



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

January 11
Rejoicing Spirits

February 8, 2026
Souper Bowl of Caring
Annual Congregational
Meeting
Rejoicing Spirits

February 15
Jesus and Jammies!

February 18
Ash Wednesday

Sunday, January 11, 2026

***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**

2:30 pm Rejoicing Spirits

**Nursery Care is available at all
morning services in Room 113.**

***Worship service will be 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

January 4, 2026

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|
| 8:30 am | 138 | 15 |
| 9:45 am | 84 | N/A |
| 10:45 am | 93 | 14 |

| WORSHIP HELPERS | 8:30 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Assisting Ministers | Leesa Wimmer | | Alice Mudge |
| Communion Assistants | Carol Walrod Don Walrod | Sheila Huff Leigh-Anne Wimmer | Vi Ballard Michael Epperly |
| Readers | Eric Kahler | Carly K. | Nina McNally |
| Children's Message | | Courtney Keiser | |
| Greeters | Becky Keane | John McClain | Fern Schlegel |
| Ushers | Bob Rohrbach | John McClain | Ken Schlegel |
| Production/ Technology | Bill Keane Glenn Hinderliter Jimmy Lee Werley | Craig Kauffman Bill Keane | Craig Kauffman Volunteers Needed |

ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

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

Adult Faith Formation – 9:30 am in the Fellowship Center

Jan. 11th – **Connect with Faith - Second Sunday Seminary** with Luther Professor Andrew Root - In this thought-provoking digital session, Dr. Andrew Root delves into the crisis of secularization, church decline, and the challenges of leadership in a time of instability. Root explains, growth happens when we slow down and cultivate meaningful relationships with each other, rooted in shared purpose and a common mission.

Jan. 18th – **Connect to Community: Bloom** Join us to hear about the mission of Bloom and their providing sanctuary and a continuum of care to heal, empower and employ survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Through creating a lifelong community of hope, healing and freedom lives are transformed.

Jan. 25 – **Connect to One Another: Fellowship and 2026 Budget Discussion**

Join members of the Finance Mission Team to explore the 2026 Budget in preparation for the Annual Meeting. This is a time for questions to be asked and understanding to be gained as we consider how resources will be distributed. This is also Holy Communion Sunday. Whatever time is remaining will be filled with conversations of the gift we receive through the sacrament of Holy Communion.



Rejoicing Spirits will present its Christmas/Epiphany Pageant on Sunday, January 11th at 2:30 pm in the Worship Center. The Rejoicing Ringers will use handbells and chimes to accompany some favorite Christmas songs. A holiday reception will be held in the Fellowship Center following the service. Please join us and bring your family and friends. ALL are welcome!

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS

BOOK CLUB – 10:00 am on January 15. We will be discussing, “*The Children’s Blizzard*” by Melanie Benjamin in Room 117/119.

MOVIE GROUP – 10:00 am on January 20. Join us to watch, “*Jumping Jack Flash*” in the All-Saints Room.

COFFEE HOUR – 10:00 am on January 28. We will meet in the Fellowship Center for fun discussions, trivia, future events, baked goods and laughter. Bring a friend or neighbor and join us.

BLOOMIN' FAITH

Bloomin' Faith will be taking a break this January and will resume the end of February with deliveries on Saturday Feb 28. Sign up here: [Bloomin' Faith February and March 2026](#)

FAMILY WORSHIP COLLECTION

We are looking to collect **22 Slim Jims** by January 11th for the snack bags that are going to the children in the Allentown School District. We have been blessed in that we originally were looking to fill 100 bags, but now, with your generosity, we can now fill 150 bags. Thank you.

January 18 – February 22 we will be collecting the below listed items for Peaceable Kingdom. Flyers are available on the information table in the narthex.



WISHLIST

CATS:

- Purina One Kitten Dry Food
- Canned Food (No Seafood)
- Royal Canin Mother and Baby Dry and Wet Food
- KMR Kitten Formula (Powder)
- Miracle Nipples (Mini)
- Dry Cat Food - Purina One or Purina Naturals
- Jars of Chicken, Turkey, Beef Baby Food

DOGS:

- Purina One Small Bites Beef
- Canned Dog Food (Any)
- Poop Bags
- Greenies Pill Pockets
- Kongs
- Nyla or Benebones
- New Leashes (6ft)
- Ceramic Water Bowls

RABBITS/GUINEAS:

- Timothy Hay
- Orchard Grass Hay
- Oxbow Adult and Young Rabbit Food
- Oxbow Adult and Young Guinea Pig Food
- Willow Balls and Baskets
- Timothy Chew Toys

SUPPLIES:

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Bleach (Not Splashless)
- Trash Bags (13 & 30 Gal)
- Laundry Detergent
- Windex
- Dish Soap
- Copy Paper

www.lvpeaceablekingdom.info



2026-2027 Preschool Registration

time is fast approaching! Registration for current students, their siblings and church members will open at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 13. [Click here to register.](#)

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, you can also contact [Karin Kahler](#).

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!



Neighborhood House Volunteer Opportunity - Jan. 25th

There are still a few volunteer slots open as well as the need for breakfast dishes and food items for our next hosting of breakfast at Neighborhood House on January 25th. As the temperatures fall, the needs rise with head counts nearly doubling in the past few weeks. We anticipate serving approximately 75 folks in need of warmth, shelter, and food. As the words to the poem tell us, "The work of Christmas begins - to find the lost, heal the broken, feed the hungry..."

Sign-up sheets to volunteer and/or provide breakfast items are posted in the narthex. All casseroles must be pre-baked and dropped off at Holy Spirit on Friday 1/23. We are also collecting small bottles of water and Hot Hands hand warmers. A collection box has been placed outside the worship center for non-perishables.

Any questions? See Deb Smith or email dsfotog@outlook.com or text 610-972-6176. Thank you for your support!

COAT DRIVE for Lehigh Conference of Churches: We are collecting new and gently used **ADULT** coats for the Lehigh Conference of Churches. Please ensure any used coats are gently used and freshly washed. The Lehigh Conference of Churches (LCC) is a faith-based, nonprofit agency connecting basic human needs to the most vulnerable people in the Lehigh Valley. LCC runs the Conference Kitchen to receive a free nutritious meal 3 times a day, five days a week for working poor, homeless, individuals on fixed income, and those who have nowhere else to turn. LCC has a Drop-In Center in Allentown and Easton to provide lockers, showers, clothing, access to computers and trained caseworkers. Collection box is outside the Fellowship Center. For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact [Brenda Truhe](#)

HELP OUR SISTERS DEFINE AND PURSUE

THEIR DREAMS – Through the month of January, Holy Spirit continues its campaign to Support Our Sisters in Tanzania. In a country where the historical culture saw women in very limited homemaking roles, a few organizations now help women by protecting their safety, providing them education, and giving them life and leadership skills. Among those are the MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School, Empowered Girls, Eripoto, and the ALMC Medical Training Center (formerly the ALMC Nursing School).



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.



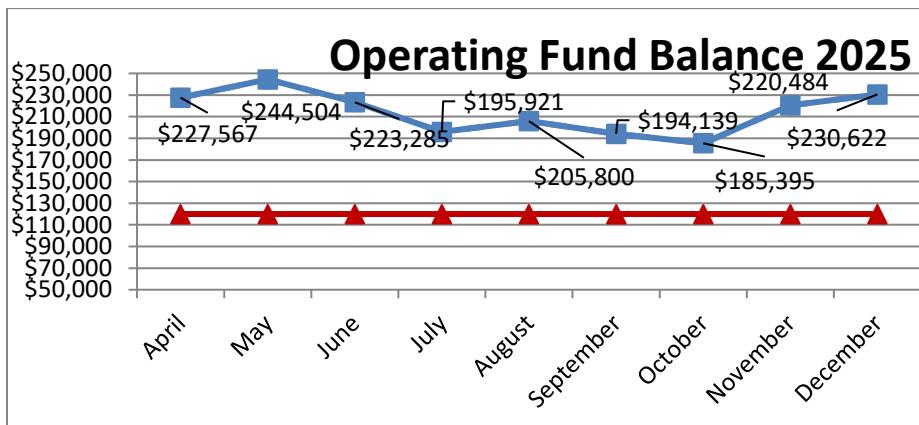
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Financial Results and Discussion – December 2025

Operating Performance: December income was \$132,084.39, \$19,146 or 17.0% above budget. Operating expenses were \$121,946, \$10,920 or 9.8% above budget. We finished December with a \$10,138 surplus, compared to a budgeted surplus of \$1,913. 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.



Building Fund: The building fund increased \$605.00 during the month and has a balance of \$5,474.94.

Mortgage Update: The mortgage balance as of December 31, 2025, is \$345,358.98.

****Note:** Thank you to everyone that has contributed to reducing the mortgage. The mortgage rate is set to adjust in April 2026 and is expected to be higher. The opportunity to contribute funds to pay down the principal balance before the interest rate adjusts on the mortgage is January 18, 2026. Your consideration towards this effort is greatly appreciated.



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

Our homebound members: 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, Pattie, Brian, Phyllis, Ollie, Joe, Donna, Ron, Rod, Dayton, John, Ed, Marie, Terry, John, Ann, Laura, Marcus, Tom, Mike, Laura, Sheila, and Don.

In times of sorrow for the family and friends of William Bohner, the family and friends of Fern Crone, Deb Burke's mother, and the family and friends of Daniel Palmer.

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.



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 meaning if schools are closed, the office is closed. If there is a delayed start, the office opens on a delay.



Sunday, February 8, 2026 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING AND ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

8:30 am – Worship & 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

11:45 – 12:15 – Light Lunch* (Room 110/112)

12:15 pm – **Annual Meeting** (Worship Center)

(In person and on Zoom)

2:30 pm - Rejoicing Spirits

*The hospitality team needs people who will be willing to donate an item for lunch before our annual meeting. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the worship center lobby with the items that are needed. Your items may be brought to the church kitchen the morning of the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact [Linda Devine](#) or the church office. Thank you.



"GO!" is about being empowered to step up and explore the world- genuinely and authentically. To bring how we live at camp into our communities- taking action with intention, curiosity, bravery, and empathy.

BEAR CREEK CAMP'S overnight program is centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living, and small group development for all children who have completed grades 1-12. All campers will experience adventurous activities like hiking and high ropes, teambuilding activities like games and low rope elements, and thoughtful activities like bible study and small group discussions. Throughout the week, the entire camp joins together for morning worships, beginning- and end-of-week bonfires, and other program activities including all-camp games and the dance. Activities change from week to week as no camper week is exactly alike. To learn more about what Bear Creek Camp has to offer or to register for camp, please [click here](#).

2026 Session Dates

Session 1: June 21-26
Session 2: June 28-July 3*
Session 3: July 5-July 10+
Session 4: July 12-17*#
Session 5: July 19-24#
Session 6: July 26-31#
Session 7: August 2-August 7#
Session 8: August 9-14*

**Try camp is available*
+*Family Camp, Artist's Retreat*
#*Rafting trip option available*

CALENDAR

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--|
| Sun. 1/11 | 2:30 pm | Rejoicing Spirits (WC & FC) |
| Mon. 1/12 | 9:30 am | Stitch-n-Chat (113) |
| | 10:00 am | Counters (116) |
| | 11:00 am | Pastor's Meeting (Office) |
| | 6:00 pm | Budget Meeting (116) |
| | 6:30 pm | Fields at Jasper Ridge Mtg. (FC) |
| | 6:30 pm | Outreach Mission Team (Zoom) |
| Tues. 1/13 | 9:15 am & 1:00 pm | 12:45 pm NS Chapel (WC) Staff Meeting (116) |
| Weds. 1/14 | 9:15 am | NS Chapel (WC) |
| | 5:00 pm | Adult Faith Formation (Zoom) |
| | 6:00 pm | Global Missions (110/112) |
| | 6:30 pm | Spirit Ringers (WC) |
| Thurs. 1/15 | 9:15 am | NS Music (WC) |
| | 10:00 am | Prime Timer's Book Group (117/119) |
| | 6:00 pm | Children's Choir (WC) |
| | 7:00 pm | Spirit Voices (WC) |
| Fri. 1/16 | 9:15 am | NS Music (WC) |
| Mon. 1/19 | | Church Office Closed |
| | 7:00 pm | Stephen Ministers (Zoom) |
| Tues. 1/20 | 9:00 am | Counters (116) |
| | 9:15 am & 1:00 pm | 12:45 pm NS Chapel (WC) |
| | 10:00 am | Prime Timer's Movie Group (ASR) |
| | 1:00 pm | Staff Meeting (116) |
| | 7:00 pm | Community Justice Panel (SC) |
| Weds. 1/21 | 9:15 am | NS Chapel (WC) |
| | 9:30 am | M&M's Too (117/119) |
| | 6:30 pm | Spirit Ringers (WC) |
| Thurs. 1/22 | 9:15 am | NS Music (WC) |
| | 6:00 pm | Children's Choir (WC) |
| | 7:00 pm | Spirit Voices (WC) |
| Sat. 1/24 | 9:00 am | Spirit of Praise (WC) |