Pr Shari

December 2

Holden Village Trip Meeting

December 3

Advent Meditation

December 5

Crafts, Cookies and Cocoa

December 7

Youth – Washington DC Trip Meeting The Bells of Christmas Concert

December 17, 21

Blue Christmas Worship

Sunday, November 30, 2025

*8:30 am Worship and Praise

9:15 am Intergenerational Advent Activity

9:45 am Family Worship

10:15 am Sunday School, Sermon/Gospel Replay

*10:45 am 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 communion.

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 511 504 8051 Audio only: 929-205-6099

Bulletins are available on the <u>website</u> 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

	in Person	∠oon
November 23, 2025		
8:30 am	145	10
9:45 am	85	N/A
10:30 am	96	12

WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	JoEllen Rooney		Bob Mueller
Communion Assistants	Sue Smith Rob Smith	Sheila Huff	Vi Ballard Terri Hinderliter
Readers	Lisa Walton	Amelia P.	Heather Coe Jan Coe
Children's Message		Karin Kahler	
Greeters	Becky Keane	Malkovsky Family	Fern Schlegel
Ushers	Nancy Shoemaker	Malkovsky Family	Ken Schlegel
Advent Wreath Lighters	Sue and Bob Smith	Knoll Family	Summer Family
Production/ Technology	Jimmy Lee Werley Bill Keane	Jimmy Lee Werley Bill Keane	Carol Osenbach Ev Reggie John Osenbach

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT ACTIVITIES EVENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

Between 9:15 and 10:45, join us in the Fellowship Center for the beginning of Advent. Activities vary from writing cards to refugee families and making a paper plate advent calendar. Pick up prompts for advent journaling or a game to play during this advent time. So many ideas to explore for all ages. If you attend family worship, plan to attend this opportunity before or after. All ages are welcome!

ESTIMATE OF GIVING - Connecting the Dots

Thank you to everyone that has submitted their 2026 Estimate of Giving over the past two months! The Finance Team has already started the 2026 budgeting process and the only way to accurately budget our expected 2026 income is through the Estimate of Giving process. If you have not already returned your Estimate of Giving, we ask that you submit it by the end of November. Estimate of Giving cards are available on the information table in the narthex and completed cards can be placed in the box in the narthex (to the left of the center doors) or in the offering plates on Sunday. Other ways to return your Estimate of Giving are to email finsec@holyspirit-emmaus.org or go online at lchsemmaus.org (click on Stewardship, then follow the prompts).

Again, thank you for your support as our church leadership plans for our ministries in the coming year. \sim From the LCHS Stewardship Team



PRESCHOOL CAR WASH GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Holy Spirit Nursery School is partnering with The Car Wash (Broadway, Hamilton, and West Main), to offer a gift card fundraiser. Gift cards in denominations of \$10, \$25, and \$50 will be sold with delivery in time for Christmas gift giving. The

preschool will receive 50% of each gift card sold. The proceeds will be used to support the preschool playground fund.

Gift cards can be used at any of the three locations and can be used toward the purchase of a variety of wash options.

Orders are due by Sunday, November 30th. Paper forms are available on the Information Table in the Lobby or an electronic form can be accessed by clicking here. Payment can be made using the church website, Venmo, cash, or check. Any questions, contact Karin Kahler or Leigh-Anne Wimmer.



FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH LUNCH BUNCH WITH PASTOR SHARI

Bring your lunch and join with Pastor Shari in conversation from Noon to 1 pm on **December 1st** the Fellowship Center.

HOLDEN VILLAGE SUMMER TRIP MEETING An informational meeting about members traveling together to Holden Village this coming summer will be held on Zoom on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd at 7 pm. Email your interest to Pastor Shari at prduminy@holyspirit-emmaus.org to receive a link to join the discussion or questions needing to be addressed. Jan. 1st is the day that registration opens for the coming summer. Preparation for meeting this deadline allows us to be able to attend the week that we want to travel. Check out more about Holden Village at https://www.holdenvillage.org/



Advent Meditation December 3 in the Fellowship Center at 2 pm December 17 in the Worship Center at 2 pm

Take some time to slow down and center yourself during this busy time of the year. We will start with Centering Prayer. Experience a walking meditation time. We will end with an Advent guided mediation to prepare our hearts and minds to receive the coming Messiah. We would love for you to join us.



CRAFTS, COOKIES AND COCOA

You are invited to join us for our annual crafts, cookies and cocoa event on **Friday**, **December 5**th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Children will have the opportunity to create Christmas themed crafts. The children can share the crafts they made as

Christmas gifts for family and friends so that they can experience the joy of giving. Refreshments of cookies and cocoa will be provided. All are welcome to join in the festivities! You can participate by planning/leading a craft, or bringing children (family, friends, and neighbors) to attend. Sign up using this link so we can plan for crafts and refreshments. If interested in leading a craft, please contact Karin Kahler.

YOUTH SUMMER TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC Informational Meeting

We invite all high school youth and their parents to attend an informational meeting about the DC Summer Trip from July $20-24^{th}$ on **Sunday, Dec. 7 at 9:30 am.** You will hear about the plans that have already been made and contribute ideas for what you are hoping the trip can include. It will be a time to ask questions and get registered. Join us in room 117/119.

VOLUNTEER AT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE Our first visit to

Neighborhood House at Christ Lutheran will be at 7:30 am Sunday, December 7th. We need six people to help to serve the breakfast from 7:30 am to around 11am. Youth volunteers must be accompanied by a parent. We are also in need of food donations - approx. 8 hot breakfast foods - egg dishes, french toast, etc. along with individually wrapped muffins, fruit, and tuna in foil packets.

Prepared dishes must be cooked/baked when they are delivered. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex for all of the food items. If you are interested in volunteering or bringing food items, please contact Deb Smith by email dsfotog@outlook.com or text at 610-972-6176. Deb will be available at all services this Sunday to sign you up. Food items may be dropped off at the church office on Friday, Dec. 5th.



The Bells of Christmas - December 7, 4:00 pm

A concert of Advent and Christmas music featuring the Spirit Ringers with singers and instruments.

With special guests: our Rejoicing Ringers!

PRIME TIMER'S DECEMBER CALENDAR

Movie Group – December 9 @ 10:00 am We will be watching, "Second Hand Lion" in the All-Saints Room. It's a feel-good movie!

Book Group – December 18 @ 10:00 am - how did you like the John Le Carre book, and did you read any books written by Geraldine Brooks? Bring your thoughts on both.

Christmas Brunch – December 22 @ 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center. Come, enjoy good food, fellowship, trivia, memories.

Bring a friend - All Are Welcome!

Support our LCHS Youth and get ready for the holiday season with festive gifts!

The LCHS Youth are selling gifts perfect for friends, family, co-workers, teachers, and more. All proceeds go to supporting LCHS Youth activities, including their service trip to Washington, D.C. this summer. Purchase our delicious Christmas Crunch Popcorn Mix or cozy up with our Hot Cocoa Kit available in Arctic White, Chocolate Supreme, and Mint Chocolate flavors! You can also sweeten your celebrations with a Candy Sleigh. Mix and match any three kits for \$20. Scan the QR code for easy ordering or pick up a paper copy available at the back table in the narthex. The last day to order is Dec. 7th. Pick up your order at all three services on Dec. 14th and Dec. 21st. Thank you in advance and have a Merry Christmas!



DECEMBER ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Join us each Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Center

Sunday, Dec. 7th - Spiritual Practice

Lectio Divina with Deacon Mel Werley

Lectio Divina (Latin for "divine reading") is a traditional Christian practice of prayerfully reading scripture to expand one's communion with God and gain deeper spiritual insight. It's a slow, contemplative engagement with a biblical text, not merely an intellectual study. The goal is to move from reading the text to internalizing it as the living Word of God, allowing it to shape one's life. We will experience Lectio Divina together as a group, as well as learn ways to practice Lectio Divina individually.

Sunday, Dec. 14 - Sunday School Christmas Pageant

Support our children as they tell the story of Christmas. 9:45 am in the Worship Center

Sunday, Dec. 21 - Christmas Around the World

On this Sunday close to Christmas, we ask you to share some of your own Christmas traditions with your Holy Spirit Church family. Register to bring in on that day, a family Nativity Scene to share. We will have rooms set up where you will display your Nativity from 9:30 to 10:30 that day. Or think about sharing a Christmas Treat that your family enjoys. We will have them on trays in the various rooms, or you can show us how they are made. (Fill out a separate registration form available on the information table in the Worship Center Lobby to participate.) Pastor Shari will be making Lefsa and would love for you to come and assist.

<u>Sunday, Dec. 28 – One worship at 10 AM – Lessons and Carols</u>
Join us for Christmas Breakfast in the Fellowship Center following.
If you would like to help, please reach out to <u>Linda Devine</u>.

ADDRESSES

Please help us out by letting us know if your address has changed. There are some forms on the information table you can fill out, or call/email the office. We would really appreciate you sharing ones who are attending university this year. Thank you.

FAITH AND CIVIC LIFE: SEEKING THE WELL-BEING OF ALL

December 10, 7 p.m. Fellowship Center

Members and friends are invited to join in studying the newly adopted ELCA Social Statement: Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-Being of All. We will begin with sections 1 and 2 of the Annotated Guide to the document. Copies of the Annotated Guide, Glossary and Implementing Resolutions are available in the narthex or by clicking here where you can also find the full document.

~ BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES ~ Wednesday 12/17 at 12:00pm and Sunday 12/21 at 12:30pm

While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas time. Blue Christmas worship services provide a time and place of solace during the often frenetic days surrounding the celebration of Christmas. We come together seeking healing and room to share grief, sadness, loneliness, or confusion when these emotions often feel out of place during the holidays. Please join us for healing, wholeness and hope.

M&M's TOO – an inspirational time for women to get together in prayer and discussion. Our next meeting will be on December 17th at 9:30 am in Room 117/119. Join us in a Carol sing and enjoy some Christmas cookies with friends.



ANNUAL REPORTS DUE DECEMBER 19

In an effort to streamline our annual report, we are asking teams to consider what they would like to share with the congregation. Try to highlight three or four key accomplishments / impact stories that lift up what your team does for our congregation, our local community and beyond. Annual Reports will be due to the church office no later than Friday, December 19, 2025.



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

PRAYERS CURRENT AS OF NOVEMBER 26, 2025

Our homebound members: Dale, 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:

Al, Ben, Janet, Phyllis, Tom, Joe, Donna, Ron, Bill, Jane, Rod, Tom, Dayton, Lisa, Dave, Brad, John, Terry, Ann, Patrick, Laura, Rich, Jim, Marcus, Nancy, Scott, Larry, Laura, Rick, and Don.

<u>In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency</u> 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.

<u>Prayer Request Reminder:</u> 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.

ADVENT OFFERINGS

This year, our Advent Offerings will be going to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Their Mission is to obtain food and distribute it to people in need through area nonprofits and to provide resources for education and advocacy to end hunger. At Second Harvest Food Bank, they believe all people deserve access to healthy, nourishing food.



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a <u>Communion Assistant here.</u>
Volunteers choose what day(s) they would like to serve. Training is available.

<u>Production Team Members</u> are always welcome. Not sure what all is involved, ask one of our team members. Training is provided and you can sign up for whatever services you'd like. <u>Click here</u> to sign up.

You can also **call the church office** if you are interested in serving and Nikki will add you to the list.



LCHS Spirit Wear Sale available through 1/31/2026

1. Scan the QR code to access the store or click here.



- 2. Select the item(s) you would like to purchase. Make sure to choose color and size and add to cart. Submit payment.
- 3. Check out and your order will be shipped directly to you!

DECEMBER WORSHIP / EVENT CALENDAR

Sunday, Novembe 30 Gospel of John Challenge

Wednesday, December 3 2:00 pm Advent Meditation

Friday, December 5 6:00 pm Crafts, Cookies & Cocoa

Sunday, December 7 4:00 pm The Bells of Christmas Concert

Friday, December 12 6:00 pm Youth Lock-In

Sunday, December 14 9:45 am Family Service Christmas Pageant

2:30 pm Rejoicing Spirits Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 17 Noon Blue Christmas Worship

2:00 pm Advent Meditation

Sunday, December 21 12:30 pm Blue Christmas Worship

Wednesday, December 24 Noon Church Office Closing

*3:00 pm Festival Worship

*5:00 pm Family Worship

+7:30 pm Worship and Praise

+10:00 pm Festival Worship

Arrive early for special music and singing favorite carols on Christmas Eve

December 25, 26 Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 28 +10:00 am Festival of Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, December 31 Noon Church Office Closing

Thursday, January 1 Church Office Closed

*Child Care Available + Worship is also on Zoom

CALENDAR

<u>CALENDAR</u>			
Mon. 12/1	10:00 am	Counters (116)	
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)	
	12:00 pm	Lunch w/ Pr Shari (117/119)	
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 119/119)	
Tues. 12/2	9:15 am & 12:40 pm NS Chapel (WC)		
	Noon	Staff Christmas Luncheon	
	5:30 pm	Grief Support Group (117/119)	
	6:30 pm	NS Board Meeting (116)	
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)	
	7:00 pm	Holden Village Summer Trip Mtg. (Zoom)	
	7:00 pm	Tech Team Meeting (Zoom)	
Weds. 12/3	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)	
	10:00 am	Staff Worship Planning (116)	
	2:00 pm	Advent Meditation (FC)	
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)	
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)	
	6:30 pm	Faith & Civic Life (110/112)	
	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Service Unit (SC)	
Thurs. 12/4	8:30 am	NS Conferences (110/112)	
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)	
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)	
	7:00 pm	Staff Support (116)	
Fri. 12/5	10:00 am	Decorating	
	6:00 pm	Crafts, Cookies, Cocoa (FC)	
Sat. 12/6	10:00 am	Spirit Ringers (WC)	
Sun. 12/7	9:30 am	Youth Washington DC Trip Mtg. (117/119)	
	1:00 pm	Angel Network (FC)	
	4:00 pm	The Bells of Christmas Concert (WC)	
	6:00 pm	Youth Hang (SC)	
Mon. 12/8	10:00 am	Counters (116)	
	11:00 am	Pastors Meeting (Office)	
	12:00 pm	NS Conferences (110/112)	
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Team (116)	
Tues. 12/9	9:15 am & 12:	:40 pm NS Chapel (WC)	
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Movie Group (ASR)	
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)	
Weds. 12/10	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)	
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)	
	5:00 pm	Adult Faith Formation (Zoom)	
	6:00 pm	Global Missions (110/112)	
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)	
	7:00 pm	Faith & Civic Life (FC)	