

LUTHER MEMORIAL C H U R C H



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

Volume 53, Issue 5

August 2026

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

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Dear Luther Memorial,

Well, August is here. I never know quite what to say about August in the life of the church. In many ways it's both the height of our doldrums and also the precipice of so much potential. There's an energy at the same time that there is little *visibly* happening. And maybe you feel that way.

When Chaz and I took a vacation in April I returned to the office and had a few people ask how vacation was. I responded honestly that by the last few days of the vacation I was just...bored. And for me that's the sign of a good vacation. I've been away from work and business and general life long enough that I've rested enough to be ready to return to the hubbub. I feel like that by the time we get to the middle of August. We've rested, we've planned, and now we're ready.

As I've been going through old (and I mean over 100 years old) bulletins from worship I've been intrigued by a few things. First, in what I'm sure is no surprise to you, I am enamored with the liturgies we held and the opportunities for worship. Did you know when we first started we had two distinct worship opportunities every Sunday? Not two morning services. One in the morning and Vespers (evening prayer) every Sunday evening! And on weekends when there was going to be Communion (which was not very often in the beginning it seems) there was a "Preparatory Service" on Saturday evening that everyone had to attend if they anticipated to receive Communion on Sunday.

I have also been intrigued to see some surnames of families who are still involved at Luther. This is perhaps the longest lived congregation I've served, and I am definitely learning about some of the longest belonging families in any congregation I've served. How wonderful that so many of our families are still so integrally a part of our congregation—and how blessed that we have been able to welcome so many more over the years!

And then, in addition to all the opportunities for fellowship and learning, I have been struck by some of the mottos in the bulletins. First, it seems from the beginning of our publishing of bulletins that our cover slogan was "The Church of the Open Door." What a beautiful way for us to think of ourselves and our call to welcome those who seek the love and life of God among us here.

But even more I have been struck by what is called "OUR ATTENDANCE SLOGAN: 'Every member every service.'" This is published at the very top of the Order of Worship in every bulletin. I was first struck by being so bold. This is quite a forthright statement and a hefty expectation. And I spent time explaining it away—it was a different time; what else was there going on?; we can't *require* attendance. But...but I also wonder if this slogan is less a command and more a statement of hospitality. As a congregation, our life is so much richer when we are all together. The opportunity to gather, to greet one another, to share stories of our lives and most especially of God's love for us, to support and uplift one another...this is what we are called to be for and with one another as a congregation. And there's something missing when there is *someone* missing. So I invite you in the year ahead to consider this part of our history and hear it as a welcome to fuller participation in the program year ahead. There is lots going on (and there is an article herein about all the opportunities) this year and I hope to see you there.

See you in church!

Pastor Jay

From Pastor Jay



The 2026-2027 Program Year is shaping up with some exciting plans. I'm quite excited to get back into the swing of things with you as we journey together, grow in grace, deepen our faith, and support and uplift one another on the way:

I hope you, too, are excited about all the program year ahead has in store. We are truly—as we are every year—on the precipice of so much excitement: a new school year for LMA (our 51st), a new program year for Sunday School and forums, gatherings and worship, and even a new organ on its way!

ORGAN UPDATE AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES:



This last exciting venture is one I've been asked about quite a bit. Attempting not to take Cantor Bryan's thunder, let me update you a little bit: The Organ Chamber (the room behind the visible pipes in the Sanctuary) has been used for a number of years for storage. The items stored in the chamber have been organized, archived, and are in the process of being moved or removed. Our long record of worship bulletins are being digitized for better access as well as to preserve what has been hitherto stored on printed paper that is now well over 100 years old. Financial records for the past 7 years (plus a little extra for cushion) are being stored. Guest books and record books are being shelved and recorded. Items from both St. Matthew's and Bethany—official seals and registries—are being prepared to be given to the Tri-Synod Archives at Thiel College which is where all such materials from closed congregations are stored and cared for. And, as with all storage spaces, some things are just being disposed of.

There are next steps that need to take place, and I want you to know that there will be ample opportunities for you to be involved in the process. The Chamber will need to be thoroughly cleaned, repaired, restored, repainted, and otherwise prepared to receive the pipes for our 31+ ranks. If you are able to help with any of these projects, please contact Cantor Bryan. Sweat-equity is a great way to help us keep the costs low, to contribute to the project other than finances, and to take some shared ownership of our new instrument!

Let's also be honest: we will also need financial support for this project. We have received a gracious and generous gift of an instrument valued at nearly \$1M. But the preparation of the space, the preparation of the instrument, and the building up of the organ to fulfill our need still needs some financial support. If you are interested in helping in this way, please contact Cantor Bryan, Pastor Jay, or any member of the Organ Committee; Cathie Dugan, Emma Chaffee, Walt Gaber, Bill Lasher, Doug Chaffee, David Buerk.

And, as always, let us not discount prayer. Prayer is what infuses all of our work as a congregation. It is what we do best and most often. It is so vital to the future plans we set for ourselves as we live into God's mission for us here at Luther Memorial.

THAT'S JUST ONE PROJECT! There is plenty more to look forward to as we begin a new program year. I invite you to take August to prayerfully discern where and how your household is being called into fullest participation in our life together:

- + Choirs will be starting up in the fall. Ever thought about singing? Want to see what playing the handbells is all about? Talk with Cantor Bryan!
- + We are always welcoming new folks to any of our worship leadership roles: Lectors, Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants, Altar Guild, Ushers, Acolytes. If you're interested in helping to lead worship, just want to try it out, or just get more information, please contact Pastor Jay or Cathie Dugan! We are happy—desirous even—to give you more information and walk you through the various roles, responsibilities, and privileges of helping to lead our worship life together.
- + The Program Year will be full of some new events and plenty of old favorites! Our life together is that much richer when we are all together. So get out those calendars and mark down the dates of our various events, gatherings, opportunities, and worship. I hope you see you there.

As we come to the end of summer, the beginning of autumn and the program year, I invite you to be as excited as you are rested, to lean in as much as you have been able to relax, to join in the mission God has set for us here in the program year ahead!

Music Ministry



Crazy Train, a musical tribute to Ozzy Osbourne, will be held at Luther Memorial Church on **Saturday, August 8** at 7:00pm.

Presented by the Contemporary Integrational Orchestra Project, this is a concert you will want to join us for. A reception will follow in the parlor.

Outreach Offering



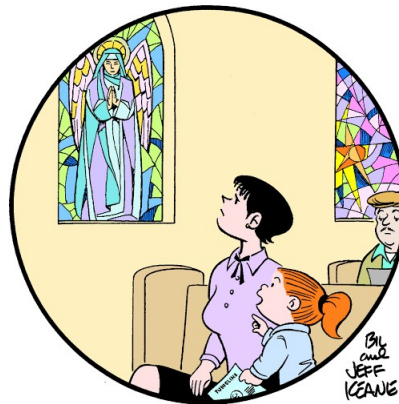
Giving offerings to outreach ministries allows Luther Memorial to support vital work beyond our church walls, like serving those in need and spreading the gospel. It enables us to fulfill our mission of serving God and others by funding programs that improve lives, both physically and spiritually. On Sunday, August 30 our morning offerings will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response.



*Our love and sympathy is extended
to the family and friends of:*

Laurie Ann Comi Chintalapalli, Preeya Montroy's mom,
who died June 3, 2026. Our prayers are with her family and friends.

John Klomp, Tom Klomp's brother, who died July 19, 2026.
Our prayers are with their family and friends.



"Churches are smart. They have
pretty windows, but you hafta
come inside to see them."

Beach Service



Erie Lutheran Conference
Beach Service
Sunday, August 9
10:00am

Please join us for the **Erie Lutheran Conference Beach Service** on Sunday, August 9 at 10:00am. We will gather for worship, fellowship and food at the Cookhouse Pavilion at Presque Isle. If able, please bring a dish to share that does not require heating or refrigeration (breakfast rolls, fruit or coffeecake). Juice boxes, coffee and tables settings will be provided.

We look forward to the opportunity to worship together in God's creation and enjoy fellowship in Christ.

Christian Education

Blessing of the Backpacks

We would like to send you off with lots of prayer and many blessings as you begin the new school year. Join us during worship services on **Sunday, August 30** for the Blessing of the Backpacks for all those school-bound this fall. Bring your backpack, briefcase, lunch box, and receive a blessing and a tag. The tag will remind you that God is with you throughout the day and school year.



ELCA Gathering



Monthly meetings will be held for all those interested in attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. The Gathering is more than an event – it's a movement where young people and leaders come alive in faith, grow in hope and move with purpose. This is where the church comes to life.

Check the bulletins, contact Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski, or the church office for the meeting dates. And . . . plan for the Gathering; June 28 – July 2, 2027!

Faith Formation

Join us throughout the summer months for continued adult gatherings:

BROWN BAG BIBLE

Meeting on Thursdays at 12:00 noon, Brown Bag Bible is an opportunity to grow more deeply in our understanding of scripture through more in-depth study. You are invited to bring a lunch. We gather in the Conference Room in the Pastoral Suite (Elevator to Floor 4). **B³ is gathering each Thursday throughout the summer** as we continue with a study on the book of Revelation.



BIBLE AFTER DARK

We gather on the **FIRST TUESDAYS** of the Month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row for conversation, fellowship, and mutual support among the saints! Make BAD part of your summer outings and **join us at Calamari's on August 4**. We are exploring *Belonging*, a study of the Woman at the Well by Karoline Lewis.

Headed to College?



Many of our youth are headed off to college in August. We want to keep in touch and let them know we are thinking of them and support them any way we can. Please contact Norma in the church office and share their mailing and/or email address so we can keep in contact. Thank you.

Youth (and Family) Events

LIA ~ Lutherans in Action

Tuesday, August 11
5:30 – 7:00pm

LIA is open to families and those looking to help with small hands on service projects. And it's a great opportunity to take care of those service hours many youth need.

Check the bulletins for our next event in August. Gatherings are held at the beach, ice cream stands, parks and other fun locations. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski as outings are also posted on the app. It's always great to see everyone!

Women of the ELCA

Tuesday Circle

Our monthly meetings will begin on September 8 at 3:00pm. All women are invited to join us. If you have questions about our women's group, please contact Pat Young at 455-7736.



Deborah Circle

We'll kick off September with our gathering in the church parlor on Tuesday, September 1 at 12:00 noon. For more information, contact Judy Johnson at 833-4600.

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.

Retreat

September 25 - 27, 2026
Camp Lutherlyn
500 Lutherlyn Lane
Butler, PA 16001

The NWPA and SWPA Women of the ELCA will hold their fall retreat September 24-27. We will reflect on the verse Mark 4:23:
"If you have ears to hear then hear."

Registration will close on August 28. Please contact Pat Bellingham, 814-602-5983, with questions. You may also contact

Jennifer Schaefer, 724-664-2077 or Jenniferlyns@comcast.net with any questions. Payments may be made to Jennifer Schaefer, c/o W/ELCA Lutherlyn Retreat, 1210 Beach Drive, Latrobe, PA 15650.



Indoor Yard Sale



Lots of treasures can be found at our Indoor Yard Sale. Whether you're decluttering your home or looking for some fabulous deals, this sale is just what you're looking for. Stop down, look around, and great items will be found!

Items for the sale may be dropped off at the church beginning Sunday, August 22. Books, TV's or large electronic items, and soft furniture will not be accepted. Please contact the church office with any questions.

Saturday, September 19
8:00am - 12:00pm
Fellowship Hall

Fellowship

Magic Fingers Grace Group



We hope you've been enjoying the beautiful summer months. And, maybe you've found some extra time for knitting. Join us in the parlor August 11 and August 25 to visit with friends and get creative with your favorite yarn projects. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays each month from 10:00am - 12:00 noon and would love to share the morning with you. Looking forward to seeing you in August.

If you'd like to learn how to knit or crochet, we'd love to show you. Please contact Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476 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

Wednesday, August 19
Reservations: 11:00am
Travel Time: 1 ½ hours

A short drive to a beautiful spot . . . Ferrante's Winery and Ristorante in Geneva, OH (5585 N. River West). It's a favorite of ours. Reservations for your delicious lunch are due to Jan MacInnes by Friday, August 14. If you are



interested in carpooling, please let Jan know.

Our West Bayfront

National Night Out
Tuesday, August 4, 2026
5:00 – 8:00pm
Gridley Park
598 Liberty Street



National Night Out is right around the corner and we couldn't be more excited! Join us at Gridley Park (rain location at Strong Vincent Middle School) for Our West Bayfront's biggest neighborhood celebration of the year! Neighbors, families, and friends are all welcome to an evening of free, family-friendly fun, food, music and games.

This year, you will be able to enjoy a free Smith's Hot Dog dinner served by Three B Saloon, live music from neighborhood band Familiar Spirit, a resource fair with over 40 community partners, and kids craft activities and games.

Thank you to UPMC Health Plan and United Way of Erie County for their support in making this event happen!



Erie County CROP Walk for Hunger

Sunday, September 27
Beach One -
Registration at 1:00pm
Walk at 2:00pm

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them - and supporting programs that create greater food security in

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Erie County
CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER
 ONE STEP AT A TIME

communities all around the world.

Please join us in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others.

Sponsor a walker or walk yourself and take part in this year's **Crop Walk on September 27**. Take the afternoon and make a difference in our community to help fight hunger.

August Birthdays

Madeline Ulrich 8-2
Karen Ruler 8-4
Jack Krause 8-5
Bernie Blore 8-6
Matthew Downey 8-6
Jeanne Gaber 8-6
Pat Young 8-6
PatBellingham 8-7
Linda Soles 8-7
Luke Krause 8-8
James Woodward 8-8
Samantha Stelmack 8-8
Katherine Blair 8-9
John Graffius 8-10
Ian Steff 8-10
Tessa Bartlett 8-11
William Hines 8-11
Linda Young 8-13
Megan Romines 8-13



Lincoln McCall 8-13
Allison Meyn 8-14
Mario Mezzacapo 8-14
Lauren Kasky 8-14
Edward Cunningham 8-14
Barbara Hickey 8-15
Wyatt Thaxton 8-15
Michael Arnold 8-16
Bob Banks 8-16
Susan Forsythe 8-18
Scott Shaffer 8-18
Alisyn Rogan 8-18
Jay Mitchell 8-20
Patricia Boyd 8-20
Kathy Sahlmann 8-21
Eric Hedlund 8-21
Grace Petron 8-21
Chris Pirschel 8-22
Alicia Hessinger 8-23



Caiden Snider 8-24
Gene Kutruff 8-24
Ken Kraut 8-24
John Albert 8-24
Cooper Bebeko 8-24
Mason Schlecht 8-24
Owen Sweeney 8-25
Terry Hokaj 8-25
Ashli Sweeney 8-26
Anna Keller 8-28
Anja Blasco 8-28
Les Fobes 8-30
Phil Carlson 8-30
Landen Saxton 8-31
Judie Harrison-Means 8-31
Zachary Byers 8-31
Nancy O'Leary 8-31

August Sunshine Birthdays

Linda Soles 8/7
613 Noble Avenue
Erie, PA 16511



Phil Carlson 8/30
12155 Arbuckle Road
Union City, PA 16438

Thank You

Dear Luther Memorial Church:

Greetings from United Lutheran Seminary! We write with heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and partnership. At this year's commencement, we celebrated 52 graduates representing our various degree programs. Through their experiences at ULS, these emerging leaders have been equipped and inspired to serve faithfully in the diverse communities and ministries to which they are called.

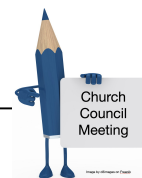
This year holds special significance for our community, too, as we celebrate two hundred years of faithful theological education at ULS. For generations, this institution and its predecessor bodies have been deeply rooted in the Lutheran tradition, grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and committed to the formation of Christian leaders.

Thank you again for your generosity and for your belief in the transformative power of theological education. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the world – one graduate at a time.

With sincere gratitude,

Conor Brooks, CFRE, Vice President for Institutional Advancement





June 2026 Council Meeting

1. **Council Meeting:** Minutes of the May 12, 2026 council meeting were unanimously approved.
2. **Pastor's Report:**
 - a. New members received this past Sunday.
 - b. Pastor Jay Mitchell elected to Clergy Representative on NWPA Synod Council.
 - c. Bryan Timm elected to NWPA Synod Treasurer.
 - d. Michael Snider's Ordination; Saturday, June 20 at 4:30pm with reception to follow.
 - e. There are two upcoming funerals.
 - f. Sunday, June 28 – Beach Service at 10:30am at Presque Isle, Shelter #1 (near the bike rentals).
3. **Property Committee:** The Committee has met and after discussion within and with other churches is proposing that we keep rental of facility to members and church functions only.
 - a. It is recommended that we approve to move forward with the painting bid received from HiT Fence Systems. Grant funds did not cover the painting of the new fence.
 - b. Property reported about discovery of the improperly covered gas well. Rindfuss Drilling submitted a bid for \$22,000. Greg shared funds from MIF foundation may be used. It is necessary to check with Bill Lasher and get approval for these funds.
4. **Church Directory:** Pictures are finished; 64 pictures taken, 3 using 2022 pictures, 2 people emailed photos.
5. **Boiler Repair:** No date has been set.
6. **Confirmation Camp:** Currently 4 students will be attending. There is the possibility of 1 more.
7. **Renew Building:** Five outlets are to be mounted on the green wall with a master turnoff so they cannot be used by the general public. The outlets will be utilized when needed for events in the greenspace.
 - a. Shrubbery around the front corner of the Renew entrance was discussed. It was unanimous to move forward with the bid from Chaffee Landscaping.
8. **Hunger Initiative Letters:** 31 sent this year.
9. **School Mural:** The school would like to paint a mural on the wall that is within the entrance of 11th Street. AJ Noyes will submit a drawing to the Arts Committee for approval.
10. **Treasurer's Report:** Two "Statements of Income and Budget Expense" spreadsheets this month to reflect the Annual budget/Year-to-date being adjusted due to receiving a large contribution that is usually given towards the end of the year
 - a. May's annual budget /Year-to-date budget column adjusted 41.7% to reflect contribution to reflect more accurate P/L's and Totals of Incomes and Expenses, and consequently the Summary & Net Income.
 - b. A letter will be sent regarding the final capital campaign.
11. **LMA:** Over 100 students are enrolled for next year; with a goal of 120. All teaching positions have been filled. LMA's catch phrase: "Small School, Big Heart, where Students Grow in Every Way!"
12. **Cantor's Report:** Bryan Timm presented a draft of the Project Proposal Brochure to distribute to the congregation, etc.
 - a. The idea of an ipad initiative was presented, storage space and Luther Memorial quartet/section leaders.
 - i. Consideration of possible memorial funds, people from congregation looking to sponsor, etc.
 - ii. If there are possibly donations, then submit a grant: Lutheran Foundation for Long Term Living.
 - iii. Requesting for consideration, input, and ideas from council members.
13. **Council Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 6:00pm. Council and staff picnic will be held Tuesday, August 11 at 6:30pm.

July 2026 Council Meeting

1. **Council Meeting:** Minutes of the June 9, 2026 council meeting were unanimously approved.
2. **Pastor's Report:** A couple members have been removed due to death. An air conditioner was purchased for one of our congregation members in need. The ACTIONS of last month's Synod Assembly were shared. The altar microphone has been replaced. Researching microphones that "communicate" with hearing aids was suggested.
3. **Property Committee:** On motion it was unanimous to approve the updated "Building Use Agreement". The painting of the playground fence has been finished. The cap on the old unproductive gas well was completed.
4. **Fuller Center Bike Adventure:** We will host this mission group the weekend of July 25, 2026.
5. **Church Directory:** Pictures taken in May are complete. Picture retakes will be offered Sunday, September 13.
6. **Boiler Repair:** Waiting to hear from company on a start date.
7. **Ordination Service:** Michael Snider's Ordination Service was a very successful gathering.
8. **Renew Erie Building:** Outlets are to be installed on the outside of the building. We are currently waiting to hear from the electrical company. Shrubbery around the front corner of the building is to be removed. Chaffee Landscaping will be planting trees in the greenspace area.
9. **St. James Lutheran Church:** Their final worship service has been held and they are now worshipping at St. John's Lutheran Church, Girard.
10. **Arts Committee:** Council has unanimously approved the recommendation from the Arts Committee that the submitted mural design by AJ Noyes (LMA teacher) be painted on the Luther Memorial Academy entrance wall.
11. **Treasurer's Report:** YTD income budgeted at \$265,204; we are at \$272,457. YTD net income: \$14,000 loss verses \$36,838. Sales of some investments in June provided significant capital gains.
12. **LMA:** Back to School picnic will be held August 12 from 4:00 – 7:00pm at Presque Isle's Rotary Pavilion; all are invited. The LMA Block Party is Saturday, September 12.
13. **Cantor's Report:** Cantor Bryan briefed over the campaign. Internally pledged is \$240,000; continuing to look for some smaller grants. A \$335,000 grant will be requested from the Luther Foundation for Long Term Living. This grant would help with costs for tech with choir, climatizing and reconstructing the organ chamber and youth room at the end of the hall and Concert Series marketing.
14. **Council Meeting:** Meeting and council and staff picnic will be held Tuesday, August 11 at 6:00pm.



Camp Lutherlyn

Crafting Retreat

Lutherlyn's Crafting Retreats provide time for adults to work on projects while offering fun and fellowship with fellow crafters. Everyone is provided with their own table/work space with access to electricity. Our crafters have varied interests such as quilting, weaving, scrapbooking, knitting, jewelry making, painting, and many others. Some quilters/crafters come with friends and some arrive alone and make friends while crafting, but everyone shares a lot of laughs.



Crafting Retreat: September 8-13

Registration Deadline: August 28

Saturday Safari



Learn and practice some of the life skills used by Native American peoples of the woodlands. We will play games, build a primitive shelter, practice animal tracking & trapping, and take an edible & medicinal plant identification hike. Dress to be outside.

Safari: September 12 – Life Skills of the Woodland Tribes

Registration Deadline: September 7

May 2026 Statistics

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>8:15am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 3	26	70	45	141
May 10	25	70	24	119
May 17	31	74	40	145
May 24	18	85	56	159
May 31	28	60	26	114
AVERAGE	26	72	38	136



<u>SPECIAL SERVICES:</u>	<u>7:00pm</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 14 (<i>Ascension</i>)	55	34	89

<u>CONCERT EVENTS:</u>	<u>7:00pm</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 4 (<i>Millcreek Area Community Band</i>)	67	42	109
May 24 (<i>Dylan David Shaw</i>)	65	144	207

BAPTISMS: ZAMPERINI, FRANK BENNETT - Date of Birth: January 13, 2026 / Date of Baptism: May 24, 2026 / Parents: Jennifer & David Zamperini

MACGREGOR, DON: from:

Elaine Santos Colleen McCarthy
Mary Louise & Don Zone SKS Orthodontics
Greg Kern

FUNERALS: None recorded.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED: None recorded

MEMORIALS:

MEMORY OF MOTHERS: from: Jan & Skip MacInnes

WEDDINGS: None recorded.

June 2026 Statistics

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>8:15am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
June 7	37	71	37	145
June 14	32	53	39	124
June 21	27	46	23	96
June 28 (<i>Beach Service</i>)	N/A	30	N/A	30
AVERAGE	32	50	33	99



<u>SPECIAL SERVICES:</u>	<u>4:30pm</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ordination Service (<i>Michael Snider</i>)	180	94	274

BAPTISMS: None recorded.

Marjorie & Lewis Hathaway Marilyn Rositer
Les Fobes Fidelity Charitable
Mollie & A. Paul King Margaret Hetz
Victoria & Christopher Hetz

FUNERALS: MACGREGOR, DONALD - Date of Death: May 9, 2026 / Date of Funeral: June 13, 2026 / Pastor Jay Mitchell and Pastor Karen Parsh officiating.

CHINTALAPALLI, LAURIE ANN COMI: from:

Marilyn Rositer Les Fobes

CHINTALAPALLI, LAURIE ANN COMI - Date of Death: June 3, 2026 / Date of Funeral: June 10, 2026 / Pastor Jay Mitchell officiating.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED - JUNE 7, 2026

JOE COVERDALE
MEGAN & DELANEY ROMINES

MEMORIALS: MACGREGOR, DON: from:

Kevin Fahey Robert Carlson
JoAnne & Dennis Rogers Mary & Ritch Marsh

WEDDINGS: None recorded.

July 2026 Statistics

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>8:15am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
July 5	33	51	35	119
July 12	29	57	34	120
July 19	25	56	31	112
July 26	25	80	17	122
AVERAGE	28	61	30	119



BAPTISMS: None recorded.

FUNERALS: None recorded.

MEMORIALS: **MACGREGOR, DON: from:**
Diane & Bob Banks Randall Valentine
Nancy Morgan

FOBES, LOIS: from:
Linda Anderson

HONORARIUMS: **FLICK, ANN & GARY: from:**
Les Fobes

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED: None recorded.

WEDDINGS: None recorded.

Erie Gives Day 2026

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP A NON-PROFIT
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 12:00AM – 11:59PM



Day and Time: The online event takes place on August 11. Donations can be made between the hours of 12:00am and 11:59pm.

Participating Nonprofits: **Luther Memorial Church, Luther Memorial Academy and Bethany Outreach Center appreciate your support.** Our church and school are listed as one organization on the Erie Gives website. Therefore, when giving to the Church and/or Academy please notify our church offices of your designation of giving.

Gift Amount: The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give. There is no limit to the number of organizations you can donate to in a transaction.

Making a Donation: Simply log on to www.eriegives.org or call the Erie Community Foundation at 814-454-0843.

Credit Cards: All major credit cards will be accepted. The Erie Community Foundation does not receive any fees. Debit cards will also be accepted. (Credit card gift cards will not be accepted.)

Checks: Donors can write a check for their Erie Gives donation.

- Checks must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation;
- All check donations must be accompanied by a Check Donation Form. The Check Donation Form is available for download and at our welcome tables. A Check Donation Form can also be mailed to you by contacting the Foundation or our church office;
- Checks must be delivered to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) by Tuesday, August 4, 2026.

Bonus Bucks: Your gift amount will be multiplied by a percentage. So the bigger your gift, the bigger the multiplication.

Your Receipt: You will receive an email receipt of your gift; please retain it for tax purposes. Unless you choose to remain anonymous, your donor information will be sent to the appropriate organizations.

CHECK DONATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND AT THE WELCOME TABLES



Come together with your church family on August 11
It's *Erie Gives Day*
A continuous 24 hours of online giving from midnight to

Want to know how your contribution to Luther Memorial Church (LMC) and Luther Memorial Academy (LMA) automatically grows without any extra steps?"

Let's review our Six-Year Lookback of contributions
that automatically triggers an extra prorated percentage added directly to your

Year	Total Amount Collected for LMC	Total Amount Collected for LMA	Total Amount Collected for Concert Series	Parking Lot Capital Campaign	TOTAL Amount Given By Donors	Total Prorated Match "Bonus Bucks"	Processing Fees	Total Check Amount
2025	\$24,610.00	\$5,390.00	\$2,350.00	\$750.00	\$33,100.00	\$1,066.57	\$	\$34,166.57
2024	\$26,623.94	\$5,410.59	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$32,134.53	\$1,458.00	\$-418.34	\$33,174.19
2023	\$27,200.00	\$5,250.00	\$975.00	\$2,000.00	\$35,425.00	\$1,869.05	\$	\$37,294.05
2022	\$24,095.00	\$1,050.00	\$625.00		\$25,770.00	\$1,061.47	\$	\$26,831.47
2021	\$22,530.00	\$1,505.00	\$200.00		\$24,325.00	\$1,071.58	\$	\$25,306.58
2020	\$29,128.00	\$4,970.00	\$100.00		\$35,874.27	\$1,676.27		\$35,841.27

The Bonus Bucks Pool is a prorated match.

The amount LMC/LMA raises on Erie Gives Day increases the percentage LMC/LMA will receive from the Bonus Bucks Pool.

If LMC/LMA raises 5% of the grand total raised, LMC/LMA will receive 5% of the Bonus Bucks Pool. Each organization's *Bonus Bucks* is allocated based on the percentage they receive. The percentage is the same for every organization of their own total raised.

Example: In 2025, every nonprofit, regardless how much each raised, received an extra 3.2%. Regardless whether a nonprofit raised \$5,000 or \$500,000, each nonprofit received a match of 3.2% of their total raised. The nonprofit that raised more money received substantially more from the Bonus Bucks pool; however, it was the same percentage that the small group received as well.

Ways to donate to Luther Memorial Church and Luther Memorial Academy

- \$ All major credit cards and debit cards are accepted – there are **no credit card or transaction fees** when giving online.
- \$ A Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA.
- \$ IRA Checks must be payable to *The Erie Community Foundation* not to the charity.
- \$ Stock gifts should be transferred using instructions provided by The Erie Community Foundation.
- \$ Personal check, IRA and Stock Gifts – These methods of giving must be completed and mailed to Erie Community Foundation, 459 W. 6th Street, Erie, PA. 16507 by August 4, 2026. The ECF building is currently closed during office renovations.

Donors should consult your financial advisor regarding your individual circumstances.

The Erie Community Foundation (ECF) can assist you or your financial advisor with the process. Direct your questions to 814.454.0843

To complete your donation to Erie Gives Log on to www.ErieGives.org

Your final step after you have logged off the Erie Gives website.

Because LMC and LMA are listed as one donation, you must distribute your donation by selecting one or any of the choices below:

- A. Total amount or specific amount to Luther Memorial Church.
- B. Total amount or specific amount to Luther Memorial Academy.
- C. Total amount or specific amount to Luther Memorial Concert Series.
- D. Total amount or specific amount to Luther Memorial Organ Project.

Contact our Parish Manager Miriam Scheid with your distribution decision via email or telephone call.
 Email mschneid@luthermemorialonline.org or a direct phone call to her office; 814-454-0106 extension 225.

THANK YOU!

Luther Memorial Academy
"Small School. Big Heart. Where Students GROW in Every Way."



Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Congratulations to our graduating class of 2026. We wish them the best of luck as they move on to high school. Special awards were presented at the LMA Graduation Ceremony on Sunday, June 7:

The George E. Black Award
Most Outstanding Student/ Highest Honor

RILAN WIECZOREK



J. David Mumford Award
For Academic Excellence
Students who earned all A's in 7th & 8th grades

A recipient was not awarded this year.

The Alice C. Engel Award
for Extraordinary Effort
Presented to a student who has shown a consistent commitment to academic excellence
and demonstrated academic improvement during the middle school years.

MAIKO ALLISON

The Helen Schade Academic Fitness Awards
Awarded to students who have demonstrated
a strong work ethic and earned all A's and B's in 7th and 8th grades.

MITCHELL BOYD, JACK BARTLETT, RILAN WIECZOREK

Susan M. Belott Christian Service Award
Performed 150 volunteer hours during 6th, 7th and 8th Grade
Consistently demonstrated outstanding attitude and leadership
Our graduates did not complete 150 hours.
However, we recognize the graduate completing the most hours.

MITCHELL BOYD (88)

Richard Stroble Athletic Award
Played at least 2 sports their 7th and 8th grade years

RILAN WIECZOREK: BASEBALL AND CROSS COUNTRY
JACK BARTLETT: CROSS COUNTRY AND TAEKWONDO

MITCHELL BOYD: SWIMMING JIU-JITSU
MADALYN BOGDANSKI: SOCCER AND VOLLEYBALL

Pizza with the Principal & Pastor

Our May character trait was COURAGEOUS; being brave when things get difficult.
Our Bible verse for the month; Joshua 1:9.

In June we're looking forward to the character trait of ACHIEVEMENT; completing something successfully, using your own effort and skill. Walk BRAVELY into the future!



School Summer Office Hours

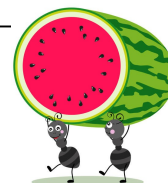


- The office will reopen on **Monday, August 3** for the remainder of the summer from 9:00am – 1:00pm.
- The office will be **closed Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19** to allow for Staff Professional Development.
- First day of school is **Tuesday, August 25**.

Back to School Picnic

Wednesday, August 12
4:00 – 7:00pm

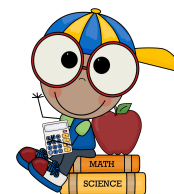
See all your friends, have some tasty picnic food and play some games at our Back to School Picnic. This is a great way to kick off our 2026-2027 school year.



Head down to Presque Isle at the Rotary Pavilion and join in all the fun! Please RSVP to Amanda Torres at amandaandnoeltorres@gmail.com.

What You Need to Know

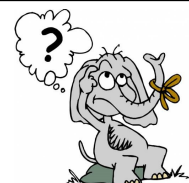
- **Parent Orientation Night:** Thursday, August 20 
 - Beginning at 5:30pm in the main sanctuary. Individual classroom meetings will be announced and parents will be notified soon.
 - LMA school policies and procedures will be reviewed. Paperwork will be distributed and individual classroom meetings will be held;
 - **Grades K – 5:** Students are encouraged to attend.
 - **Middle School:** Students are expected to attend with a parent
- **First day of school:** Tuesday, August 25
- **The Before School Program** is available from 7:30-8:00am.
- **Classes begin** at 8:15am each day.
- **Dismissal** is from 2:25 – 2:40pm .
- **After School Program** is held from 2:40 – 5:30pm.



Reminders

Below are some items you will need for this school year:

- Supply lists for each grade can be found on our website, www.luthermemorialacademy.org
 - Click on “About”
 - Click on “Staff Directory”
 - Select the grade



Tuition Procedure



School tuition payments will continue to be processed by Vanco Services, a company endorsed by Thrivent Financial, for the 2026/2027 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 2026/2027. 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.

Tuition Help



New this year! Family Volunteer Tuition Credit Program allows families to earn a \$250 tuition credit by volunteering at approved school events and activities. Check with our school office for more information.

Financial Aid

If financial aid is needed for the 2026-2027 school year, it is imperative that the application form be sent to the school office as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs. Thom or Mrs. Fried.

LMA Block Party

Saturday, September 12
12:00 noon – 4:00pm
Luther Memorial
Rain or shine

LMA will kick off their 2026-2027 school year with a fabulous Block Party. Your family and friends will have a day filled with fun and laughter as we gear up for another terrific school year.

Test your aim with cornhole tournaments. Adults; \$25 team of 2 / Children; \$10 team of 2. Register by calling the school office at 814-454-0106, ext. 222.



The day will fly by with all the excitement and activities for everyone to enjoy.

Delicious food
Carnival games
Face painting

Great music provided by Lopaka Rootz
Beer & wine (donations accepted)
Bingo

50/50
Basket raffle

LMA 2026/2027 Staff

Our teachers are excited to meet our students and begin a new school year.

Kindergarten: Ms. Meaghan Wood
First Grade: Miss Maria Insana
Second Grade: Mrs. Beth Keller
Third Grade: Mrs. Deborah Barger
Fourth Grade: Mrs. Karen Socash
Fifth Grade: Mrs. Michelle Harrington
Sixth Grade: Miss Ciara Adams
Seventh Grade: Ms. Elizabeth Kantz

Eighth Grade: Ms. Caryn Chludzinski
Library: Mrs. Kim Evans
Spanish: Mrs. Rebecca McCormick
Music: Mr. Braxton Beaulieu
Health/Art/Community Outreach: Mrs. AJ Noyes
PE: Mr. Jamarja Hines-Tate
Office Manager: Mrs. Amanda Fried
Principal: Mrs. Michelle Thom

Wish List

Every little bit helps LMA; thank you.

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

PTL Membership Enrollment



Family Name: _____

Student's Name(s)/Grade(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Please include your membership fee of \$15.00 in cash or check payable to LMA-PTL

Fundraising Opt-Out

I would like to support the PTL and activities it provides for our school, however, I do not wish to fundraise. Here is my opt-out donation:

Name: _____

Student: _____ Grade: _____

Donation (min. \$75 requested): _____

Be sure to check out the LMA School Newsletter for more great things happening.
Great information at your fingertips all the time! Just scan the QR code or to go:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/IFORHQj/enevssignup>



AUGUST 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00am Quilting 
2 8:15/10:30am Worship	3 	4 10:00am Grace Group 5:00pm National Night Out/Gridley Park 6:30pm BAD	5	6 10:00am Diabetes Prevention Program 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible	7	8 7:00pm Contemporary Integrational Orchestra/Music of Ozzie Osbourne
9 8:15/10:30am Worship 10:00am Erie Lutheran Conference Beach Service	10	11 10:00am Pericope 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group 5:30pm LIA 6:00pm Council/Staff Picnic	12 4:00pm Back to School Picnic	13 10:00am Diabetes Prevention Program 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible	14 	15
16 8:15/10:30am Worship	17 	18 LMA/Teacher Development Day	19 11:00am OWLS/Ferrante's LMA/Teacher Development Day	20 10:00am Diabetes Prevention Program 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible 5:30pm LMA/Parent Orientation	21	22
23 8:15/10:30am Worship	24	25 First Day of School 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group	26	27 10:00am Diabetes Prevention Program 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible	28	29 
30 8:15/10:30am Worship	31	The Church Office will be open through Monday, August 24 from 8:30am – 2:00pm. The office is variably open half-days on Fridays; call before popping by.				