

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

- **March Sunday School Collection** – noisy offering for God's Global Barnyard
- **Angel Network** – Laundry detergent collection
- **Lenten ELCA World Hunger Appeal** – donate to feed the hungry
- **2026 Spring Mission Trip** – plan ahead and sign up now
- **Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank** – donate to feed the local community in need

* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES *

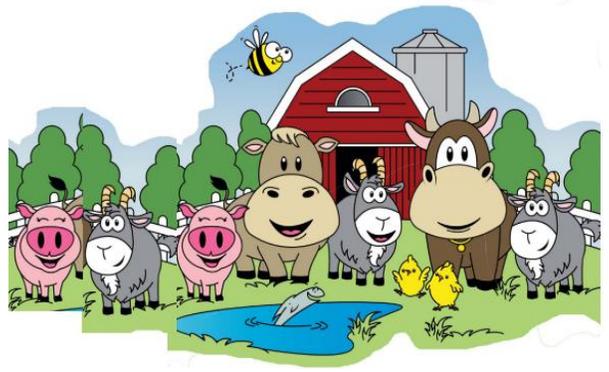
Sunday School Collection

The recent Family Worship Collection for the Allentown School District was a huge success, and we assembled 208 snack bags. The bags were recently delivered to Ruby Bridges Early Childhood Center in the Allentown School District. The children took the bags home so that they would have some extra food for the recent long weekend.



NOISY OFFERING FOR GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

The Sunday School Classes will have a noisy offering during the season of Lent. We will be collecting donations for God's Global Barnyard, an ELCA World Hunger Initiative. This collection will run from March 1-March 29.



EHS Angel Network

The Angel Network is busy planning and collecting for the spring food basket and clothing/linens give away. We are estimating that we will serve 135 students and their families this spring. We have already fulfilled our collection for green beans and corn. That is because of you - Holy Spirit - THANK YOU!!!!



Laundry detergent is our real need for spring.

[Click here](#) for an Amazon link for 70 loads of Arm and Hammer laundry sheets for \$12.58!

We will always accept pods and liquid detergent as well. 130 laundry detergents are needed for the spring boxes.



The collection will run through March 22nd. You can find the collection bins in the fellowship center lobby. Your willingness to step up and help others is a blessing to the EHS students and their families that might find making ends meet a bit of a challenge.

Thank you all so much for positively impacting all our EHS families! Grateful doesn't cover how the Angel Network feels about our partnership!

Thank you for being a part of our village! ~ Deb Walsh and the EHS Angel Network

Lenten ELCA World Hunger Appeal

During this coming Lenten Season, we will be supporting the [ELCA World Hunger effort](#). Over 821 million people in the world, 11% of the world's population, are hungry. In the United States alone over 40 million people are unsure where their next meal is coming from.

The ELCA World Hunger program is making a difference around the world. Ending hunger is about more than just providing food; it is about providing a road to long-term sustainability and change. The ELCA is actively involved in connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water and provide education, health care and sources of income to bring about long-term sustainability. The ELCA World Hunger program provides valuable assistance around the globe. This program depends on financial support from ELCA congregations like Holy Spirit. We can help support these efforts during this Lenten season.

Matthew 25:35 states this best; *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”*

Here are the various ways you can donate:

- Go to the Holy Spirit on-line donation form [here](#) and enter your donation amount on the World Hunger line.
- Use your weekly offering envelope by entering “World Hunger” and your donation amount on the Special Gifts line or use the special Lenten Offering envelope, contributions to which will go to World Hunger this year.
- Send your check to the church office payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, noting World Hunger on the check memo line.
- Use our Venmo app noting World Hunger on the memo line.



Your donations will be life supporting, sustaining, and appreciated. Thank you!



2026 Spring Mission Trip



Holy Spirit's spring mission trip is again heading to York, PA. We will be working with SERVANTS, INC. to provide home repair work to families in the local community. We will be staying at beautiful Camp Friendly Acres, which is a church camp run by Advent Lutheran church in York. We will be traveling to York on Sunday April 26th and returning Thursday afternoon

April 30th. We do have opportunities to coordinate carpools with other people if you can only work part of the week. There will be work for all skill levels.

Please contact Bob Mueller if you have any questions (610-442-7892).

Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank



The Food Bank has long been a recipient of some of our congregation's annual benevolence dollars, but did you know that.....

The Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank is the largest food bank in the Lehigh Valley and has been serving the community since 1978. It is the only food bank that is open daily Monday through Friday 9-11:30, plus 3:30-5:30 on Thursday evenings. They serve about 24,000 people annually. In 2021, they relocated to 417 N. 14th St. and created a Client Choice Pantry. People now can choose which foods meet their needs instead of receiving a prepackaged bag(s) of items.

They also support an Elderly Food Program (EFP) which is like the Client Choice, but on wheels. It was launched in the spring of 2024 and served 319 seniors in its first year. By the end of the fall of 2025, that number had grown significantly to serve 1,816 seniors receiving food. The EFP brings food directly to residents of senior housing buildings who are unable to visit the food bank due to mobility challenges. Each delivery includes fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, meat, bread and eggs, as well as canned and packaged foods to help ensure balanced and reliable nutrition.

In addition to the food, they assist clients by connecting them with other agencies to meet different needs, such as clothing, rental or utility assistance, location of drop-in centers for the homeless, and other housing resources. They also have a supply of gloves and other things for more immediate needs.

Holy Spirit members have been volunteering at the Food Bank for at least 20 years. We assist the clients in their choices and package the food for them. A couple of volunteers will welcome people as they arrive and later unload the carts and take them to the front of the building.

We also do various packaging projects at times when it is a bit slower. This has been a very busy year and the people are so grateful for what they can receive on each monthly visit. I'm sure we all have many stories to tell, both sad and positive, from our experiences volunteering there.

The following is a list of the most needed foods at the pantry. There will be a box outside the Fellowship Center marked for donations ***starting on Sunday, March 8th*** . Please remember to ***check the best by dates*** before dropping off any contributions. Thank you!

Most Needed Foods:

- Canned fruits, packed in natural juices preferred
- Individual fruit cups
- Shelf-stable individual microwavable meals such as Dinty Moore Stew or Mac 'n Cheese cups, or Hormel Completes
- Packages of precooked rice, grains, or pasta
- Ready-to-drink breakfast protein drinks
- Jelly
- Flour
- Sugar
- Vegetable oil
- Low-sugar cereal such as cheerios, bran flakes, etc.
- Oatmeal
- Condiments such as salad dressing, ketchup, mustard
- Hearty soups
- Mac 'n cheese cups
- Toothpaste
- Bars of soap
- Diapers Size 5, 6, 7
- Feminine care products

Foods NOT Accepted:

- Home cooked, processed, or baked foods
- Foods in open containers
- Foods with best buy date greater than 6 months



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FOOD BANK BY [CLICKING HERE](#).

*** OUTREACH SUMMARIES ***

Support Our Sisters Campaign

Our Support Our Sisters Campaign ran from November 30, 2025 through February 1, 2026. The GREAT NEWS is that Holy Spirit members generously contributed over **\$7,500** to the campaign to help female teens and young adults grow in their abilities to prevent and rise above limited opportunities, poverty, abuse and violence. Empowered Girls, Eripoto, the MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School, and the Medical Training Center of the Arusha Lutheran hospital will each be allocated $\frac{1}{4}$ of the campaign funds. A nominal value of \$500 will be given to Widow's Might for their contributions to the successful Tanzanian craft and photography fairs over recent months. THANK YOU so much for all that you are doing for the young women of Tanzania!

Lehigh Conference of Churches

Our January collection of adult coats has concluded with donations of **47 coats**. These were delivered in early February in time to keep recipients warm during our cold winter weather. Thank you for your generous support for our local community!

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

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- Church Community Garden: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com