



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

August 16

Summer Breakfast

August 22

Rejoicing Spirits Dance

August 23

Training for Worship
Leaders

Blessing of Backpacks

August 24

Drum Circle

August 30

Back to School Bash

Sunday, August 16, 2026

***8:30 am Worship and Praise**

**9:00 – 10:30 am Summer Breakfast
sponsored by the Youth**

9:45 am Family Worship

***10:45 am Worship**

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

***Worship will be online.**

If you are worshipping with us online,
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.

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ in our homes, our communities, and the world.

August 9, 2026	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Online</u>
8:30 am	109	15
9:45 am	73	N/A
10:45 am	82	13

WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Linda Devine		Renee Wetherhold
Communion Assistants	Beth Fatzinger Angie Niland	Sheila Huff	
Readers	Carole Wetherhold	Charles M.	Laura Rothe
Children's Message		Baptisms	
Greeters	Nancy Yablonski	Sarah Smith	Carol Goodley
Ushers	Michael Yablonski	Eric Smith	Tom Eichelberger
Production/Technology	Bill Keane Eric Kahler Al Bauernschmidt	Craig Kauffman Bill Keane	Craig Kauffman Ev Reggie



Summer Breakfasts in the Fellowship Center

9:00 am – 10:30 am will be held today.

Pancake Bar sponsored by Holy Spirit Youth

Summer Breakfast proceeds will go sending our youth to the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

HOLY SPIRIT NURSERY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Limited openings remain for the 2026-2027 school year.

Let your friends and family know that registration is taking place now. Please contact [Karin Kahler](#) if you are interested in scheduling a tour. Or visit our website at www.lchsemmaus.org to register.



BLOOMIN' FAITH MINISTRY



Thank you for your part in helping us spread the healing power of flowers. Here are some ways you can continue to support our ministry: deliver small bouquets to members; donate flowers from your garden; help make the bouquets the Friday before we deliver. **Upcoming delivery date is August 22.** Please sign up to help by [clicking here](#).



ENJOY COFFEE, CONVERSATION AND FELLOWSHIP

August 23 and 30
in the Fellowship Center
between 9:00 am – 10:30 am

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Join us on **Sunday, August 23rd** at the 8:30, 9:45, and 10:45 worship service. We invite all (adults, youth, and children) who will begin a new school year to come forward for a blessing. We encourage our students to bring along their backpacks.



TRAINING FOR WORSHIP LEADERS – AUGUST 23

Have you watched others in worship and said, "I think that is something I can do." We would love for you to join us on August 23rd after the worship you attend, to receive basic training to serve as a worship assistant in the areas of greeter, usher, technology, altar care, reader, assisting minister, communion assistant, music (band, bells, choir), children's message giver, or decorator.

If you cannot make it, please reach out to a staff member and we will be sure to get your name to the leader that will add you to the rotation and make sure you have the training needed. Thanks for considering the ways to be a part of the ministry here at Holy Spirit.



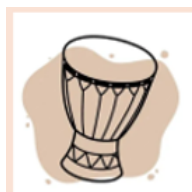
FAITH FORMATION NEEDS FOR 2026-2027

Opportunities exist to get involved with our Sunday School program this fall. We are in need of teachers and

teaching assistants for our elementary classes. Sunday School is held each week from 9:55- 10:25 am. Lesson ideas/materials will be provided. Please let Karin Kahler know if you are interested in serving.

LCHS BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting is: **Monday, August 24th at 11AM.** We will be meeting in room 110/112. We will be discussing, ***“Listen For The Lie”*** by Amy Tintera. On Sept 28, we will be discussing, ***“Horse”*** by Geraldine Brooks.



JOIN US FOR HOLY SPIRIT'S DRUM CIRCLE

Tap into your creative side, boost your mood, reduce anxiety, meet some wonderful people and come out to make some noise! We will meet on August 24 at 1:00 pm. Speak with Melanie Werley for more information.

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS

August 26 Coffee Hour at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center. Come for coffee, trivia, baked goods and laughter. Bring a friend.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Our church community garden raises produce for the Food Pantries at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie and Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Emmaus. If you would like to help with this gardening effort, (watering plants, picking the produce) which doesn't require a lot of your time, please contact Jeff Gross at jeffgross1@aol.com.

If you have any produce from your home garden that you would like to donate, please leave it in the church kitchen, marked for food pantry, on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning by 9:00 am on the **second and fourth Wednesday** of the month only!



God's work. Our hands.

This year we will be holding our God's Work Our Hands event on Sunday September 27 at 9:25am. Alternate worship times will be held to ensure all can participate.

We hope you join us and enjoy the collaboration with people across our different services.

We will be supporting the Allentown Rescue Mission, Lehigh Conference of Churches, Perfect Fit of the YWCA, and Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley. Collections to support our projects will be in August.

During August, we are collecting and need the following for the care bags:

- 400 toothpaste
- 400 toothbrushes
- 400 Chapstick
- 200 Generic or Men's Body Wash
- 200 Generic or Men's Deodorant
- 200 Women's shampoo
- 200 Women's conditioner

All items need to be new and individually sealed for sanitary reasons. Please no multipacks, unless each item is sealed inside the larger package.

Collection boxes will be outside the Fellowship Center starting July 27th. Please see the recipient list located above the collection boxes. If you prefer to donate monetarily and let the GWOH project team shop for you, that is an option.

For more information on this outreach opportunity, please contact Brenda Truhe <mailto:bltruhe@hotmail.com> or at 484-725-2488.

Thank you for all your help in supporting our larger community.

Hope to see you for Gods Work. Our Hands on September 27th.



**Join us on Sundays in August as we explore
"Grounded in Connection"!**

Relationships are central to who we are as people of faith. Through our relationships, we learn, grow, and give and receive love and grace. In this series, we will explore well-known Bible stories that reveal both the joys and challenges of human relationships, community, and life together. Amid the complexity of our connections, we will be reminded once again that God is present, guiding us toward connection, mercy, and grace.

Human beings are relational beings, created by God for deep and meaningful connection. Our physical and mental health, our institutions, our societies, and our spiritual lives all depend on relationships that help us flourish. Justice is not only about right policy and practice; it is also about right relationship. At the Last Supper, Jesus tells his disciples that they are not servants but friends. In this way, connection and relationship become signs of the future God is unfolding and invitations for us to participate in that future now.

Connection begins with conversation: the chance to meet another person deeply and honestly. Our communities are strengthened when we connect with people we may not know well and explore questions of meaning, purpose, and possibility together. Every conversation we have and every connection we make become an opportunity to embody the world we hope to see.

Together, we will journey through these Bible stories as we consider our call to be ministers to one another and to the world.

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Week 3: Widow at Zarephath - 1 Kings 17: 8-16

- This is a story about connection and provision amid radical disconnection and deep scarcity.

Week 4: Esther & Mordecai - Esther 4

- “For such a time as this.” This is a story about influence and power being used for the sake of community.

Week 5: Peter’s betrayal and re-entry - John 18 and 21

- After Peter denies Jesus three times, Jesus restores him to the community through a meal and three questions. The story reminds us that there is always a way back into community and always room at the table for those who hunger.

Resources that are available:

A Weekly Devotion Book

- Consider asking someone whom you have always wanted to get to know a little better to be a weekly devotion buddy. Do the devotion together each week. Or if doing it separately works better, then find time for a digital gathering, phone call, or text to discuss your insights.

A Family Adventure Pack

- This resource helps families explore the theme together. It includes a kid-friendly Bible story, reflection questions, activities, and games. Even better, consider joining another family to learn and grow together.

Fall Connection Groups Sign-ups

- Join a Roots & Branches Circle this Fall to deepen connections, grow in faith, and share meaningful conversation with others. These small groups offer a welcoming space to reflect on the “Grounded in Connection” series, build relationships, and discover how God invites us to be rooted in grace and to branch out in love.
- **The ask is:**
 - 1) Meet together 3 times this fall: Sept – Nov. (1 time a month)
 - 2) Learn each other's names
 - 3) Share in a short devotion and prayer that will be provided.



Roots and Branches Circles (R&B Circles)

We are launching a new small group ministry open to all. Planted together at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, we are rooted in our connection with God and with one another; this strengthens us to branch out with the hope and care of Jesus into our surrounding community.

These R&B Circles will connect people across our three worship times through once-a-month gatherings in September, October, and November. We will provide a devotion and prayer to share for each month. Your assigned group can decide when to meet and what to do. We hope that you will learn one another's names, and as you get to know a little more about each other, ways to support one another in our life together will continue to grow.

A few ideas to get groups thinking about ways to gather:

- Meet at a park where children can play while conversations can happen; remember to think of an alternative if it's a rainy day
- Meet for a meal out or a meal at someone's house. It can be as simple as hot dogs or pizza, or make it a time of dessert
- Meet at a family's activity that you can join in supporting the child/youth's activity
- Perhaps you can invite the group to join in a serving opportunity that you know is happening
- Schedule a room at the church through Nikki Clark, office manager
- Know that the possibilities are endless, and we will look forward to the ways that your R&B Circles will expand this list.

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We are excited to share how you can be a part of this new ministry.

- 1) Sign Up – You will need the names of all in your household, a phone number and email of a family member managing the information being shared, and the worship you attend (helps us to get people assigned into R&B Circles).
- 2) Assigned groups (6 family units - 2 family units from each worship time) will come out by August 26th. Each R&B Circle will receive who is in your group, with contacts, and the person assigned to start the conversation for finding your first time to meet. To be clear, the information given will only be shared with their R&B Circle.
- 3) After groups are assigned, each circle will choose when and where to meet. A monthly devotion and prayer will be sent at the beginning of each month to guide your time together. Come as you are to meet others!
- 4) If not everyone in your group can attend the gathering, choose the time that works for most people and try to accommodate others the following month.
- 5) If being grouped with another family is important to you, please indicate on the form.
- 6) If you are willing to start the conversation for gathering, let us know, and we give thanks for the ways you are willing to lead.
- 7) Any questions can be directed to Pastor Shari.

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Please sign up by Sunday, August 23rd so groups can be formed for September:

- 1) Fill out the form and put it in the offering plate.
- 2) Fill out the form through the QR Code

<https://forms.gle/RxrkHUvZF8qgk4aw8>



As we are rooted together in God's love, we invite you to join an R&B Circle and see how these new connections can strengthen our life together and help us branch out in care for one another and our neighbors. We hope this will be a valuable experience for all, and many will request that new R&B Circles happen in the Spring of 2027.





Interested in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering 2027 in Minneapolis?

Want more information? Mark your calendar for an info session on **September 13th** after the late service to learn more!

Anyone entering 8th grade through 12th

grade in the fall of 2026 is eligible to attend! If you can't make an interest meeting, reach out to Amber O'Brien for details you might miss!

M&M'S WILL RETURN ON SEPTEMBER 16

We will meet in Room 117/119 at 9:30 am. Our guest speaker will be Carol Campbell, Holy Spirit's Community Health Liaison. Mark your calendars and please join us.



Labor Day Family Camp - September 4-7

Bring your family, bring your friends, bring your neighbors. We may call it family camp, but it's open to everyone you call family!

From Saturday breakfast through Monday lunch, your group will have access to everything camp has to offer — waterfront time, guided hikes, high ropes, archery, arts and crafts, nature center exploration, devotions, worship, and plenty of space to just breathe and be together.

[Click here](#) for more information.

The Fall Women's Retreat is back - October 2-4

Join us October 2nd-4th for a weekend of rest, connection, activities, and the kind of time for yourself that's hard to come by. Set against the beauty of camp in early fall, this is a weekend you will want to hold onto. Find out more by visiting Bear creek Camp's website or by [clicking here](#).

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AND CELEBRATED!

The Children's Ministry table and basket in the worship center lobby contains a variety of items for children's use during worship. Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.



ALL SAINTS REQUIEM REHEARSALS

The Spirit Voices have begun preparation for the annual Requiem to be presented on All Saints Sunday, November 1st. This year's Requiem will be by Michael John Trotta. Rehearsals have begun and will be held through the summer on most Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. All are invited to join us. If you have any questions or would like a copy of the music, please speak to Reylene.

REQUESTS FOR PHOTOS OF 2026 CHURCH EVENTS

As we did in 2025, the Stewardship Team is collecting photos of various church and community events. We intend to use a selection of the photos we gather in various communications throughout the year. If you have photos from events please email them to Mike Berkheimer at mdberkheimer@gmail.com and they will be added to the drive being maintained by the Stewardship Team.

WORSHIP LEADER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer to be a **Communion Assistant** at one of our Sunday morning worship services by [clicking here](#) or you could volunteer to be on the **Production/Technology Team** by [clicking here](#).

ALTAR CARE HELPER *Would you like to help at church but don't have a lot of time?*

Preparing the altar for services is the perfect choice!

15 minutes before and after the service you attend is all that is needed. We will train and support you until you are comfortable.

Worship 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.





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

Prayers for God's presence for our homebound members: Gayle, Joan, Gordon, Christopher, Janet, Darla, Larry, Jean, Norine, Billie, and Bob.

Prayers for God's healing in times of illness for our members and friends: Bill, Doug, Bantok Family, Al, Janet, Phyllis, Joe, Donna, Ron, Mark, Dayton, Lisa, Dick, Greyson, Carvel, Joan, John, Doug, Joan, Terry, Janie, Laura, Jack, Kathy, Bob, Carl, Sue, Lee, Laura, Shiloh, Deb, Wilma, Don, and Robin.

In times of joy and celebration for the baptisms of Jack and Luke, children of Casey and Cory.

We extend sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Philip Yowell, best high school friend of Lynn Snyder.

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.

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.



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
HOSTS:

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!



WITH SUMMER ENDING AND SCHOOL STARTING, WE
WANT TO CELEBRATE A NEW YEAR OF LEARNING WITH
YOU!



FREE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS IN GRADES PRE-K-5!
PRIZES, REFRESHMENTS, AND MORE!

SUNDAY
AUGUST 30 | 3 PM - 4:30 PM



3461 S Cedar Crest Blvd,
Emmaus, PA 18049
We hope to see you!

Questions? Visit our website!
<https://lchsemmaus.org>



CALENDAR

Sun. 8/16	1:00 pm	Zumba Class (SC)
Mon. 8/17	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	6:00 pm	Global Missions (110/112)
	6:00 pm	Finance Committee (116)
	6:30 pm	Stephen Ministers (117/119 & ASR)
	7:00 pm	Total Body Toning Class (SC)
Tues. 8/18	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:30 pm	Community Justice Panel (SC)
	7:00 pm	Congregation Council (117/119)
Weds. 8/19	6:00 pm	Pop Up Exercise Class (SC)
	6:30 pm	Outreach Mission Team (Zoom)
Thurs. 8/20	6:00 pm	Preparedness Team (116)
	6:30 pm	Requiem Choir (WC)
Fri. 8/21	10:00 am	Bloomin' Faith (Kitchen)
Sat. 8/22	9:00 am	Praise Band (WC)
	9:30 am	Bloomin' Faith (Parking Lot)
	2:00 pm	Rejoicing Spirits Dance Set up (FC)
	4:00 pm	Rejoicing Spirits Dance (FC)
Sun. 8/23	Noon	Cards with Friends (110/112)
	1:00 pm	Zumba Class (SC)
Mon. 8/24	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastor's Meeting (Office)
	11:00 am	LCHS Book Group (110/112)
	1:00 pm	Drum Circle (Music Room)
	6:00 pm	Total Body Toning Class (SC)
Tues. 8/25	Staff Day of Service – Church office closed till 12:30	
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
Weds. 8/26	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Coffee Hour (FC)
	6:00 pm	Pop Up Exercise Class (SC)
Thurs. 8/27	6:00 pm	Plesion Meeting (116)
	6:30 pm	Requiem Choir (WC)
Sun. 8/30	3:00 pm	Back to School Bash (lower parking lot)