

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

- **June Family Worship/VBS Collection** – Allentown School District Summer Program items
- **Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank** – donate to feed the needy
- **Global Missions** – Jodi Swanson presentation June 15th
- **Recognizing World Refugee Day in Worship** – join us June 21st

Family Worship/VBS Collection

We will be supporting the Allentown School District's Summer Program by providing beverages and individual snack items for the students participating.

Items requested:

Disposable water bottles
Capri Sun juice pouches
Beef sticks/Slim Jims
Squeezable applesauce
Goldfish crackers

Pretzels
Granola/protein bars
Pirate Booty
Veggie straws

All items must be individual servings. This collection will run through Sunday, June 28th .



THANK YOU! Our recent collection for God's Global Barnyard, an ELCA World Hunger initiative, yielded \$301.92. We were able to purchase a herd of goats. Goats can go where other animals can't, surviving in some of the most challenging terrains. Goat milk provides nutrition for children and families. In addition, goats reproduce quickly, allowing the life saving gift to continue with another family. Thank you to all who contributed to this collection.

Community Garden



The Community Garden on our church property raises produce for the Food Pantries at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie and Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Emmaus. In May we donated 21-gallon bags of kale and 53 bags of salad greens. We have also planted peppers, egg plants, carrots, radishes and red beets.

If you would like to help with this gardening effort, which doesn't take a lot of time, please contact Jeff Gross at jeffgross1@aol.com or 610-390-1074. No green thumb required!

Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank

The following is a list of the most needed foods at the pantry. There is box outside the Fellowship Center marked for donations. Please remember to check the best by dates before dropping off any contributions.

During the month of May, Holy Spirit collected 55 lbs. of donations. 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, Hormel Completes, Shelf stable meals such as Chef Boyardee ravioli
- 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. or Oatmeal
- Condiments such as salad dressing, ketchup, mustard
- Cans of 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

Global Missions

PREEMIES AND NEONATES – JUNE 15TH

Jodi Swanson, collaborator with and wife of Dr. Steve Swanson, will be visiting Holy Spirit on Monday, June 15th. She will be bringing us some exciting updates about the pediatrics work she and Steve are doing. Among the highlights will be discussion of the Arusha Pediatric and Maternal Care Center, now open and leading to an expansion of the pre- and post-natal care provided to needy families in northern Tanzania.



Photos from Institute for Child Healthcare Africa

Dr. Swanson and his team have worked for many years to develop and successfully use low-cost, low-tech care to treat premature babies and other vulnerable children. Their techniques are now being taught to doctors and nurses for use across Africa. The Swansons are also working to ensure a sustainable future for pediatrics in Tanzania, using native-born doctors and nurses.

See you on Monday, **June 15th at 7 PM in the All Saints Room**. A light dessert will be available for your snacking pleasure as you interact with this engaging and successful woman.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 21

Recognizing World Refugee Day in worship



**FORCED
TO
FLEE**

World Refugee Day (June 20) is observed annually to honor the courage, resilience, and strength of millions of people forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution or violence. In 2026 the day highlights the urgent need for solidarity, urging governments, communities, and individuals to take action to support refugees and promote inclusion, to move beyond sympathy to tangible support, ensuring refugees have dignity and opportunities to rebuild their lives.

On **Sunday, June 21**, it will be our privilege at Holy Spirit to welcome Mr. Kibrom Tesfu to share the message at worship. Mr. Tesfu is a U.S. citizen who came to this country in 2011 after spending 7 years in a refugee camp in Ethiopia. His country of origin is Eritrea where most of his family still resides. Mr. Kibrom currently holds two full time jobs, including working with refugees through Bethany Christian Services.

* OUTREACH SUMMARIES *

Lehigh Conference of Churches



Thank you to everyone who contributed items or made a monetary donation for the collection of socks, underwear and bras for Lehigh Conference of Churches. We collected over 300 items.

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. For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact Brenda Truhe at: bltruhe@hotmail.com.

LCHS Spring 2026 Mission Trip



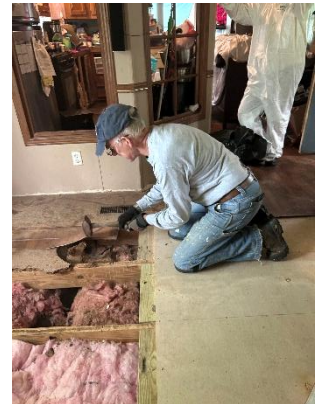
This year, a group of 10 volunteers traveled to the York (PA) area for a housing mission project. This was the third year in York, staying at a church camp (Camp Friendly Acres) and working with Servants Inc. in a neighborhood close by the camp.

Servants is very well staffed and organized – serving the counties of York, Lancaster, and Adams. Servants objective is to “unite volunteers to

improve home safety and independence”. They assess homeowner’s needs and Servants ability to perform the work with volunteers. Servants supplies all of the materials, tools, and site supervision.

Our group worked at four different mobile homes this year.

Two sites where flooring sub-floor (particle board) had been damaged by moisture and had unsafe areas that were covered by plywood sheets because of fall dangers. Our group removed the damaged areas and installed new plywood. Each home is scheduled for flooring install by other groups. They now have safer and more secure flooring in their homes.



At two sites, we replaced home entry doors. In both cases, the existing doors were not secure and were damaged resulting in outside elements/weather getting inside. They now have new and properly fitting doors.

Our group was honored to be able to help these homeowners and improve their homes. It takes a lot for them to let a group of volunteers of varying abilities into their “personal space” to do work. It was very fulfilling to be able to help in these small ways.

Servants is a great organization to work with – they help so many people in the three counties in so many different ways – I encourage you to take a look at their website located at servants.org

Another trip will be planned for Spring 2027 – please consider attending! The trip is rewarding and fun too!

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

- Team Convener: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com
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- Food/Shelter Assistance:
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- Global Missions: Ruth & Rick Doty rrehome01@gmail.com
<https://lchsemmaus.org/our-sponsored-arusha-ministry/>

- Christmas Ingathering: Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com
- Neighborhood House: Deb Smith dsfotog@outlook.com
- Church Community Garden: Jeff Gross jeffgross1@aol.com