

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
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Upcoming Events

December 7

Youth – Washington DC
Trip Meeting



The Bells of Christmas
Concert

December 14

Sunday School
Christmas Pageant

December 17, 21

Blue Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 7, 2025

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

**9:30 am Adult Faith Formation,
Cat Class, HS Connect**

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 [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

November 30, 2025

8:30 am	107	13
9:45 am	82	N/A
10:30 am	80	16

WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Linda Devine		Craig Scott
Communion Assistants	Sue Mathieu Linda Devine	Leigh-Anne Wimmer Jennifer Wetzel	Jackie Leipert Sheila Huff
Readers	Mackenzie L.	Paige K.	Dianna Olszewski
Children's Message		Kristen Newill	
Greeters	Lorie Stout Sherman Pattie Bisbing	Lorie Stout Sherman	Nancy Slimmer
Ushers	Gerry Masteller	Lorie Stout Sherman	Rick Slimmer
Advent Wreath Lighters	Melanie Werley Jimmy Lee Werley	Wetzel/Brotzman Family	Alice Mudge Glynnis Rea
Production/ Technology	Jimmy Lee Werley Glenn Hinderliter	Bill Keane Craig Kauffman	Craig Kauffman Robert Neitz

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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.

**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!



A festive poster for holiday gifts. The background is light pink with red borders on the left and right. In the top left corner is a green holly leaf with three red berries. The title "Holiday gifts" is written in a black cursive font. In the top right corner, a white box contains the text "BUNDLE DEAL 3 for \$20". Three products are displayed in framed images: "Christmas Crunch popcorn mix \$8" (a bag of popcorn), "Hot Coco Kit \$8" (a mug of hot chocolate), and "Candy Sleigh \$10" (a sleigh filled with candy). A QR code is in the bottom left. At the bottom center, it says "DEC 7TH LAST DAY FOR SALES". In the bottom right corner is a green Christmas tree with a yellow star on top.

Holiday gifts

BUNDLE DEAL
3 for \$20

Christmas Crunch popcorn mix \$8

Hot Coco Kit \$8

Candy Sleigh \$10

DEC 7TH LAST DAY FOR SALES

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 – 24th 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, Dec. 7th. **We need six people to help to serve the breakfast** from 7:30 to around 11 am. 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. prepared in a 13 x 9 disposable pan, along with individually wrapped muffins, fruit, and tuna in foil packets. Prepared dishes must be cooked/baked when they are delivered. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Deb Smith by email dsfotog@outlook.com or text at [610-972-6176](tel:610-972-6176). Food items can be dropped off at the church on 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!

Invite your family and friends to come and enjoy this special concert.

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!

**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 as well as online by [clicking here](#) where you can also find the full document.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Bring your family and come to enjoy our annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 14 at 9:30 am.

Our Sunday School classes will present
"The Littlest Shepherd."

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
Rejoicing  **Spirits**

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the following Rejoicing Spirits events:

The Rejoicing Ringers will participate in the Bells of Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 7th at 4:00 pm.

The Rejoicing Spirits service on Sunday, December 14th at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center, will include our Christmas Pageant. Every Rejoicer is featured in the Pageant, and the Rejoicing Ringers will accompany beautiful Christmas songs with bells and chimes.

Invite your family and friends. All Are Welcome!

DECEMBER ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

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 to participate.) Pastor Shari will be making Lefsa and would love for you to come and assist.

Sunday, Dec. 28 – One worship at 10 AM – Lessons and Carols

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

~ BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES ~

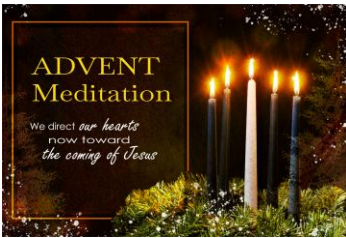
[Wednesday 12/17 at 12:00pm and Sunday 12/21 at 12:30pm](#)

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.](#)***

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.**

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.



Advent Meditation **December 17 @ 2 pm** **in the Worship Center**

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 meditation to prepare our hearts and minds to receive the coming Messiah. We would love for you to join us.

ANNUAL REPORT

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.

FAMILY WORSHIP COLLECTION

During the month of December, Family Worship will be collecting the following items:

- Slim Jims
- Applesauce pouches
- Crackers with cheese (non-perishable)
- Capri-Sun juice pouches
- Fruit snacks
- Nut free granola bars such as Cliff bar for Kids

The 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.



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!

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.



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.

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.



venmo



Also, **please 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. Wait for the savior with faith, hope, and action.

LCHS BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting is:

Monday, December 15 at 11AM.

We will be meeting in room 117/119.

A potluck lunch is planned. All are welcome, feel free to bring something to share and join us!

We will be discussing:

The Santa Suit by Mary Kay Andrews

Jan. 26: Greenlight by Matthew McConaughey



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.



Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers in honor of my joining Holy Spirit. What a surprise and welcoming to this great church. The breakfast, the service, the gift of a Bible and loving people and pastors made this a momentous event in my life.

I only hope that I can give back as much as I received here.

~ Carol Goodley

My sincere appreciation and thanks for the beautiful flower arrangement I received this weekend. I have appreciated all the cards and prayers on my behalf. God's blessing ~ Nancy and John McClain

Just wanted to send a quick note to thank you and everyone at Holy Spirit for such a warm welcome. The flowers we got were lovely, the Bible's we all received are beautiful and we are all so touched by the hospitality and sincere welcome.

Thank you from the Baade's.
Michael, Erin, Landon and Emilia



Thank you to all who wrote on cards for the holidays offering hope to our refugee and immigrant neighbors. 56 cards of hope were sent off this week to be given to one in care of Global Refugee Child and Family Services programs, or who are in detention centers.

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.



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a [Communion Assistant here](#).

Volunteers choose what day(s) they would like to serve. Training is available.

Production Team Members 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. [Click here](#) to sign up.

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



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

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, Scott, Sue, Larry, Laura, and Don.

In times of sorrow for the family and friends of Nancy McClain.

In times of joy and celebration for Jim Madara's 97th birthday.

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 7	4:00 pm	The Bells of Christmas Concert
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

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)
	10:15AM	Staff Meeting (116)
	12:00 PM	Staff Christmas Luncheon
	4:30 pm	Grief Support Group (117/119)
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)
Thurs. 12/11	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)
Fri. 12/12	10:00 am	Decorating
	6:00 pm	Youth Lock-In
Sun. 12/14	9:45 am	Christmas Pageant (WC)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Spirits (WC)
Mon. 12/15	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	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. 12/16	11:00 am	Nursery School Song Fest (WC)
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Congregation Council (116)
Weds. 12/17	9:30 am	M&M's Too (117/119)
	Noon	Nursery School Staff Luncheon (SC)
	Noon	Blue Christmas Service (FC)
	2:00 pm	Advent Meditation (WC)
	6:00 pm	Preparedness Group (116)
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)
Thurs. 12/18	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Book Group (117/119)
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	7:00 pm	Church Growth (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)
Fri. 12/19	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)