



# 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

### April 26 - 30

Spring Mission Trip

### April 27 & 29

Faith & Civic Life  
Bible Study

### May 2

Spring Grounds Clean Up

### May 3

American Music Concert

### May 4

Lunch Bunch with  
Pastor Shari

### May 11

VBS Decorating Session

### May 17

New Member Welcome  
Rejoicing Spirits

## Sunday, April 26, 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**

**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
<b>April 19, 2026</b>		
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>9:45 am</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>WORSHIP HELPERS</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>10:45 AM</b>
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	JoEllen Rooney		Renee Wetherhold
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Carol Walrod Don Walrod	Dianna Olszewski Leigh-Anne Wimmer	Vi Ballard Dianna Olszewski
<b>Readers</b>	Joe Burke	Mollie W.	Mark Stanziola
<b>Children's Message</b>		Eric Kahler	
<b>Greeters</b>	Lorie Stout Sherman	Lorie Stout Sherman	Kitti Berkheimer
<b>Ushers</b>	Mike Epperly	Lorie Stout Sherman	Mike Berkheimer
<b>Production/Technology</b>	Bill Keane Eric Kahler Kristen Newill Bill Newill	Craig Kauffman Bill Keane	Craig Kauffman Ev Reggie Volunteer Needed

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION – SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM**

**Sunday, April 26 – Connect to Community – Room 117/119**

Bloom is a life-long community of hope, healing, and freedom. Providing sanctuary and a continuum of care to heal, empower, and employ survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. This one is rescheduled due to the snow days this past winter. Our guest speaker from Bloom will be Vickie Nisbet.

## A FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR PASTOR CINDY

In gratitude for all Pastor Cindy has been for us, please join us in the Fellowship Center on **Sunday, April 26th between 9:20 and 10:35 am** for a time to say goodbye and share refreshments. This will be Pastor Cindy's last Sunday with us.

Her last day in the office will be April 29th. Saying goodbye is a difficult thing to do, and yet it is important to send a beloved pastor off with reminders of the ministry we have shared together.



## **FAITH & CIVIC in action**



## **Lutheran Day at the Capitol**

## PRIME TIMER'S COFFEE HOUR



Join us on **April 29 at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Center. Bring a neighbor or friend to join us for coffee, baked goods, trivia and lots of laughs.



## SEEKING THE WELL-BEING OF ALL FAITH AND CIVIC LIFE BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays through May 13 at 2 p.m. or  
Mondays through May 18 at 7 p.m.

How does our faith inform, intersect and interact with our role as citizens of this nation? Join us for this timely study of the foundations and content of our ELCA's latest social statement. Invite a friend to join you. Pick up a copy of the Annotated Guide to the social statement and/or the entire statement at the table in the narthex.

**Week 3: April 27, 7 p.m.**

### Assessing the U.S. Constitutional Form of Government

Section 3 of the Annotated Guide

What does Psalm 46 and other scriptures have to say about power? What is the relationship between power and sin?

What does it mean to exercise power in ways that resonate with God's power? How do the foundations of the U.S. constitution relate to this understanding of power?

Was the U.S. founded on the "Christian religion"?

**Week 4: April 29, 2 p.m. or May 4 at 7 p.m.**

### Religion and the First Amendment

Section 4 of the annotated Guide

What does 1 Corinthians 10:23-32 have to say about Christian freedom? What are the Establishment and Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment? What does the "separation of church and state" mean? What is the value of protecting religious diversity? What is the difference between Christian freedom and religious liberty?

**Week 5: Constructive Relationships Between Religious Organizations and Political Authority**

**Week 6: Selected Contemporary Concerns in Civic Life**



## **SPRING GROUNDS CLEAN-UP**

We will be cleaning up the grounds at Holy Spirit on **May 2** with a rain date of May 9<sup>th</sup>. Your help is needed from 9:00 am – Noon to weed, rake leaves out of beds, prepare areas for mulch, spread mulch, etc. Please bring your own rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, pitch

forks, work gloves and any other items you think might be needed. Please come at 9:00 am if you are willing to help. Trash bags, cans and water will be available. If you want to help but cannot make these dates, please email Glenn Hinderliter at [glenn.hinderliter@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.hinderliter@gmail.com)



Featuring musicians of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Sunday, May 3rd at 4:00 pm in the Worship Center. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the music program at LCHS. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the concert.



**Lunch  
with  
Pastor  
Shari**

## **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 Monday, May 4 in the Fellowship Center.

Prayer will conclude our time together.



## **HOLY SPIRIT NURSERY SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Let your friends and family know that registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now occurring. **Limited openings remain.**

Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) if you are interested in scheduling a tour. Or visit our website at [www.lchsemmaus.org](http://www.lchsemmaus.org) to register.

## **COLLECTION FOR LEHIGH COUNTY CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES**

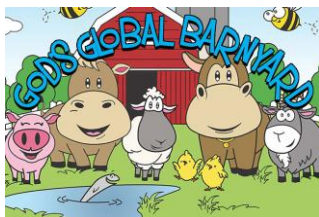
**Adult undergarments drive** for Lehigh Conference of Churches: **We are collecting new ADULT socks, underwear and bras** for the Lehigh Conference of Churches. Due to the items we are collecting, all items must be **new with tags or new in packages.**

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. Collection boxes are outside the Fellowship Center.

Thank you for all the donations thus far. For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact Brenda Truhe at [bltruhe@hotmail.com](mailto:bltruhe@hotmail.com).



To all who contributed to the ELCA World Hunger Lenten Appeal, \$1,250.50 was raised. Thank you to all who contributed for God's Global Barnyard \$301.92 was raised. Thank you, thank you, thank you. You are helping to make a difference in the world.





## **SIGN UP NOW FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**June 15 – 19**  
**9:15 am – 11:45 am**

**VBS VOLUNTEERS:** VBS provides an opportunity for teens and adults to serve in a variety of ways. Please [click here](#) to complete the Volunteer Interest Form. Our Protection of Minors Policy and the PA Child Protective Services Law requires VBS volunteers to have current background clearances. Please contact Carol Osenbach or Nikki Clark in the office to inquire about the process.

### **We are looking for volunteers to be:**

- Group Leaders/assistants (Take a group of children to each of the planned rotations)
- Storytelling participants (read parts from a prepared script)
- Music Assistants

**VBS REGISTRATION:** Children age 3 ½ - entering grade 5 are welcome to join us for VBS. Please [click here](#) for the Participant Registration Form. We ask that you **return the form by June 1st** so that we can adequately plan for supplies. Feel free to invite a friend! **Paper forms** are also available on the information table in the Worship Center Lobby.

### **LAST VBS DECORATING SESSION – Monday, May 11 at 6:00 pm:**

Come out, think summer, and connect with others as we finish the decorations that will be used for Vacation Bible School. It's a wonderful fellowship opportunity. No artistic skills are required. Middle school youth are welcome to attend with an adult. Please enter at the church office entrance as we will meet in the Fellowship Center.

## **WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUTH VOLUNTEERS**

**(Grade 6 and above)** in the Nursery! We could use one or two helpers during the 8:30 service to support the nursery. If you're interested in helping, [click this link](#) to sign up! You'll be contacted with a date to volunteer afterwards.



## **LET'S GO TO THE BEACH!**



Our Annual Youth **Bible at the Beach** Trip is coming up and you don't want to miss it! From June 26th-29th, students in grades 6th-12th as well as college age mentors and parents are welcome to join us in Ocean City New Jersey for a time of fun, fellowship, and faith formation at the beach! Please click [this link to access the permission slip](#). Make a copy of the document to write on it and share it to [obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org). Click on "[Kull Youth Center](#)" to see more about the space where we'll stay! We hope you'll join us!



## **CALLING ALL GRADUATES!!!**

Please notify Amber O'Brien (<mailto:obrien@holyspirit-emmaus.org>) if you are graduating from high school or college this spring so we can inform the congregation of your accomplishments! Please include your name, school graduating from and date, any activities, your picture, and your future plans. The submission deadline is May 24th! Also, you are invited to join us on Sunday, May 31st to be recognized for your accomplishments! Help us celebrate you!



## **ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2027**

Interested in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering 2027 in Minneapolis? Want more information? Mark your calendar for an info session on June 14th to learn more! Anyone entering 8th grade through 12th grade in the fall of 2026 is eligible to attend!



## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a **Communion Assistant** at one of our Sunday morning worship services by [clicking here](#)

Volunteer to be on the **Production/Technology Team** by [clicking here](#).

Volunteers choose what days they would like to serve, and training is available. You can also **call the church office** if you are interested in volunteering and Nikki will add you to the list.

## **LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE?**

**Join us for Allentown School District's  
first annual 'SERVE DAY' on May 15<sup>th</sup>!**

Serve Day is a collaborative event for volunteers from ASD's Interfaith Council and the Family Advisory Council to come together and lend a hand to help with various beautification projects throughout all of Allentown School District buildings and properties.

Our Sunday School recently participated in a collection of 250 snack bags for Ruby Bridges Early Education Development Center. LCHS now has an opportunity to help Ruby Bridges with their beautification projects on ASD Serve Day.

Volunteers will help with painting, organizing the teacher planning space, and creating a space for students and teachers for indoor recess. There are several other schools that have outdoor volunteer projects such as gardening and cleanup. There is something for everyone! The day begins with a volunteer breakfast at 8:30 where you will have the opportunity to connect and build relationships with leaders from different faith traditions as well as families in the ASD. This is a wonderful day of connection and service!

You may sign up by clicking [HERE](#), scan the QR Code, or contact Pr. Tami with any questions.





Dear friends,  
Surely, you know how much I love flowers. The bouquet from Bloomin' Faith was very lovely. In fact, some of the flowers lasted almost two weeks. The flowers were signed, "Your Church Family." The congregation is truly my "church family." God bless each of you.

~ Pattie Bisbing



### **The Ringers Are Coming!** **The Ringers Are Coming!**

If you like handbells, then YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THIS!!! On **Tuesday, June 30th**, the Raleigh Ringers will be coming to town!! In a concert co-sponsored by LCHS and First Presbyterian in Allentown, the Raleigh Ringers

will present a one-time concert at 7:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church at Tilghman & Cedar Crest!

This fabulous, virtuoso, handbell group has several albums and DVDs to their credit and do a fair amount of traveling, but don't get to the Northeast very often, so DON'T MISS THIS!! You can purchase tickets from any member of the Spirit Ringers, from Reylene, scan the QR Code, or [online](#).



For more info about this wonderful group, go to [www.rr.org](http://www.rr.org) or listen to them on YouTube!

**YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING PEACE SUMMER DAY CAMP**, sponsored by the LEPOCO Peace Center, will be July 27-31, from 9:00 am to 12 noon, at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown. Peace Camp is five mornings of fun activities focusing on peace and social justice – we sing and dance, do arts and crafts, play cooperative games, and work to build a peaceful community. We welcome campers who have finished Kindergarten through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Older students and adults may serve as volunteers. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, [please click here](#) or contact LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 or email: [YoungPeopleMakingPeace@gmail.com](mailto:YoungPeopleMakingPeace@gmail.com)

# Holy Spirit Drum Circle



Are you looking for a way to de-stress, connect with others, and tap into your creative side? We'd love for you to join our upcoming **Drum Circle**.

**Why Join Us?** It's more than just noise - it's about finding a collective heartbeat. Drumming is a fantastic way to boost your mood, reduce anxiety, and meet some truly wonderful people.

## JOIN US ON THESE DATES:

**MONDAYS AT 1:00 pm**  
**June 15 & 29 / July 13 & 27 / August 10 & 24**

**For more information, contact**  
**Melanie Werley / [kupamom@aol.com](mailto:kupamom@aol.com)**

### **BLOOMIN' FAITH MINISTRY**

We continue to be 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. Some ways you can support our ministry, deliver small bouquets to members; donate flowers from your garden; help make the bouquets the Friday before we deliver. **Upcoming delivery dates are May 30, June 27, July 25 and August 22.** Please sign up to help by [clicking here](#).

IN OUR  
*Thoughts*  
AND  
*Prayers*



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

**Our homebound members:** Gayle, Joan, Dick, John, Gordon, Christopher, Darla, Larry, Jean, Norine, Billie, and Bob.

**Pray for God's healing for our members and friends:** Bill, Al, Janet, Phyllis, Joe, Donna, Ron, Ric, Dayton, Lisa, Greyson, Ray, Terry, Laura, Vee, Cathy, Bob, Mike, Craig, Laura, Reena, Deb, Ricki, Angela, Jim, and Don.

**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.

**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.

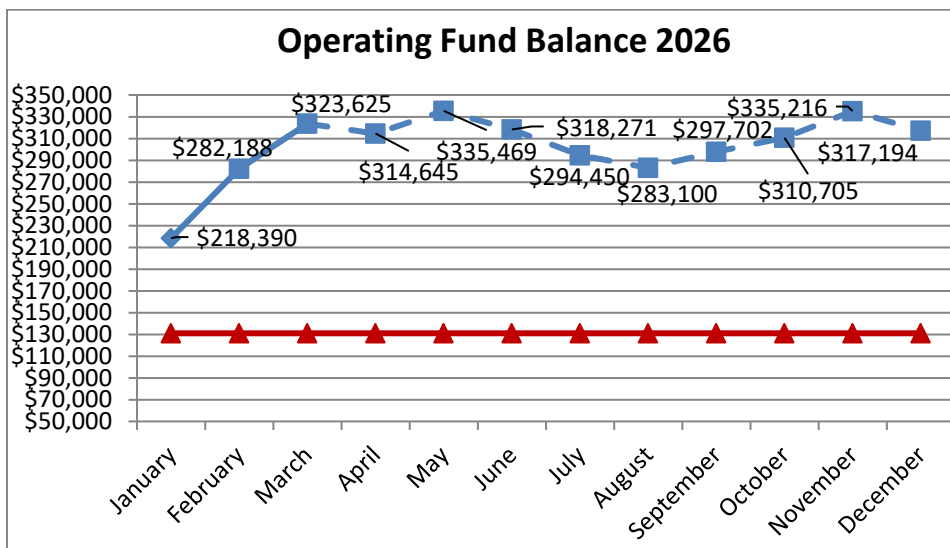
**If you, or a member of your family, are ever hospitalized,** please let the pastors know by contacting the church office at 610-967-2220. The hospitals no longer notify the church due to HIPAA laws.

## Financial Results and Discussion – March 2026

**Operating Performance:** March income was \$124,158, \$39,054 or 45.9% above budget. Operating expenses were \$82,721, \$6,108 or 6.9% below budget. We finished March with a \$41,437 surplus, compared to a budgeted deficit of \$3,725. The graph below presents our operating cash balance shown against our monthly cash requirement **January - December**.

Faith Giving income to date is \$19,669 (member donation and company matching funds).

- **Straight Line at \$131,000:** 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 \$1,171.50.00 during the month and has a balance of \$5,563.44.

**Mortgage Update:** The mortgage balance as of March 31, 2026, is \$318,832.47.

Thank you to everyone that continues to share their financial gifts in support of our ministries!

# SUMMER 2026



## BEAR CREEK CAMP

### SUMMER CAMP:

Our week-long overnight program for grades 1-12 is designed to build an inclusive community, care for creation, promote adventure and fun, share faith, cultivate empathy, and develop leaders.

### FAMILY CAMP:

Experience the many amazing things that camp has to offer with your family.

### ARTIST'S RETREAT:

Surround yourself with the beauty of nature to support and inspire your art.

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

\* Try Camp is available  
(Sun to Wed.)

\*\* Family Camp, Artist's Retreat

# Rafting trip option available

**LEARN  
MORE:**



/BearCreekCampOfficialPage



@BearCreekCamp

**LEARN MORE AND REGISTER: [bearcreekcamp.org](https://bearcreekcamp.org)**



**FLOWERS FOR PENTECOST  
ORDERS ARE DUE TO THE  
OFFICE NO LATER THAN MAY 4th**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN MEMORY OF:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**IN HONOR OF:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**# \_\_\_\_\_ GERANIUMS \$17.00 EACH PLANT**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT**

**Flowers can be picked up after the last Service.**

## **CALENDAR**

Sun. 4/26	12:00 pm	Rejoicing Spirits Meeting (117/119)
Mon. 4/27	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	11:00 am	LCHS Book Group (110/112)
	6:00 pm	Total Body Toning Class (SC)
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Team (116)
	7:00 pm	Faith & Civic Life Bible Study (110/112)
Tues. 4/28	9:15 am & 12:40 pm	NS Chapel (WC)
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
Weds. 4/29	9:15 am	NS Chapel (WC)
	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Coffee Hour (FC)
	2:00 pm	Faith & Civic Life Bible Study (110/112)
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)
Thurs. 4/30	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)
Fri. 5/1	9:00 am	NS (Kitchen)
Sat. 5/2	9:00 am	Spring Grounds Clean-up
Sun. 5/3	1:00 pm	Zumba Class (SC)
	4:00 pm	Legacy of American Music Concert (WC)
	6:00 pm	Youth Hang-Out (SC)
Mon. 5/4	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch w/Pr Shari (FC)
	6:00 pm	Total Body Toning (SC)
	7:00 pm	Faith & Civic Life Bible Study (110/112)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers (ASR & 117/119)
Tues. 5/5	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Faith Formation for Children (116)
	7:00 pm	Stephen Ministers Training (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Worship & Music Team (117/119)
Weds. 5/6	11:00 am	NS Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (116)
	2:00 pm	Faith & Civic Life Bible Study (110/112)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Ringers (WC)
	6:30 pm	Spirit Ringers (WC)
Thurs. 5/7	6:00 pm	Children's Choir (WC)
	6:30 pm	Plesion Mtg. (117/119)
	7:00 pm	Staff Support (116)
	7:00 pm	Spirit Voices (WC)
Sat. 5/9	9:00 am	Spirit of Praise (WC)