

# LUTHER MEMORIAL C H U R C H



Luther Memorial Church • 225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 454-0106  
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Luther Memorial Academy • 220 West Eleventh Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 454-0106

Volume 51, Issue 10

November 2024

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 am Worship Faith Chapel  
10:30 am Worship Main Church  
10:30am service live streamed on YouTube.  
Service available on LM website on Monday

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY	Page 2
PLEDGE SUNDAY	Page 3
THIRD GRADE BIBLE RECIPIENTS	Page 6
BINGO	Page 7
CHRISTMAS NEWS	Pages 8-9
LMA	Pages 12-14

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Dear Luther Memorial,

*All things come of thee, O Lord;  
and of thine own have we given unto thee. Amen.*

In my time in Philadelphia I cannot tell you how many times we sang this as an offertory verse. It is not found in our hymnals or worship resources, but we do have the hymn *We Give Thee but Thine Own* which bears a similar sentiment. It took until this year, as I was looking ahead to worship for Commitment Sunday on November 10, for me to look up the referent verses for these similar hymn-and several others in our worship materials. Lo and behold, this text comes from the book of Chronicles.

Now, Chronicles is not a book we read often in worship. Actually, I'm not sure we ever read from Chronicles. Originally meant more for the statisticians and scribes in the court, much of Chronicles is told in the books of Samuel and Kings in much more interesting ways. But from Chronicles we get the story of David the King who gifts all the supplies, adornments, fittings, and furnishings for the Temple that his son Solomon will build. As he is boastfully listing out (for 14 verses) everything that he has given for the Temple, he takes a moment to contemplate, "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own."

Even amidst the lists and lists of riches, David takes a moment to recognize that everything is from God and that without God the people of God are and have nothing.

This time of year, November, our civil calendar invites us to turn and recognize the same about our blessings in this land of hope and promise. To look at everything we have and realize that it all comes from God and belongs to God. We even have the federal holiday of Thanksgiving to do just that. We give thanks for "all things come from you, O God."

In the Church, we continue the contemplate of David, "and of your own have we given you." In this season, amid our thankfulness, we also are called to consider the ways that we can give of what we have first received to support the mission of God in this place. We are not building a Temple from scratch, but there are very real and practical needs for us to support this place of ministry. There are, indeed, also theological and ecclesial considerations as well. But we should not shy away from the practical in deference to the spiritual.

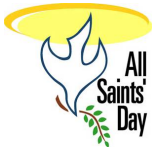
I invite you, therefore, to take time in these first few weeks of November to contemplate how you have been blessed by God in the past year—your job, your retirement, your children and grandchildren, your education, your home. Give thanks for God's providence in your life. And consider how you can return to God even some of the blessings you have first received.

We will collect and offer up our commitments of financial support on Sunday, November 10 at both services. We will dedicate them to God and God's mission for them in this place. And then we will continue to give thanks for the ways God blesses us. See you in church!

*Pastor Jay*

## All Saints' Sunday – November 3

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All Saints' Sunday is a day of prayer for and remembrance of loved ones who have died in Christ during the past year. We give thanks on this day for all the good people that God has placed in our lives, especially those who are already with God in heaven. We give thanks for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the lives of all people. All Saints' Sunday is a day for remembering and giving thanks, as Christians remember the good people they have known and give thanks for the unending goodness of God. Services on Sunday, November 3 will include special prayers for those who have passed away during the past year. If you are unable to attend services with us, please remember these special people in your prayers:

TOM MCGRAIL  
ROBERT MICHEL  
CYNTHIA HESSINGER  
MELANIE BENN BROWN  
CAROL EMERSON

CHERYL LUCHT  
FLORENCE HOLDEN  
MARGARET STALLSMITH  
JAMES HASKINS  
EDNA ALICE HOAG SMITH

PAUL GUSTAFSON  
PHIL MCAFEE  
JULIE WOLFRAM  
RANDY HESSINGER

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### Toasty Warm

We're here to keep you all toasty inside with homemade soup. Our next tasty Sunday will be November 17. Be sure to pick some up.



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### Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Times ends on **Sunday, November 3**. Be sure to turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 2.



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### Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift to Shriners Children's Erie. Your donation allows us to provide high quality care to children in need. You are helping to provide health, hope and a future to many in our community.

Thank you for caring!

*Debbie Tarasovitch, Stewardship Coordinator*



Luther Memorial,

We are so very thankful to you for handling the extra duties for the 49<sup>th</sup> Erie County Crop Hunger Walk! Luther Memorial has a central location and your office has convenient hours, so having you there to help the coordinators has been wonderful. We appreciate your help in making the walk a success.

Gratefully Yours,

*The Erie County Crop Hunger Walk Board*

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### November Sunshine Birthdays

Shirley Lawson 11/2  
531 Crotty Drive Ext.  
Erie, PA 16511

Loretta Deeds 11/14  
6 West Metcalf  
Erie, PA 16508



Bea Leemhuis 11/17  
Regency at South Shore  
322 Washington Place, Apt. 133  
Erie, PA 16505

## Pledge Sunday



Luther Memorial will celebrate *Pledge Sunday on November 10* at both worship services. During the service you will be asked to offer your financial commitments. God gladly receives our offerings of time, talent and treasure. Please fill out a commitment of your expected giving, either by the form included in your offering envelopes or the form below and bring it with you on Sunday, November 10. Taking the time to make a commitment really helps Luther Memorial's budgeting process, and more importantly allows you to recommit your lives to our God who gives us all things. **It is critical for you to know, though, that the amount you commit is not as significant as your commitment to giving.** What you give should be with thanksgiving and with joy. Only you and God know the details of your stewardship.

### MY COMMITMENT TO GOD THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH - YEAR 2025

I/we commit my/our entire life in service to our Lord Jesus Christ, and therefore, will offer a portion of my/our income as a thank offering to God in support of the mission and ministry of God at Luther Memorial Church. I promise, with the help of God, to give through Luther Memorial Church during this coming year as follows:

\$ _____	for Current Ministry	Remarks
\$ _____	for _____	_____
\$ _____	for _____	_____
\$ _____	<b>Total</b> ( ) Weekly ( ) Monthly ( ) Annually	

\_\_\_ I am interested in information about electronic giving.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this commitment to Luther Memorial Church on Sunday, November 10, 2024, and consider making a copy of this commitment and placing it in your Bible or with your offering envelopes.**

## Stewardship Update for 2024

To be good stewards of our financial resources and to maintain our multi-faceted forms of ministry, Luther Memorial continues to give thanks for your giving and also create ways for your joyful giving to continue. We express words of gratitude to God for our many blessings. Ministries today walk the fine line of being thankful, and always providing words of encouragement to continue to grow in our giving, and so these financial updates are important. Each of us makes a difference and contributes to the health of this ministry. Thank you again for your current and future giving.

Total Budgeted Giving for the Year of 2024	\$297,350.00
Actual Giving through 9/30/2024	<u>\$194,538.96</u>
Needed Giving for Oct., Nov., Dec. 2024	\$102,811.04



## Part-time job opportunity

Faith Lutheran Church in Harborcreek is seeking a p/t administrative assistant to join our team. Flexible daytime hours, 12-15 hours/week. Create weekly worship bulletins, update weekly worship leaders' books, create bi-monthly newsletter, answer phone, order altar flowers, update messages on electronic sign, and assist with various other office needs. Must love interacting with people in a professional and caring manner. Must be proficient in MS Word and Publisher. All PA clearances are required. Starting salary: \$13.00-14.00/hour. Application deadline: November 12, 2024. Apply on Indeed, or submit your resume to [faithlepastor@gmail.com](mailto:faithlepastor@gmail.com).

## Faith and Society

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### Faith and Society

We continue our feature of Social Statements of the ELCA leading up to Church Wide Assembly 2025. In order of approval and publication, this month is the Social Statement on The Death Penalty (1991).

A reminder that the summaries in our newsletter are presented on the ELCA church-wide website and were developed by the *Theological Discernment Department* in the Office of the Presiding Bishop.

In future editions we will explore other Social Statements in order of their approval and endorsement. So, you can look forward to: Peace (1995); Economic Life (1999); Health and Healthcare (2003); Education (2007); Human Sexuality (2009); Genetics (2011); The Church and Criminal Justice (2013); Sexism (2019).

If you want to explore more about the Social Statement, Social Message, and generally about the Social Policy of the ELCA, you can find more information at: [elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society](http://elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society)

### **Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, Justice** **The ELCA Statement on environment** **Summary**

#### **Major Theme:**

Human beings are called to care for the creation because we are full participants in the creation itself. The way we are to participate should imitate the way God cares for the creation--as a servant king. Rooted in the vision of God's care for creation while troubled by signs of sin and yet empowered by the hope of creation's fulfillment, the statement calls people of faith to carry out a calling to care for creation guided by principles of justice. This involves:

- honoring the integrity of creation
- striving for fairness within the human community

#### **The title Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope and Justice summarizes the statement:**

- Caring implies keeping, loving the creation, living wisely
- Creation here designates all that exists but with particular attention to the earth and entire, complex and interdependent ecology.
- Vision refers to the biblical vision of a flourishing creation
- Hope refers to the confidence people of faith have that God will bring the whole creation to fulfillment, as God has promised
- Justice suggests the principles by which people of faith should be guided in their actions today toward the environment.

#### **Statement is based in our witness to God as shared in ecumenical creeds and scripture:**

- God the creator blesses the world, sees it as 'very good,' continues to bless it and to be involved in it;
- God the Son—the Word made flesh through whom all things were made reconciles the world to God through the Cross. Christ comes to us in water, bread and wine and frees us from sin and empowers us to serve all creation. We do this both by modeling God's care for creation, and by heralding the new creation;
- God the Holy Spirit—'the Lord, the giver of life' (Nicene creed) is the source of life and renews the face of the earth, sustains us in the promise of a redemption that includes all creation;
- Response of faith—a basic trust and hope in God, and a basic trust in the fundamental sufficiency of creation for all its creatures that is expressed in living out the responsibility we have been granted to care for creation.

#### **The most fundamental threats to creation result primarily from human activity and injustices:**

- Excessive consumption by the relatively well-off
- High population growth and the pressure it puts on creation. Contributing conditions to excessive population growth include such things as lack of access to family planning and health care, good education, lack of employment at adequate wages, and unequal rights.

*Cont'd. on page 5*

### Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope & Justice – a summary

- We model God’s justice by striving to embody 4 four principles in the face of the intricate complexity of creation and of the human community;
- Participation—All human beings are entitled to a voice and to have their interests considered when decisions are made affecting the creation and its resources. Human beings should be advocates for the non-human parts of creation;
- Solidarity— We acknowledge our interdependence with other creatures, and act both locally and globally on behalf of all creation, especially those parts that are most vulnerable and at greatest risk;
- Sufficiency— We are to place priority on meeting the basic needs of all humanity and all creatures and since the earth’s resources are finite, this has implications for human acquisition and consumption patterns;
- Sustainability— We should act so as to provide “an acceptable quality of life for present generations without compromising that of future generations.”

### Task for the Church:

- Creation-awareness and education;
- Imitate God’s care for creation in our life and activity as a church;
- Be a community of moral deliberation, and a venue for civic deliberation about caring for creation;
- Provide for and foster public policy advocacy;
- Foster and support corporate social responsibility.

## Women of the ELCA

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### Tuesday Circle

Our next gathering will be held:  
**Tuesday, November 5**  
**3:00pm**

If you have any questions, please contact  
Pat Young at 455-7736.



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### Deborah Circle

**Tuesday, November 5**  
**12:00 noon**  
**Luther Memorial Church Parlor**

For more information, contact Judy Johnson  
at 833-4600.

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### Spreading Christmas Cheer



Each year our circles look forward to making Christmas a little brighter for the residents of Warren State Hospital. During their November 5 meetings, the Tuesday and Deborah Circles will fill gift bags with some goodies to bring some smiles.

Please bring all items for the gift bags to your November meetings. If you are not able to attend the meeting, items may be dropped off in the church office by November 4. Thank you to all for your donations to make this Christmas special for these residents.

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### Thank Offering

Our “Thankoffering” boxes, which go to the national Women of the ELCA office, are due by the November 5 meeting. If you find you are unable to attend a circle meeting in November, you are welcome to drop it off in the church office or give to Pat Young. Thank you.



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### Pennies for Poverty



As a continuing project to aid women and children in crisis, special containers for donations to “Pennies for Poverty” are located by the doors to the Main Church and Faith Chapel. Our women’s groups thank one and all for your donations of coins and dollars.

## Christian Education

### Bibles for our Third Graders

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On All Saints' Sunday, November 3, our third graders will be recognized and receive their Bible from Luther Memorial. Bibles will be presented to our children during the 10:30 worship service. Congratulations to:

ANNABELLE MARILYN COONEY  
MASON JAY SNIDER

AMELIA KAYLA ROSE LANG  
SAMANTHA CLAIRE STELMACK



### Sunday Mornings

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Second Sunday of each Month: November 10:

Children in PreK- Grade 5 will gather for Sunday School from 9:30- 10:15am.

Youth (LYO) in grades 6 - 12 will meet from 11:30am - 12:30pm.



### Messages for the Young & Young-at-Heart

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During the "Green Season", Pastor Jay will have messages for the young and young-at-heart on Festival Sundays:

November 3 - All Saints' Sunday

November 24 - The Reign of Christ



### Second Sunday Salons ~ Adult Forum

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We invite you to stop in the parlor the second Sunday of the month for a relaxing time for discussion on various topics. **Please join us as we gather in the parlor from 9:15 - 10:30am on Sunday, November 10.**



### Adult Forum ~ *Approaching the Bible*

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Join us for a Bible Study *about* Studying the Bible!

Whenever we open Scripture and for whatever purpose, we are wearing lenses through which we read the Word and through which God's Word for us will be filtered. In these weeks, we will explore what some of these lenses are and how we can use them to better hear the ways that God is still speaking.

**Sundays, November 3, 10, 17 at 9:20am in the Library**

### Brown Bag Bible

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We will gather each Wednesday in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion together. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself as we study. We will not meet November 13 or 27.

**Topic through November: *How Did THAT Get in My Bible?!***

We will explore stories that are rarely read or discussed, and some that are familiar but we often don't hear the story *actually* being told.

### B.A.D. – Bible after Dark

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Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book *Context* by Josh Scott. We gather at the Brewerie on the **first Wednesday** of each month at 6:30pm. Copies of the book can be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage or other sustenance as we chat!

Our next gathering will be on **November 6.**



## Book Group

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Curling up with an interesting book during these colder months sounds pretty good. On the second Monday of odd months we will gather in the parlor at 6:00pm for a Book Group, Paging Through with Pastor Jay. We invite you to join us on **Monday, November 11** as we begin the book *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal*.

We will gather again on Monday, January 13.

## Fellowship & Fun

### Magic Fingers Grace Group

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**Tuesday, November 12 & 26**

Thank goodness for yarn! While we're giving thanks for our many blessings this season, we can be thankful for yarn too.

Bring your yarn projects while knitting and crocheting on Tuesday mornings with us. We're blessed with friendship, so visit with us for a bit. Join us the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am - 12:00 noon.



If you'd like to learn how to knit or crochet, we'd love to show you. Please contact Jan MacInnes or the church office, 454-0106, ext. 221 with any questions. Please let us know if you are low on yarn and some can be dropped off to you.

### OWLS

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**Wednesday, November 13**  
**11:00am - 1:30pm**  
**Parlor**

Michael DeSanctis, retired Professor of Theology and Structural Design and Architecture from Gannon, will visit with the OWLS and speak on church design and the theology behind it. He will also share the background regarding his building and repairing of crèches of all sizes.

Lunch will be provided for this event. Please join us from 11:00am-1:30pm for this gathering. RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Friday, November 8.



### Craft Show

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**Saturday, November 2**  
**9:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Sunday, November 3**  
**12:00 - 3:00pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Stocking stuffers, unique gifts, special surprises - everything on your list will be checked off at the November 2 craft show. Bring a large bag to take all the goodies home that you will find at this Professional Craft Show.

We'll see you this weekend!



### BINGO!

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Get your tickets now for CASH BINGO on **Sunday, November 17**. The excitement of filling that card and yelling Bingo is a thrill!

\* **Doors** open at 12:00 noon

\* **Bingo play** is 12:30 - 3:30pm

\* **Tickets** are \$25 each

\* **All games** are cash prizes of \$50

Tickets are available on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.



### Poinsettia Order Form



As we prepare to celebrate during the Christmas season, we also remember friends and loved ones with poinsettias for the chancel. Poinsettias this year will be \$8.50 each for a 6 1/2" poinsettia. **To place an order, please return the completed form, with proper remittance, to the church office by Sunday, December 8.** Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP DELIVER POINSETTIAS TO OUR HOME-BOUND.  
IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, PLEASE CHECK THE SPACE PROVIDED ON THE ORDER FORM.

\_\_\_\_\_ Plant(s) in memory of:

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From: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Plant(s) in honor of:

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From: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Plants Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to Luther Memorial Church)

\_\_\_\_\_ WILL TAKE ORDER

\_\_\_\_\_ GIVE TO SHUT-INS

\_\_\_\_\_ WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS

### Youth Event

#### Christmas Extravaganza



Get your calendars out and mark the date in red - our super fun Christmas Extravaganza is comin'. We have so much fun planned that youth in grades 6-12 will definitely have a merry time on Friday, December 6. **Festivities will be held for a super fun evening.** Join us for lots of Christmas cheer that will put the jingle in your day.

You've got to get this date on your calendars; sure don't want to miss it! **RSVP to Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Prylinski or the church office by Wednesday, November 20.**



## Blue Christmas Service

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Wednesday, December 11  
6:00pm  
Main Church



*"The joy of a blue Christmas lies in the memories we hold onto."*

The beauty of the Christmas season sometimes reminds us of the people we have lost or the losses we have suffered. Our annual Blue Christmas service is a time to remember and name the losses that come as part of living as caring persons, looking forward with hope and peace.

The service will be live streamed on [youtube.com/LutherMemorialOnline](https://www.youtube.com/LutherMemorialOnline) and will also be available on our website at [www.luthermemorialonline.org](http://www.luthermemorialonline.org) the following day.

## St. Lucia Festival

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SVEA and Luther Memorial are preparing to welcome the Christmas season with our annual St. Lucia Festival on **Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm**. There are many parts to this program in which you can participate.

- Practices will be held each Sunday, November 10, 17, 24 and December 1. Prior to the St. Lucia program on Sunday, December 8 a rehearsal will be held at 1:00pm;
  - Practices for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and older will begin **Sunday, November 10** from 12:00 – 1:00pm;
  - Practices for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger will begin **Sunday, November 17** at 11:30am;
- Parents: Please attend the first practice to sign in your child.

For more information, please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825. We are looking forward to sharing our traditional St. Lucia program with everyone this Christmas season.

## Your Holiday Spread

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You've got lots to do during the holidays season so let's make meals easy. Delicious Gahr's hamloaf will satisfy everyone's taste. New specialty sausage flavors are available this year, too. For Christmas dinner and any time of the year, you may want to order a few. Continuing to support local companies, Gahr's is located in Franklin, PA.



- ❖ Orders for hamloaf will be accepted through Sunday, November 17.
- ❖ To place an order:
  - Order forms are located on the tables at each entrance
  - Contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 or
  - Email at [nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org).
- ❖ Cost: 1 lb. hamloaf @ \$6.50 / \$2 lb. hamloaf @ \$12.50
- ❖ A variety of sausage flavors available
- ❖ Delivery: Orders will be ready for pick up on Sunday, December 8.

## Thanksgiving Outreach

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We give thanks for all that we have and continue to reach out to others. Thanksgiving meals will be provided in our area to help those in need.

The Sisters of St. Joseph will be offering a Thanksgiving dinner by delivery only. Dinners will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day, November 28 between 8:00-10:00am. There is no cost to receive a meal, although monetary donations are appreciated, but not required. Sit down meals and take-out meals will NOT be provided.

**To receive a meal:** Please call 814-836-4198 on Tuesday, November 19 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon. This will be the only day that reservations for meal delivery will be accepted. Thank you.

**November Birthdays**

Benjamin Shchouchkoff 11-1  
 Morgan Snider 11-1  
 Kathleen Kraut 11-2  
 Louella Januleski 11-2  
 Michael Weber 11-2  
 Rosanne Braine 11-2  
 Shirley Lawson 11-2  
 Grace Pratt 11-2  
 Kristen Botelho 11-3  
 Bill Allamon 11-3  
 Maryann Kozlowski 11-4  
 Timothy Young 11-5  
 Landon DeDionisio 11-6  
 Jason Flood 11-6  
 Kelley Lang 11-6  
 John Tell 11-7  
 Christian Wolf 11-7  
 James Bohn 11-7  
 Linda Ditz 11-8  
 Anthony Cimino 11-8  
 Stan Rose 11-8  
 Richelle Denning 11-9  
 Susan Belott 11-9



Benjamin Botelho 11-9  
 Xavier Spaulding 11-10  
 Ty Galloway 11-11  
 Elliot Lang 11-11  
 Chester Schaal 11-12  
 Shawn Stroup 11-13  
 Loretta Deeds 11-14  
 Kathleen Stenger 11-14  
 Karissa Henry 11-15  
 Jonathan Gaber 11-15  
 Jeffrey Carlson 11-16  
 Maria Brown 11-16  
 Rob Benacci 11-17  
 Bea Leemhuis 11-17  
 Catherine Snider 11-17  
 Emily Symes 11-17  
 Angela Duran 11-17  
 Taylor Thomas 11-17  
 Matthew Snider 11-18  
 Mitchell Boyd 11-18  
 Savanna Wolfram 11-19  
 Cecelia Muhanna 11-21  
 Addison Botelho 11-21



Hunter Scott 11-21  
 Casey Hedlund 11-22  
 Kathryn Muhanna 11-22  
 Nancy Lintelman 11-22  
 Elena Arnold 11-24  
 Andy Kern 11-24  
 Kristiane Thomas 11-24  
 Megan Houston 11-24  
 Maddox Ambrose 11-25  
 Shelley Rositer 11-25  
 Gary Parsons 11-25  
 Norma Laird 11-25  
 Bob Collins 11-25  
 Jane Sundberg 11-27  
 Addison Foutz 11-28  
 Barb Chaffee 11-28  
 Maxwell Spaulding 11-28  
 Jennifer DiTullio 11-28  
 Daniel Hackenberg 11-28  
 Patrick Brown 11-29  
 Sara Narusewicz 11-30  
 Kennedy Duran 11-30

**October 2024 Statistics**

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>8:15am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>YouTUBE</u>	<u>Total</u>
October 6	25	80	40	145
October 13	36	71	29	136
October 20	28	69	34	131
October 27	34	106	40	180
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>148</b>



**SPECIAL SERVICES:**

	<u>7:00pm</u>	<u>Total</u>
October 18 <i>(St. Luke Healing Service)</i>	17	17

**BAPTISMS:** None recorded.

**LETTER OF TRANSFER:** None recorded

**FUNERALS:** None recorded.

**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED:** None recorded.

**MEMORIALS:** McAFEE, PHIL: FROM:  
 Kathy & Don Duska                      Ann Marie Sitter

**WEDDINGS:** None recorded.

## October 2024 Council Meeting

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1. **Minutes** - On motion, the September 10, 2024 Council meeting minutes were unanimously approved following a correction to the "Communications" section.
2. **Pastor's Report** - Pastor Jay will attend BishCon the week of October 20. LMA Sunday went very well. The CROP Walk, in partnership with LMA, was successful with 60 walkers and raising over \$1,300. Third grade children will receive their Bibles during worship services on Sunday, November 3. The Western New York Chamber Orchestra will be in concert at Luther Memorial on Sunday, November 3 at 3:00pm.
3. **Property Committee** - Carpet installation will take place Tuesday, November 19 - Wednesday, November 27. Some of the parlor furniture has arrived and will be delivered October 9. The remaining furniture will be delivered at a later date. The replacement of carpet in the school classrooms will begin the summer of 2025. The columbarium lighting has been completed. The lights that were previously in the columbarium have been moved to the Martin Luther window area. Replacement of lights around the Martin Luther window will be completed at a cost of \$350.
4. **Safety Committee** - Diagrams for all classrooms, restrooms, etc. are being drawn up for the safety committee.
5. **Non-Profit Partnership** - The school board has offered a \$100 donation to cover the cost of membership.
6. **Pledge Sunday** - November 10. All council members are expected to pledge.
7. **Erie Conference Shared Ministry Task Force** - Jean McMillin and Pastor Jay attended. Discussion was held about what it looks like to help in the community as well as in our own churches. Change in the church is possible and helpful.
8. **Bethany Outreach** - The move to the Renew building is complete. Many families were served; 80%, if not more, of the regular attendees were present for the food pantry.
9. **Council Greeters** - Pastor Jay will again send out a link to sign up for greeting at either the early or late service through 2024.
10. **Hospitality Committee** - A chairman is still needed.
11. **Treasurer's Report** - A donation has helped the revenue a bit. Property is over budget primarily due to air conditioning and furnaces. Greg will examine a Capital Campaign, form a report for next month and prepare to communicate this to the congregation. Les will get the "visual board" in place for the Capital Campaign. On motion, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.
12. **LMA** - Fun and new events are taking place. A special school newsletter is now available. Council is invited to attend the Thanksgiving Feast.
13. **Council Meeting** - The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00pm.

## Opportunities at Camp Lutherlyn

### Quilting & Crafting Retreat

If you've ever thought you need a vacation just to get some of your craft projects complete... this is the perfect opportunity. You bring the projects and we will take care of all the food, lodging, fun, and fellowship. Join us November 19 - 24. Registration is due by November 11.



### Intro to Blacksmithing Class

Learn the art of Blacksmithing in the Woodland Forge at Lutherlyn on November 23. All materials are supplied and classes are taught by master blacksmith, Flavius Brinsfield. Registration is due by November 11.



### Advent Retreat



Lutherlyn's Advent Retreat December 6 - 7 is a great chance to spend time together celebrating the Advent season at Lutherlyn. Each family has the opportunity to hand-make an advent wreath for their home; a long-standing favorite of attendees. In addition to wreath making, there will be cookie decorating, worship, campfire, games, caroling, and much more! Please register by November 25.

## Luther Memorial Academy

### Pizza With the Pastor & Principal

Shout out to our September Pizza with the Principal and Pastor students for exemplifying the character trait of optimism. They earned a luncheon in the parlor. The award luncheons for one student from each class that exemplifies the monthly character trait.

October – Created to be RESPECTFUL      November – Created to be THANKFUL



### Picture Re-take Day

Need a re-do of your picture? Sure! We can do that on Monday, November 4.



### Veteran's Day

School will be closed on Monday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day.



### Parent Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held the week of November 4. Please schedule your conference with your child's teacher. First semester report cards will be handed out during your child's conference.



### Field Trip

Middle school students will visit Mercyhurst Prep High School to see a production of *Little Women* on Thursday, November 21.



### Parents' Night Out



As the holiday season is approaching, could you use some extra time getting things done (baking? shopping? BREATHING?) without on-looking children? Luther Memorial Academy is offering a "Parents' Night Out" on Saturday, **November 16, 2024 from 4:00-8:00pm.**

Simply drop off your child anytime during the 4 hour window to be entertained with holiday movies, crafts, and games. Pizza provided!

This event is for Luther Memorial Academy and Luther Memorial Church students grades K-8. We are also accepting siblings ages 3 and up (must be potty trained).



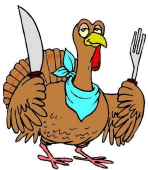
Space is limited on a first come basis. Sign up using this link to guarantee a spot!

Cost: \$15 per student; \$10 for each additional child. \*Due when child(ren) are dropped off.



### Thanksgiving Feast

**Wednesday, November 27**



This tradition began in 1977 and it continues each year. Our students will gather in fellowship hall and share a delicious feast as we give thanks for our many blessings.

We thank Elaine Brady, Jayne Simon and Ranka Vidakovic for their cooking expertise and preparing such a delicious feast. A lion's roar goes out to all other volunteers donating their time to make this feast happen. Thank you!

## Thanksgiving Vacation

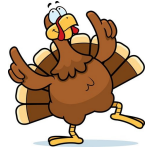
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Have a wonderful Thanksgiving vacation!

**Dismissal:** Wednesday, November 27 at 12:30pm. The After-School Program will not be open.

**School will be closed:** Thursday, November 28 – Monday, December 2

**Classes resume:** Tuesday, December 3



## Christmas Fair

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All students will have the opportunity to shop for their family and friends at the annual Christmas Fair held Thursday, December 5 and Friday, December 6. Volunteers will help guide the children as they shop and gift wrapping of their selections will also be available.

Donations of gift bags, all shapes and sizes, may be sent in to the school office anytime. It's so much fun and easy to shop this way, and the children are so proud of their purchases!

All congregation members are invited to shop on Sunday, December 8 from 9:15 – 10:30am (between services).

## St. Lucia Festival

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Santa Lucia's Day is celebrated on December 13 in Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland. It commemorates the life of Santa Lucia. It's the beginning of the Christmas season in those countries and is a celebration of light – at the time of year when the world is darker.

SVEA Lodge #296 and Luther Memorial are preparing to welcome the Christmas season with our annual St. Lucia Festival on **Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm**. We are looking for children and young adults to fill the roles for Lucia's Attendants, Baker Boys, Swedish Boys and Girls, Tomte and Narrators.

- Practices will be held each Sunday, November 10, 17, 24 and December 1. Prior to the St. Lucia program on Sunday, December 8 a rehearsal will be held at 1:00pm;
  - Practices for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and older will begin **Sunday, November 10** from 12:00 – 1:00pm;
  - Practices for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger will begin **Sunday, November 17** at 11:30am;
- Parents: Please attend the first practice to sign in your child.

For more information, please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825. We are looking forward to sharing our traditional St. Lucia program with everyone this Christmas season.

## First Lego League

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For several years, the LMA Lego Lion's participation in the FIRST® LEGO® League has been a cherished tradition at Luther Memorial Academy, and it is thanks to your support and dedication that this program has thrived. In 2023, the LMA Lego Lions placed in the top spot among Erie County teams and competed in an international competition in the spring! As we look ahead, we are excited to continue this tradition, but we need your assistance to make it another success.

If you or someone that you know would like to be involved in starting the LMA Lego Lions back up in any capacity or have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Thom at [mthom@lmaerie.org](mailto:mthom@lmaerie.org). No technical skills are required for adult coaches to guide teams. Your involvement not only enriches the educational experience of our students, but also fosters a sense of community and teamwork. It's a fantastic opportunity to bond with your children and their peers, all while contributing to the success of this beloved tradition.

## Tuition Procedure

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School tuition payments will continue to be processed by Vanco Services, a company endorsed by Thrivent Financial, for the 2024/2025 school year. The cost for this service is paid by the school.

- The tuition will either be deducted from your checking account, savings account, or charged to a credit card. If the credit card option is chosen, you will be responsible for a 4% fee.
- The authorization form was included in your tuition letter for 2024/2025. This form is to be returned to the school office.
- Parents have the option of making tuition payments over a 10 or 12 month period or splitting into two (2) semester payments.

## Payments

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**TUITION BREAK:** If you are responsible for a new student(s) attending LMA for the entire year, you will receive a \$500 tuition discount applied at the end of the year.. Sometimes word of mouth is our best advertising!! If you know a family thinking of changing schools, let them know about us!!

## List

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Every little bit helps LMA; thank you.



- Bottled water - small and large
- Cases of paper
- Monetary donations for Art & Music Supplies
- Monetary donations for the MJ Howell fund, which benefit teachers and staff



"When we say grace, do we look up at Heaven or down at the food?"

## NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> Church Offices & LMA Closed 	<b>2</b> 9:00am Craft Show 10:00am Quilting
<b>3</b> <i>All Saints' Sunday</i> 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 12:00pm Craft Show 2:15pm Western NY Chamber Orchestra Concert	<b>4</b> LMA Parent/Teacher Conferences Picture Retake Day	<b>5</b> <i>Election Day</i> 12:00pm Deborah Circle 3:00pm W/ELCA	<b>6</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible 6:30pm Bible After Dark	<b>7</b> 1:00pm Grief Group 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Choir	<b>8</b> 3:00pm Anniversary Celebration	<b>9</b> 8:00pm Swedish Baking 10:00pm Julia Hospice Meeting
<b>10</b> 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 9:15am Second Sunday Salons 9:30am Sunday School 11:30am St. Lucia Rehearsal 11:30am Julia Hospice Presentation	<b>11</b> <i>Veterans Day</i> LMA Closed 6:00pm Book Group 	<b>12</b> 10:00am Pericope 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group 6:00pm Council	<b>13</b> 11:00am OWLS	<b>14</b> 1:00pm Grief Group 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm PTL 6:30pm Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00am Quilting 4:00pm LMA Parent's Night Out
<b>17</b> 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 11:30am St. Lucia Rehearsal 12:00pm Bingo 1:00pm VASA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:00am Pericope 1:00pm Pastors' Pericope 3:15pm School Bd.	<b>20</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible	<b>21</b> 1:00pm Grief Group 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Choir	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> 1:00pm Baby Shower
<b>24</b> 8:15/10:30am Worship 11:30am St. Lucia Rehearsal	<b>25</b> 11:30am Pizza w/Principal & Pastor	<b>26</b> 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group	<b>27</b> 11:00am LMA Thanksgiving Feast 12:30pm LMA Dismissal	<b>28</b> <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i> 	<b>29</b> Church Offices & LMA Closed	<b>30</b>