



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 9, & 16

Summer Breakfast

Rejoicing Spirits Service

BINGO & Dessert
at Jasper Park

August 10 & 24

Drum Circle

August 22

Rejoicing Spirits Dance

August 23

Training for Worship
Leaders
Blessing of Backpacks

Sunday, August 9, 2026

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

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

9:45 am Family Worship

***10:45 am Worship**

2:30 pm Rejoicing Spirits

**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 2, 2026

8:30 am

9:45 am

10:45 am

In Person

111

62

71

Online

13

N/A

13

WORSHIP HELPERS	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM
Assisting Ministers	Leesa Wimmer		Alice Mudge
Communion Assistants	Sue Mathieu Linda Devine	Jennifer Wetzel Sheila Huff	Susann Madara Volunteer Needed
Readers	Leesa Wimmer	Kira K.	Becky Leiby
Children's Message		Video	
Greeters	Christine Bolen	Christine Bolen	Kitti Berkheimer
Ushers	Bob Bolen	Bob Bolen	Mike Berkheimer
Production/ Technology	Al Bauernschmidt Bill Keane Volunteers Needed	Bill Keane Volunteer Needed	Carol Osenbach Volunteers Needed



Summer Breakfasts in the Fellowship Center

9:00 am – 10:30 am will be held on:

August 9 & 16

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

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

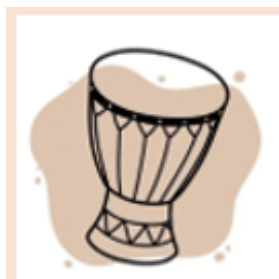
Rejoicing  **Spirits**

“Let Your Light Shine” is the special message for the Rejoicing Spirits service on August 9th at 2:30 P.M. in the Worship Center. Join us for this service and for the reception in the Fellowship Center following the service. ALL ARE WELCOME!



BINGO & DESSERT POTLUCK AT THE PARK

Come join us for an evening of BINGO and fellowship on Sunday, **August 9th at 6:00 pm.** This event will be at Jasper Park under the front pavilion. Please bring along Bingo markers and a dessert to share. All ages are welcome!



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 10 & 24 at 1:00 pm. Speak with Melanie Werley for more information.

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](mailto:Karin.Kahler@lchsemmaus.org) if you are interested in scheduling a tour. Or visit our website at www.lchsemmaus.org to register.



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.

PRIME TIMER'S EVENTS

MOVIE: August 11 @ 10:00 am – we will watch, “The Chef.”

Following the movie, we will eat lunch out. Come and join us!

August 26 Coffee Hour at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Center.

Come for coffee, trivia, baked goods and laughter. Bring a friend.

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.



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 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!

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

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.

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.

LCHS BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting is: **Monday, August 24th at 11 AM.** 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.

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.



**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.

Continued next page.....

Week 2: 10 Commandments – Exodus 20:1-21

- When God gave the Commandments to Moses on Sinai, they were not just about laws or righteousness; they were also about relationships and community

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.

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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.

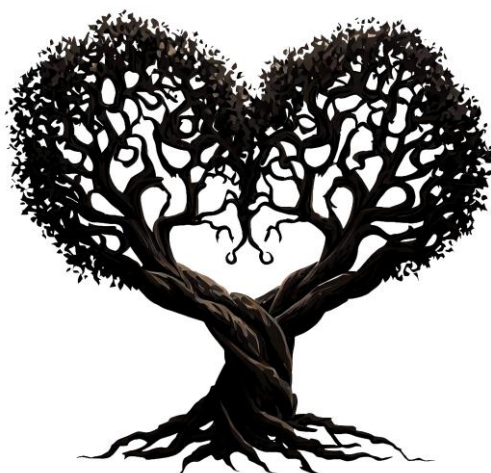
Planted together at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, we are rooted in our connection with God and with one another; this strengthens us to branch out with the hope and care of Jesus into our surrounding community.

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.

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.



Mark Your Calendars for these important YOUTH Events/Updates!!



August 16th- Youth-led Pancake Breakfast! Click on the link to sign up for what to bring to breakfast! Donations will go to the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering trip to Minneapolis! [SIGN UP LINK](#)

August 16th- Mini Golf! We will leave from church around noon to head to mini golf and could use drivers! [SIGN UP LINK](#)



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!



Dear Bloomin' Faith,
The lovely flower arrangement is bringing me much comfort and joy as I look at it every morning on my kitchen window sill. Thanks for remembering me (and Carl) during our challenging time. God Bless, Marilee Oplinger



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](#).

Please call the church office and Nikki can add you to the list of volunteers.

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.



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.



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.



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, Ann, Janie, Laura, Jack, Kathy, Bob, Carl, Sue, Lee, Laura, Shiloh, Deb, Wilma, Don, and Robin.

In times of sorrow, we pray for the family and friends of Allison Ezbencko, friend of Vi Ballard and for the family and friends of Joseph Horvath, Jimmy Lee Werley's uncle.

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.

CALENDAR

Sun. 8/9	1:00 pm	Zumba (SC)
	2:30 pm	Rejoicing Spirits (WC & FC)
	6:00 pm	Bingo & Dessert in Jasper Park
Mon. 8/10	9:30 am	Stitch-n-Chat (113)
	10:00 am	Counters (116)
	11:00 am	Pastors Meeting (Office)
	1:00 pm	Drum Circle (Music Room)
	6:00 pm	Total Body Toning Class (SC)
Tues. 8/11	9:30 am	Trunk or Treat Leaders (116)
	10:00 am	Prime Timer's Movie (ASR)
	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (116)
	6:00 pm	Property Committee (116)
Weds. 8/12	5:00 pm	Adult Faith Formation (Zoom)
	6:00 pm	Pop Up Fitness Class (SC)
Thurs. 8/13	6:30 pm	Mutual Ministry/Pr Tami (ASR)
	6:30 pm	Requiem Choir (WC)
Fri. 8/14	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 431 (WC)
Sat. 8/15	9:00 am	Calling Hour Ricki Stringfellow (WC)
	10:00 am	Ricki Stringfellow Service (WC)
	1:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 431 (FC)
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)



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>



Sign me up for Roots & Branches Circle

Contact Name: _____

Names of other family members:

Email of Contact Person:

Phone of Contact Person:

Worship you attend:

_____ 8:30 Praise and Worship

_____ 9:45 Family Worship

_____ 10:45 Tradition Renewed

As the Contact Person,

_____ I can be the Conversation Starter for my circle

_____ I cannot help with this.



Thank you!
