

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

- **Family Worship/VBS Collection** – will resume in August
- **Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank** – donate to feed the hungry
- **God's Work Our Hands (GWOH)**– Save the date Sunday September 27th

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 June we donated 14 gallon bags of kale, 18 bags of salad greens, and 8 bags of radishes. We have also added summer squash and more red beets to the gardens.

If you have any produce from your home garden that you would like to donate, please leave in the church kitchen on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning by 9am on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month only. Thank you!

If you would like to help with this gardening effort, please contact Jeff Gross at jeffgross1@aol.com or 610-390-1074. No green thumb required!



God's Work Our Hands

God's Work Our Hands – Save the Date – This year we will be holding our God's Work Our Hands event on **Sunday September 27th**. Alternate worship times will be held to ensure all can participate. More to come in August! We hope you join us and enjoy the collaboration with people across our different services.

For more information on this event, please contact Brenda Truhe 484-725-2488.

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. 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

*** 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 400 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 bltruhe@hotmail.com.

Malawi, Africa, Trip – Recap

Villages in Partnership (VIP) is a nonprofit based in Allentown, NJ, connected to and dedicated to a rural area in Malawi, Africa. Malawi is a landlocked country in southeastern Africa and is one of the poorest countries in the world, where 70% of the population lives in poverty, earning \$40-\$48/month.

VIP partners with local communities to address poverty through its “Listen First, Act Together” motto. It engages village leaders to address their top priorities, primarily clean water, food security, education, healthcare, infrastructure, and economic opportunity. For more information, check their website at <https://villagesinpartnership.org/>

As part of VIP’s goal of improving health care, Josh Gregory and I (Dean Black) joined the medical-dental mission trip from May 14th to 25th. During this time, we visited cooperative projects between VIP and the villages and worked in the clinics. Some of our visits included:

A Skyloo toilet: a toilet that uses no water and converts waste into usable fertilizer.

Borehole/water pump: supplies water for personal and agricultural uses. All water is carried to where it is to be used. More boreholes mean shorter walks to get water.

Pass On A Pig: simply put, a pig is supplied, and the receiver is required to pass on four piglets when born.

Medical-dental clinic: Three days of hectic work. Four sites, where 7,910 patients were treated, with 10,315 clinical cases (some folks had more than one treatment). These were all medical and dental evaluations, and in some cases, the only medical care they will receive for the year.

The Samani Irrigation Project: A solar-powered irrigation pumping system. There was music and dancing, with most of the people in the village greeting us. We came to see the projects that are improving their lives, and we ended up being the event!

The people we met were so happy to see us. Despite the abject poverty they live in, they were still positive and genuinely happy to see us. They always shared something with us, whether it was a dance, a smile, or a small snack. They always gave back.



The wait line at the clinic.



The greeting at Samani Irrigation Project.

Family Worship & VBS Collection



During the month of May, our family worship participants participated in the collection of socks and underwear through Lehigh Conference of Churches. 42 pairs of socks, 64 pairs of underwear, and 4 bras were collected to help meet some basic needs of those in our community.

The mission project for Vacation Bible School this year was the Allentown School District's summer learning program. Thanks to the generosity of our VBS volunteers and participants, 1,952 snacks and beverages were donated to support the summer learning students.

**Just an FYI, there is no new collection in July.
We will resume our collection in August.**



Vietnamese Family Update

In September 1989, Holy Spirit sponsored 9 members of the Vu/Tran family to relocate to the USA. This is what I learned of them by spending a weekend with them recently.

All of them except Lien, live in State College. Lien and her family continue to live here in the Lehigh Valley. Lien's 97 lb daughter is actually a Bethlehem police officer. All of the others except Kiet are married and have children. Hoa, the mama, lives with HongNgoc. Her husband has died. BichNgoc has owned a nail salon for quite a few years. The whole family works there and in the spa and small restaurant they just opened in Nittany mall.

It seems that along the way each of them acquired an American name, often because a teacher couldn't pronounce their Vietnamese name. Lien is Lucy. Phung is Peter. Vinh is Vinh or Vinny. HongNoch is Helen. BichNoch is Becky. Kiet is K. Of course Allen has his American name and is glad it's not "Allentown" like his parents wanted to name him.

They all call each other by their American names.

This family strongly believes in hard work and much love and support of each other and Hoa and Allen's 2 children. They all speak 2 languages. The children are very active in sports, dance and music. They all have their US citizenships. They are successful business people and each own more than 1 house. They are so grateful to all the people at Holy Spirit who helped them those first years. (written by Vi Ballard)



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
- Staff Liaison: Pastor Tami prreichley@holyspirit-emmaus.org
- Council Liaison,
Lutheran Disaster Response,
World Hunger, and
Benevolence:
Bob Mueller robtmueller@yahoo.com
- Angel Network: Deb Walsh deblwalsh613@gmail.com
<http://ehsangelnetwork.org/>
- Food/Shelter Assistance:
Alice Mudge aemudge50@gmail.com
Brenda Truhe bltruhe@hotmail.com
Deb Smith dsfotog@outlook.com
- 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