



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

December 21

Sunday School
Christmas Pageant

Blue Christmas Worship

December 24

3:00 pm Festival Worship
5:00 pm Family Worship
7:30 pm Worship & Praise
10:00 pm Festival Worship

December 25, 26
Church Office Closed

December 28
**10:00 am Lessons &
Carols followed by
breakfast**

Sunday, December 21, 2025

***8:30 am Worship and Praise**

9:45 am Christmas Pageant

***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 [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

In Person Zoom

December 14, 2025

10:00 am

N/A

198

WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Diane Evans		Marian Snyder
Communion Assistants	Sue Mathieu Angie Niland		Michael Epperly Sheila Huff
Readers	Mason Mills		Anne Osenbach
Children's Message		Sunday School Christmas Pageant	
Greeters	Christine Bolen	Christine Bolen	Linda Letts
Ushers	Bob Bolen	Bob Bolen	John Letts
Advent Wreath Lighters	Mills Family	Hodgskin Family	Osenbach Family
Production/Technology	Bill Newill Bill Keane Kristen Newill Jimmy Lee Werley	Craig Kauffman Bill Keane	Craig Kauffman Robert Neitz Volunteer Needed



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Bring your family to enjoy our annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 21 at 9:45 am.

We encourage those who attend **Adult Faith Formation** to come out to support our Sunday School children as they present **"The Littlest Shepherd."**

~ BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE ~

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.*



Have a blast at Bear Creek Camp in the Winter!

January 9-11, 2026

4th Grade – 12th Grade

Registration Closes Dec. 21st

Whether you are a long-time BCC summer camper or want to get your first overnight experience at camp, this is an amazing weekend for fun, friendship, and faith connections. [Click here](#) for more information.

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

If you have not already done so, please send your Annual Report to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

PRIME TIMER'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Join us on December 22 @ 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center to enjoy good food, fellowship, trivia, memories and fun!

Bring a friend – All Are Welcome!

ADVENT OFFERINGS

Our Advent Offerings this year will be given to 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. **Thank you for all the ways you faithfully give each and every day.**



Sunday, Dec. 28

One worship at 10 AM

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Join us for Christmas Breakfast in the Fellowship Center following worship. If you would like to help, please reach out to [Linda Devine](#).

FAMILY WORSHIP COLLECTION

Through January 11th, Family Worship will be collecting the following items:

- Applesauce pouches – **need 60**
- Crackers with cheese (non-perishable) – **need 84**
- Capri-Sun juice pouches – **need 90**
- Fruit snacks – **need 30**
- Nut free granola bars such as Cliff bar for Kids – **need 84**

Our Sunday school students will use these items to make snack bags for children in the Allentown School District. We are hoping to collect enough items to make 100 bags. The bags could be used to send home with children prior to an inclement weather day, shared with after school tutoring participants, or given to students whose families are experiencing homelessness.



BLOOMIN' FAITH We have been blessed by an outpouring of goodwill, both from those involved in this ministry and those receiving the flowers. Thank you for your part in helping us spread the healing power of flowers.

There are a variety of ways to support our ministry:

Donations: branches & evergreens are welcomed this time of year. Drop off in the church kitchen before 10 am the Friday the bouquets are made. 2) Arrange: bouquets are created the Friday morning before delivery in the church kitchen. 3) Deliver: drivers are needed to pick up and deliver 2-3 bouquets. Please [click here](#) if you can help. Our next **delivery date is Dec. 20**. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Walton or Leesa Wimmer.

LCHS BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting is on Monday, January 26 at 11AM.

We will be meeting in room 117/119.

We will be discussing: *Greenlight* by Matthew McConaughey. All are welcome to join us.



SUPPORT OUR SISTERS IN TANZANIA

Between now and February 1, 2026, the Global Mission Team will be collecting donations to help organizations like Empowered Girls, Eripoto, and the MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School which provide safety, security, and education for young women in need of support.



Please donate in one of three ways: online via Holy Spirit's website, by Venmo or by check made out to the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit and mailed to the church office – please be sure to designate that the donation is for Support Our Sisters. **We invite you to take an ornament** from one of the Global Missions trees (narthex and Fellowship Center lobby) to help you, or someone to whom you give the ornament, think about how your blessings can be used to address the needs of others.



venmo



CUT OFF DATE FOR 2025 CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions that you wish to have applied to 2025 must be in the church office ***no later than Tuesday, December 30th at noon.*** **One-time electronic contributions** should be entered by 12/26 to allow for processing time (1-3 business days) for it to appear on your 2025 statement. If you are **mailing your donations**, please mail them in enough time to arrive in the church office by the cutoff date and time. Any contributions that are brought to church after 12/30 will be applied to 2026. Please contact [Terri Hinderliter](#) if you have any questions.



LCHS Spirit Wear Sale – available through 1/31/2026



- Scan the QR code to access the store or [click here](#).
- Select the item(s) you would like to purchase.
- Make sure to choose color and size and add to cart.
- Submit payment.
- Check out - your order will be shipped directly to you!



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:

In the event that we need to cancel **in-person Sunday worship** due to weather, power outage, etc., we will hold **one on-line worship service at 10:00 am via Zoom.**

Please check the church's website, Facebook and/or MailChimp emails for updated news on worship cancellations. Information will also appear on WFMZ.

Please remember the church office follows the same schedule as the East Penn School District so if schools are closed, the office is closed. If there is a delayed start, the office opens on a delay.

2026-2027 Preschool Registration time is approaching! Registration for current students, their siblings and church members will occur on Tuesday, January 13th. Holy Spirit Christian Nursery School has proudly been serving the children of our church and community for 50 years. Classes are provided for children age 3, 4 and 5 years old. If interested in learning more or registering, contact [Karin Kahler](#).



Members of Holy Spirit provided breakfast at Neighborhood House recently. This was the first of three dates for Holy Spirit - we will provide breakfast again on January 25th and March 1st.

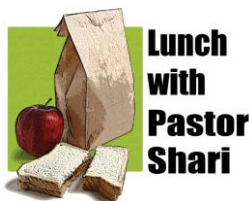
We were able to serve hot meals and packed lunches to around 40 very appreciative individuals.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our Holy Spirit Volunteers and all those who provided food. It is most appreciated.



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a [Communion Assistant here](#). Volunteers choose what day(s) they would like to serve. Training is available.



FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH **LUNCH BUNCH WITH PASTOR SHARI**

Bring your lunch and join with Pastor Shari in conversation from Noon to 1pm on Monday, January 5th in the Fellowship Center. Prayer will conclude our time together. If you can't make this month, our next gathering will be on February 2, 2026.



THANK YOU FROM EHS ANGEL NETWORK

Well - another December basket pickup with a wintry mix!! Last Wednesday we gave out over 150 baskets to East Penn families in rain, snow, sleet and cold.

We are always amazed by the generosity of this community. Our food and gift cards collections were amazing. We have over 40 school, church and community groups that collect for us and they went above and beyond this fall.

We were able to offer each family a pantry box, a bag of personal care items, laundry detergent, and fresh apples and carrots. The families were able to shop for additional food, clothing, bedding and household items. Each student received a holiday gift card, and the families received a grocery card to help with perishables.

We had many new donors and volunteers. It's always so much fun to see the look on their faces when they walk in for the first time and see the piles of food.

Thank you for your support and generosity. You make it possible for us to brighten the holidays a little bit for these families. Here are a few thank you's from the families:

- *I'm grateful for what's given. Thank you!*
- *Thank you for this blessing. We appreciate it so much!*
- *Thank you so much, our family really appreciates your kindness.*

Have a wonderful holiday season and a healthy happy New Year!

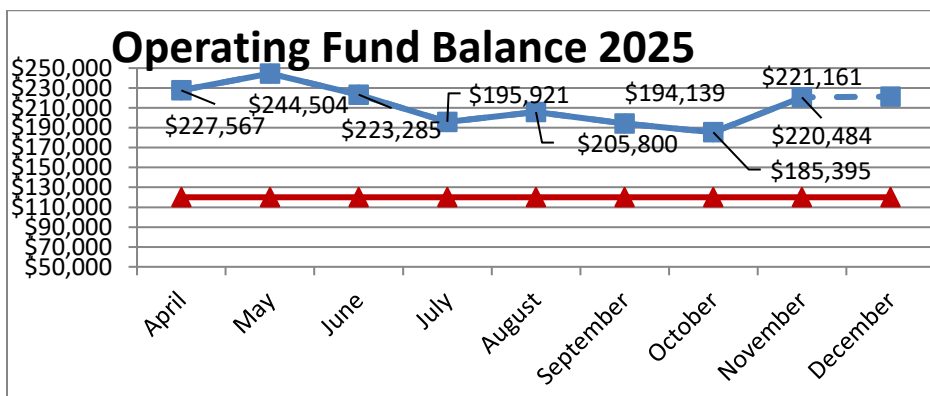
~ EHS Angel Network

Financial Results and Discussion – November 2025

Operating Performance: November income was \$105,989, \$35,706 or 50.8% above budget. The church received \$35,000 in pledged and unpledged donations normally received in December, which inflated November's surplus. Operating expenses were \$70,900, \$2,201 or 3.0% below budget. We finished November with a \$35,089 surplus, compared to a budgeted deficit of \$2,818. 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 decreased \$352.50 during the month and has a balance of \$4,869.94.

Mortgage Update: The mortgage balance as of November 30, 2025, is \$346,443.36.

****Note:** The mortgage rate is set to adjust in April 2026 and is expected to be higher. Any funds contributed to Spirit Led, Spirit Alive will be used to pay down the principal balance before the interest rate adjusts on the mortgage.



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

Our homebound members: Fern, Tom, Phyllis, Gayle, Joan, Dick, Gordon, Christopher, Darla, Larry, Jean, Norine, Billie, and Bob.

Pray for God's healing for our members and friends:

Al, Ben, Janet, Phyllis, Tom, Joe, Bill, Jane, Rod, Dayton, Lisa, Dave, Brad, John, Ed, Terry, Ann, Laura, Marcus, Mike, Sue, Laura, Sheila, and Don.

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.

DECEMBER WORSHIP / EVENT CALENDAR

Sunday, December 21	9:45 am	Sunday School Christmas Pageant
	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

Sun. 12/21	9:45 am	Sunday School Christmas Pageant (WC)
	12:30 pm	Blue Christmas Service (FC)
Mon. 12/22	9:30 am	Decorating
	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Christmas Brunch (FC)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
Tues. 12/23	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
Wed. 12/24	3:00 pm	Festival Worship (WC)
	5:00 pm	Family Worship (WC)
	7:30 pm	Worship & Praise (WC)
	10:00 pm	Festival Worship (WC)
Thurs. 12/25		Church Office Closed
Fri. 12/26		Church Office Closed
Sun. 12/28	10:00 am	Festival of Lessons and Carols (WC)
	11:00 am	Breakfast (FC)
Tues. 12/30	12:30 pm	Counters (116)
Wed. 12/31	Noon	Church Office Closing
Thurs. 1/1		Church Office Closed
Sun. 1/4	6:00 pm	Youth Hang Out (FC)
Mon. 1/5	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	12:00 pm	Lunch w/Pastor Shari (FC)
	6:00 pm	Budget Meeting (116)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR/117/119)
Tues. 1/6	9:15 am & 12:45	NS Chapel (WC)
	12:00 pm	Gospel of John Challenge Luncheon (FC)
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
	5:30 pm	Gospel of John Challenge Dinner (FC)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
Wed. 1/7	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)
Thurs. 1/8	9:25 am	NS Music (WC)
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)
	7:00 pm	Staff Support (116)
Fri. 1/9	10:00 am	Decorating
Sat. 1/10	11:00 am	Girl Scout Cookie Rally