

# LUTHER MEMORIAL C H U R C H



Luther Memorial Church • 225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 454-0106  
e-mail: [info@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:info@luthermemorialonline.org) website: [www.luthermemorialonline.org](http://www.luthermemorialonline.org)  
Luther Memorial Academy • 220 West Eleventh Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 454-0106

Volume 53, Issue 4

May 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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## STAFF

Pastor ~ Jay C. Mitchell  
[jmitchell@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:jmitchell@luthermemorialonline.org)

Cantor ~ Bryan Timm  
[btimm@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:btimm@luthermemorialonline.org)

Christian Education ~ Beth Keller  
[bkeller@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:bkeller@luthermemorialonline.org)  
Sarah Prylinski  
[sprylinski@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:sprylinski@luthermemorialonline.org)

Care Ministry ~ Jan MacInnes  
[jmacinnes@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:jmacinnes@luthermemorialonline.org)

Parish Manager ~ Miriam Scheid  
[mscheid@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:mscheid@luthermemorialonline.org)

Secretary ~ Norma Buerk  
[nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org)

Luther Memorial Academy:  
Administrator ~ Michelle Thom  
[mthom@lmaerie.org](mailto:mthom@lmaerie.org)

Secretary ~ Amanda Fried  
[afried@lmaerie.org](mailto:afried@lmaerie.org)

Bethany Outreach Ctr. ~ Mabel Howard  
[mabel@bethanyoutreachcenter.org](mailto:mabel@bethanyoutreachcenter.org)

*Dear Luther Memorial,*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Welcome to May! This is quite a month for us as church together. We have much to celebrate even as we quickly approach the end of our program year.

We gather to celebrate 50 years of Luther Memorial Academy on the very first weekend. We stand on the threshold between the past 50 years and the hope and expectations of the next 50 (and more!).

But that's nothing new. This May is full of transitional moments for us as Jesus' Followers on this side of the empty tomb. We continue our celebrations of the Resurrection on Sundays. But what's more, we gather to celebrate with our siblings in the Erie Lutheran Conference on May 14 (a Thursday...always a Thursday). We will celebrate that day, forty days after the Resurrection Dawn, when Jesus ascends into heaven that he might fill all in all. The disciples transition from disciples (those who learn) to apostles (those who are sent) in this moment. Even as they look to the skies, they are sent into the world.

Just 10 days later we celebrate the transition of a bunch of Jesus' Followers into the Church of Jesus Christ on the Day of Pentecost. Fifty days after the Resurrection, the promises of Jesus are fulfilled in the gift of the Holy Spirit. The apostles are not just sent out but are driven out to the far corners of the world with the Good News. We will celebrate this year on May 24 with music from around the globe—reminding us that we are still part of a global Church.

And then, as we seemingly transition into the ho-hum of the summer green season, we don't get there without yet one more celebration. This time, we celebrate the central doctrine of our faith—and the only Festival Day celebrating a doctrine and not a person or event. We celebrate our God-in-Relationship, the Holy Trinity.

And that's just the month of May. And just in worship.

This month, as we encounter these worshipful and liturgical celebrations of transition, we are reminded that the world around us is not static. There is little permanence in what we experience and live in the world. And yet it is into the world that we are sent.

But, as Jesus promises at the ascension, we are not left as orphans. We are not sent out alone. We are sent out with one another, as part of the Body of Christ, and more importantly we are sent out full of the Spirit of the Risen Christ to encounter—and transform—this world of transitions in which we live!

*Pastor Jay*

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!  
See you in church

## Ascension Day Worship

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Thursday, May 14  
7:00pm

**Alleluia! God has gone up with a shout!**

This day is a major feast of the Church as we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. We are told that Jesus walked—alive—among the people for 40 days and then ascended into heaven in order to fill all things. The Church has been gathering to celebrate ever since.

This year, Luther will be hosting the Erie Lutheran Conference congregations for the celebration. We will worship at 7:00pm with a reception following.

The Rt. Rev. Kristen Papson, IV Bishop of the NWPA Synod, will be preaching.

For information about the Conference-Wide Choir, please contact Cantor Bryan Timm, 814-454-0106, ext. 221.

## Rachel's Day

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Tuesday, May 5  
6:30pm



*From the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."*

Rachel's Day is an opportunity to lift up all of our youth who are threatened by the "Herods" of today; sex trafficking, gun violence, war, bullying, suicide. Rachel's Day and anti-violence work are not about fixing others but recognizing that children need to know that adults care.

A Litany of Prayer and candle lighting service will be presided over by Bishop Kristen Papson, ELCA Bishop of the NWPA Synod.

Prayer Stations will be available throughout the church building from 6:00pm- 8:00pm.

*From the Gospel of Matthew: "An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt...for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' When Herod saw that he had been tricked...he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem."*

Rachel's Day is a day of remembering the young lives lost, and it should also be a time to recommit to children everywhere. It is important to celebrate as well as mourn. It is in celebrating that the faith community is stirred to hope and can envision a better future.

A light reception will be offered at the conclusion of the service.

**ALL faiths and denominations are welcome to join Women of the ELCA for this event.**



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

Roberta (Diane) Come who died March 31, 2026.

Our prayers are with Braendel family.

Joann Perry who died April 26, 2026. Our prayers are with her family.

## Luther Memorial Concert and Cultural Series

### Millcreek Community Band

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**Monday, May 4  
7:00pm**

From its roots as clown/comic parade band, the Millcreek Area Community Band has grown into an ensemble of approximately 45 members that performs a wide variety of wind ensemble, concert band and symphonic band repertoire.

The group performs at many functions and venues in the Greater Erie area. The band operates with support from audience members and the Millcreek Township Parks and Recreation Department. New members are always welcome so please consider joining us at a rehearsal. Rehearsals are held at McDowell Intermediate High School every Monday from 7:00-9:00pm.



### Dylan David Shaw, Organ

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**Sunday, May 24  
2:30pm**

Join us in welcoming Assistant Grand Court Organist, Dylan David Shaw, as we bring a taste of Wanamaker to Luther Memorial. Dylan is Parish Organist at Zion Lutheran Church in Bristol, PA and has served for nearly 11 years as Assistant Organist at the former Macy's Philadelphia, Wanamaker Grand Court with Peter Richard Conte. In addition to his duties at the Grand Court, Dylan is an Associate Organist at Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, home to the Largest Musical Instrument in the World.



## *Geraniums*

Orders due Sunday, May 10

Geraniums will be placed at the altar on Sunday, May 24 in observance of Pentecost.

If you would like to donate a geranium in memory or in honor of a loved one, **please use the form below and return it to the church office with a remittance of \$4.00 per geranium by Sunday, May 10.** All orders received by Sunday, May 10, will be listed in the Geranium Booklet and included with the service bulletin on Sunday, May 24. Flowers will be planted on church grounds.

### Geranium Order Form

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

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

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

# Geraniums ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$4.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Will help plant geraniums on church grounds

**(Please make all checks payable to Luther Memorial Church)**

**Please Note:** Geraniums are in 4 1/2" pots and are supplied by Stan's Garden Center. Order forms may be placed in the offering plate, or dropped off in the church office.

## Church Directory

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### It's Portrait Time

*No Appointment Needed*

We want to see **YOU** in our updated Church Directory.

Who: Every church member

What: A quick picture of you and your family

When: Every Sunday in May (May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31)

9:15am until 10:15am

11:30am until 12:00 Noon

Where: Take the elevator to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor

Why: To connect members, bridge relationships and build our church community



### **Important Notice**

If you are not able to come to the church to have a portrait taken or prefer to submit a favorite photograph, please email the picture as an attachment to

[nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org)

Include each person's name listed left to right by row as shown in your photograph.

## Fellowship

### Magic Fingers Grace Group

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Those April showers sure have helped the May flowers! Let's use some beautiful spring colored yarn to make some shawls; or maybe something special you're working on. We hope you have some time to join us the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am - 12:00 noon.

Add it on your calendars for May 12 and May 26.

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

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**Wednesday, May 20**  
**11:00am**

We will welcome Master Gardener Mary Hetrick to our OWLS event on May 20. Mary will share some brilliant ideas for bringing patriotism into your gardening. You don't need a large space for some red, white and blue. Come and discover patriotic container gardening and be ready to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U.S.A.

Lunch will be provided following our gardening fun. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes at 833-0476 or Norma in the church office.

### Second Sunday Socials

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Relax on Sunday morning, visit with everyone in the parlor and enjoy some delicious refreshments during our next get together on Sunday, May 10. Please contact the church office if you would like to host this time of fellowship.



## Christian Education

### Sunday Mornings

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Our final Sunday School gathering was April 12. We will take a summer break and plan some fun summer gatherings to enjoy the beautiful weather together.



### National Youth Gathering

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The summer 2027 ELCA National Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, MN. A meeting was held on Sunday, April 12 for those interested in attending. Commitments and registration fees will be needed in September 2026.

If you have an interest in this amazing opportunity, please contact Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or the church office.

### Confirmation Class Revamp! – 11:30am

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Our fourth workshop for students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 9<sup>th</sup> grade will meet on **Sunday, May 10** after the 10:30am worship service. Four of these workshops were offered throughout the year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in odd months. In order to successfully complete confirmation classes, each confirmand must attend all four. However, the *same four* will be offered every year in slightly different orders to allow for flexibility in attending all four. There will also be a worship leadership and a biblical literacy component that will need to be completed along with the usual service hours. Finally, ConfirCamp is strongly recommended for *at least* one year between the end of 7<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Confirmation will still be held in the autumn of 10<sup>th</sup> grade to each confirmand.



### Faith Formation

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We welcome you to join us for Adult Forum, Brown Bag Bible, and Bible After Dark (BAD). **Faith Formation Calendars** for adults are available in hard copy on the Welcome Table near the Ramp Door. There are electronic copies on the Facebook page and information can be also be found on our website.



#### 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). **B<sup>3</sup> will gather each Thursday in May 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! BAD will not meet on Tuesday, May 5; we invite you to attend the Rachel's Day worship service. **Join us at Calamari's on June 2 for our next BAD gathering.** We are studying *Parables: Putting Jesus's Stories in Their Place.*

### First Holy Communion

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First Holy Communion was offered on Sunday, April 19, 2025 during the 10:30am service. Our students and families participated in two Saturday morning sessions in preparation for this special day. We celebrate with the following young people who made their First Holy Communion:

ARDEN JULES FETCKO

RYKIAH LYNN ROGAN

## Help! Confirmation Students at Camp Lutherlyn

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Confirmation is an important moment in the life of a young person. It is the first time baptized Christian youth profess their intention to live up to the vows of the baptismal and membership covenant and become a professing member of a congregation.

Youth confirmed at Luther Memorial have completed three (3) years of confirmation classes and are also encouraged to attend Confirmation Camp at Camp Lutherlyn each summer. This year our youth in grades 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, will be attending Confirmation Camp **Sunday, June 14 - Friday, June 19, 2026**. We are excited about the experiences our youth will have as they attend Confirmation Camp this June. Information will be sent to all parents and students about the details of Confirmation Camp. The necessary forms will also be available on Luther Memorial's website. If you have not received the information, please contact the church office. Registration is open now.

Because confirmation does have a cost we are doing four things. First, Luther Memorial, per the 2026 budget, will pay a portion of the money. Second, each student will pay \$110. Third, to help offset church expenses, our youth are involved in many fundraising opportunities and our youth are asked to help with as many of these as possible. And fourth, just like in previous years we are asking for student sponsors. **The cost to sponsor one student for the week is \$100.** So many have been very responsive to this way to give in previous years, so please consider sponsoring one or more students! If you feel called to respond in this way, you may mail a check to Luther Memorial marked Confirmation Camp or call Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or Norma Buerk. We thank you for your prayerful consideration.

## Youth (and Family) Events

### LIA ~ Lutherans in Action

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**Tuesday, May 12**  
5:30 - 7:00pm

We'll be meeting Tuesday, May 12, but if the school year has been a bit hectic and there wasn't a chance to attend an LIA event, never fear, there's more coming this summer. 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.

Be sure to check the bulletins for surprises all summer. 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. We're looking forward to see everyone this summer!

## Women of the ELCA

### General Meeting

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On Tuesday, May 5 the Deborah and Tuesday W/ELCA Circles will meet at 12:00 noon in the parlor for their Spring General Meeting. All women are invited to attend.

Circles meet the first Tuesday of the month and are open to all women. For more information on the Deborah Circle which meets at 12:00 noon, please contact Judy Johnson at 833-4600. The Tuesday Circle meets at 3:00pm; please contact Pat Young at 455-7736, or our church office, 454-0106, ext. 221, for more information.

### Pennies for Poverty

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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.



## Artiques Gallery



Stunning artwork is just a short drive to the Artiques Gallery at 716 Nevada Drive. Steve Wood, manager of the Gallery, would like to invite you to **"The Carl and Wilda Show"** which will open Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3 from 12 noon - 5:00pm.

Many may remember Carl and Wilda Sundberg. Some of their artwork is displayed at Luther Memorial Church. A large amount of their fine art will be on display at the gallery on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through May from 12 noon - 5:00pm. Steve Wood shares that the Gallery "will have a familiar feel, a heavy dose of Erie Art Legends and antique art". There is no fee to stop in and enjoy the unforgettable talent of Carl and Wilda Sundberg.

## Camp Lutherlyn

### CampBlast

**Saturday, May 9  
11:00am - 4:30pm**

**Experience a GREAT day at camp!** Campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, pony rides, zipline, bouldering room, hikes, nature activities, hay rides, games, sports, archaeology, disc golf, jump pillow, tours, great food, worship, and MORE! Don't let the weather stop you - this will be fun rain or shine. **The best part? EVERYTHING IS FREE!!**



No registration is needed. Just show up with all your friends, family, neighbors, and anyone else looking for a fun, free day.

## May Birthdays

Bradley Klomp 5-1  
Bill Lasher 5-1  
Amanda Stelmack 5-3  
Elizabeth Lowry 5-3  
Catherine Lasher 5-3  
Ben Pratt 5-3  
Debra Galloway 5-3  
Liz Stroup 5-4  
Alexandra Turowski 5-4  
Bill Braendel 5-5  
Pam Will 5-5  
Katie Zamperini 5-7  
Donna Sedelmyer 5-9  
Carol Schaal 5-9  
Vance Meucci 5-10  
Joann Wagner 5-10  
Mary Mumford 5-10  
Gianna DiTullio 5-11



Craig Sundberg 5-12  
Nathan Carey 5-12  
Maeve Zamperini 5-12  
Dan Young 5-13  
John Laver 5-14  
Ryan Henry 5-14  
Michael Heintzel 5-14  
Julie Sturm 5-15  
Diana Alvaro 5-18  
Anna Downey 5-18  
Ashley Will 5-20  
Elaine Kern 5-20  
Pat Gilbert 5-21  
John Moore 5-22  
Michael Nicotra 5-23  
Kyle Warren 5-24  
Richard Caldwell 5-24  
James Sturm 5-24



Mason Snider 5-24  
Gabriel Stroup 5-26  
Benjamin Burling 5-26  
Brad Galloway 5-26  
Colleen Lasher 5-26  
Jamie Schumacher 5-26  
M. J. Howell 5-26  
Jacob Byers 5-27  
Evelynn Graffius 5-29  
Lee Swenson 5-29  
Vincent Tuk 5-29  
Marjorie Johnson 5-29  
Thomas Schlecht 5-29  
Barbara Montgomery 5-30  
Emma Chaffee 5-30  
Roy Strausbaugh 5-30

## May Sunshine Birthdays

M. J. Howell 5/26  
2064 Willow Street, Apt. 403  
Wesleyville, PA 16510

Marjorie Johnson 5/29  
8399 Lake Pleasant Road  
Erie, PA 16509



Roy Strausbaugh 5/30  
2323 Edinboro Road, Apt. 380  
Erie, PA 16509

**March 2026 Statistics**

| <u>ATTENDANCE:</u> | <u>8:15am</u> | <u>10:30am</u> | <u>YouTube</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| March 1            | 23            | 69             | 33             | 125          |
| March 8            | 24            | 74             | 35             | 133          |
| March 15           | 22            | 73             | 52             | 147          |
| March 22           | 31            | 78             | 37             | 146          |
| March 29           | 25            | 112            | 61             | 198          |
| <b>AVERAGE</b>     | <b>25</b>     | <b>81</b>      | <b>44</b>      | <b>150</b>   |



**SPECIAL SERVICES:**

|  | <u>12:00 .P.M</u> | <u>1:00 P.M.</u> | <u>4:00 P.M.</u> | <u>7:00 P.M.</u> | <u>YOU TUBE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| March 2<br><i>(Luth. Schools Week)</i>           |                   | 115              |                  |                  | 16              | 131          |
| March 4 <i>(Lenten Wed.)</i>                     | 32                |                  |                  |                  | N/A             | 32           |
| March 11 <i>(Lenten Wed.)</i>                    | 25                |                  |                  |                  | N/A             | 25           |
| March 18 <i>(Lenten Wed.)</i>                    | 24                |                  |                  |                  | N/A             | 24           |
| March 25 <i>(Lenten Wed.)</i>                    | 29                |                  |                  |                  | N/A             | 29           |
| March 28<br><i>(Cont. Integrational Concert)</i> |                   |                  |                  | 140              | 12              | 152          |
| March 29<br><i>(Documentary/Massey Organ)</i>    |                   |                  | 23               |                  | N/A             | 23           |

**BAPTISMS:** None recorded.

**FUNERALS:** MESSENGER, SHIRLEY (Darlene Downey's mom) - DOD: March 14, 2026 / Funeral: March 18, 2026 / Pastor Brian Moran officiating.

**MEMORIALS:** None recorded.

**LETTER OF TRANSFER:** KING, DENISE & RON - to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Erie, PA

**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED:** None recorded.

**WEDDINGS:** None recorded.

**April 2026 Statistics**

| <u>ATTENDANCE:</u>      | <u>8:15am</u> | <u>10:30am</u> | <u>YouTube</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| April 5 <i>(Easter)</i> | 28            | 143            | 66             | 237          |
| April 12                | 30            | 70             | 33             | 133          |
| April 19                | 30            | 86             | 33             | 149          |
| April 26                | 25            | 58             | 27             | 110          |
| <b>AVERAGE</b>          | <b>15</b>     | <b>89</b>      | <b>40</b>      | <b>157</b>   |



| <u>SPECIAL SERVICES:</u>               | <u>12:00pm</u> | <u>7:00pm</u> | <u>YouTube</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| April 2 <i>(Maundy Thursday)</i>       |                | 58            | 45             | 103          |
| April 3 <i>(Stations of the Cross)</i> | 20             |               | N/A            | 20           |
| April 3 <i>(Good Friday)</i>           |                | 61            | 63             | 124          |
| April 4 <i>(Easter Vigil)</i>          |                | 38            | N/A            | 38           |

| <u>CONCERT EVENTS:</u>                 | <u>7:00pm</u> | <u>YouTube</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| April 17 <i>(Astralis Ensemble)</i>    | 38            | 54             | 92           |
| April 26 <i>(Presque Isle Ringers)</i> | 33            | 6              | 39           |

**BAPTISMS:** None recorded.

**MEMORIALS:** None recorded.

**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED:** None recorded.

**FUNERALS:** COME, ROBERTA (DIANE) - DOD: March 31, 2026 / Funeral: April 2, 2026 / Pastor Jay Mitchell officiating

**WEDDINGS:** None recorded.

## April 2026 Council Meeting

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1. **Council Meeting:** Minutes of the March 10, 2026 council meeting were unanimously approved.
2. **Property Committee:** Use of the rental space is tabled. Hoping to have a Property Committee meeting before the May Council meeting.
3. **Church Directory:** Carol Davidson now has the registration form used for previous directories. Will begin taking pictures after the first of May. Information will be included in upcoming bulletins and newsletter. The option to send pictures via email will be available. Carol and Patrick Cimino (taking the photos) will coordinate schedules.
4. **Boiler Repair:** On hold for certainty of good weather.
5. **LMA Playground Fencing:** Fencing is complete and looks good. The barrier between the hospital and playground provides more privacy for the children.
6. **Organ:** The Dwight B. Jones organ arrived to Erie. Console is currently in the Lectern side hallway of the main sanctuary. The remaining parts of the organ are at Organ Supply Industries awaiting necessary work. This puts in motion preparing a date and time to bring the organ 3-phase project and fundraising that will be presented to the congregation.
  - a. The OWLS (and anyone else interested) will visit OSI on Wednesday, April 22 to see what Cantor Bryan does on a daily basis.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Total contributions are down \$7,000 YTD. YTD income is \$6,700 more than budgeted. YTD expenses are \$2,200 less than budget.
  - a. Total expenses \$13,000 more than 2025. We have a profit of \$13,000 vs in 2025, we had a loss of \$10,000.
  - b. Pulled \$9,000 from Music & Worship account and put into our checking account to pay for organ to be transported from Arkansas.
  - c. Renew Erie tenant paid for year's rent in full; this will even out over time.
  - d. On motion it was unanimous to accept the Treasurer's report.
8. **Renew Erie, LLC Rental Rate:** The question was raised asking if there had been increases on rent for the tenants; if this is something to consider; or if that is something we would like to do or are happy with the current situation. After discussion, multiple council members would appreciate further information from Renew Erie committee about the organization. Possibly have future market research done for the building and its current rental rates, etc. On motion it was unanimous to ask the Renew Erie Committee to have a representative(s) bring the mission, goals, and future vision of the entity, Renew Erie, and its building, to a church council meeting.
9. **Committee Listing:** Church council members would like to compile a list of committees (including a brief description of what they are and what they do, and their representatives) that are:
  - a. Committees created by Luther Memorial's church council or a branch of church council in the sense that they must bring certain topics/decisions to church council to approve;
  - b. Committees in Luther Memorial Church that do not have to bring topics/decisions to church council to approve but still exist; and
  - c. Committees that exist in connection with Luther Memorial, i.e.; Renew Erie Committee, Luther Memorial Concert and Cultural Series, etc.
    - i. This is with the hope of being able to help with new blood on said committees and groups, determine any duplicative services in order to consolidate, as well as have compiled information for anyone who might be interested.

A motion was made by Liz Stroup volunteering herself to retrieve any existing lists, talking to Norma and Pastor Jay to begin compiling, and ask Norma to put a request in the Luther Memorial newsletter for heads of committees to get information to Liz. Motion unanimously accepted.

cont'd. on page 10

10. **Counting Committee:** Emma observed some hiccups in counting. Since the inception of the counting committee there had been no "communication" other than scheduled days for counting. A training for everyone who counts the offering from church council, as well as those who volunteered for the counting committee, would be beneficial. Emma Chaffee volunteered to meet with Miriam and audit the counting process to ensure it is being done efficiently and logically. Following this, Emma will provide a training to those who count the offering to ensure clarity and consistency. It was suggested that for "special weeks", such as Holy Week, to do a special training the week of in order to provide a refresher as well as any nuances that might be encountered for those who count Easter Sunday. On motion it was unanimous to devise /organize a training session for anyone who is approved/volunteers to count the weekly offering with input by the Parish Manager, Miriam Scheid.
11. **Bethany Outreach Center:** Bethany has made a request to Luther Memorial Church to advance 3 months of our monthly giving of \$1,250 to them that has already been consistently donated. Due to a lack of "cash flow" they are in danger of being unable to meet payroll. Multiple fundraisers are planned for the near future hoping this will bring them out of this deficit. This has happened one other time and things worked out well with operations being able to continue. On motion it was unanimous to approve a 3 month advance totaling \$3,750 to Bethany Outreach Center.
12. **Meeting:** The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



## Thank You

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Dear friends of Bethany,

Thank you for your clothing and household donation, 500 pounds to Bethany Outreach Center and 5 pounds food. As you know, deserving families and individuals in our community go without proper food, shelter, and essential medical care every day due to a variety of factors, including low wages, loss of employment, injuries, illness, age, domestic violence, or homelessness. While all of us are susceptible to hard times, children and the elderly are most at risk and they make up a large portion of the clients that we serve.

With the generous support of people like you, we are positioned to help many families and individuals not only meet their essential daily needs, but to work towards hope for life change.

For more information on how your donation is helping to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community, we invite you to visit our website at [www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org](http://www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org). You can also find information there on our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support.

Yours in a better community,

*Mabel Howard*

Mabel Howard, Executive Director

# Luther Memorial Academy



## 50 Year Celebration!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be on Saturday, May 2. Additional information about the event can be found at [www.luthermemorialacademy.org](http://www.luthermemorialacademy.org). Go to "About" and on the drop-down menu click on "50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration". Admission information is also located at the church Welcome Table and in the school and church offices.

## Pizza with the Principal & Pastor

The award luncheon continues for one student from each class that exemplifies the monthly character trait. Congratulations to our March students who demonstrated the trait of COLLABORATION.

We're looking forward to our students in April who demonstrate the trait being CONSTRUCTIVE; positive actions with and for others and encouragement. Our Bible verse for the month; 1 Thessalonians 5:11.



## Chipotle Night

**Monday, May 4  
4:00 - 8:00pm**



Stop by Chipotle, 6611 Peach Street, and satisfy your hunger craving. Our PTL is hosting this fundraiser and 25% of sales will benefit LMA PTL.

Flyers are available in the church and school offices. Online orders may also be placed using code YRPWNRP.

## Muffin with Moms

First grade will host their annual Mother's Day Tea, Muffin with Moms on **Friday, May 8.**



## Mayor Devlin

Mayor Devlin will be visiting LMA on Friday, May 8. Second graders wrote her letters inviting her and she kindly accepted their request!



## It's a Race

Our LMA lion mascot will be racing in the Mascot Race at the Art house on **Saturday, May 9.**



## Testing

Our last round of NWEA MAP testing will begin the week of May 11.

## Spring Program

**Monday, May 18  
6:00pm**

Join us for our annual spring program featuring our talented students! Come and enjoy an evening as our students dazzle us with this year's program.

## Memorial Day



LMA will be closed on Friday, May 22 and Monday, May 25 in recognition of Memorial Day.

## Field Day & Talent Show

Friday, May 30



A morning of super fabulous activities for the entire school. Rain or shine, we'll be smiling!

A star studded program will be held in the afternoon featuring our talented LMA students.

## Summer Boot Camp

Keep your children excited about learning at our Summer Boot Camp! It is a wonderful opportunity for incoming and current Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Attend for one week or two; Monday, June 15 - Friday, June 19 and Monday, June 22 - Friday, June 26.

Summer Boot Camp is open to the public. You do not need to be registered at LMA

- Introduce students to teachers, classrooms and daily routines;
- Build skills for school success
- Ease anxieties about starting in the fall
- The opportunity to meet new friends and have lots of fun

Drop off: 8:00am - 8:15am

Pick up: 11:15am - 11:30am

\$135 per child for one week OR \$250 for both weeks

**After care is available until 4:30pm for an additional charge**

- Register by May 29 by contacting the school office at 814-454-0106, ext. 222 or Mrs. Thom, Principal, at [mthom@lmaerie.org](mailto:mthom@lmaerie.org)



## Payments



**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!!

## 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

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/ewssignup>



**MAY 2026**

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |   |   |   |  | 1   | 2<br>10:00am Quilting<br>5:00pm LMA 50 <sup>th</sup><br>Celebration |
| 3<br>8:15/10:30am<br>Worship   | 4<br>7:00pm<br>Community Band   | 5<br>12:00pm W/ELCA<br>General Meeting<br>10:00am Pericope<br>6:30pm Rachel's<br>Day Worship                                    | 6   | 7<br>12:00pm Brown<br>Bag Bible<br>1:00 Grief Group<br>2:30pm Study<br>Skills<br>5:30pm Handbells<br>6:45pm Choir  | 8<br>9:00am Muffins<br>with Mom<br>10:00am LMA<br>Assembly  | 9   |
| 10 <i>Mother's Day</i><br>8:15/10:30am<br>Worship<br>9:15am Second<br>Sunday Socials<br>11:30am<br>Confirmation<br>Class | 11  | 12<br>10:00am Magic<br>Fingers Grace<br>Group<br>5:30pm LIA<br>6:00pm Council   | 13  | 14<br>12:00pm Brown<br>Bag Bible<br>1:00 Grief Group<br>2:30pm Study<br>Skills<br>7:00pm Ascension<br>Service      | 15<br>                                     | 16<br>10:00am Quilting  |
| 17<br>8:15/10:30am<br>Worship  | 18<br>4:30pm School<br>Board<br>6:00pm LMA<br>Spring Program  | 19 <i>Voting Day</i><br>10:00am Pericope<br> | 20<br>11:00am OWLS                              | 21<br>12:00pm Brown<br>Bag Bible<br>1:00 Grief Group<br>2:30pm Study<br>Skills<br>5:30pm Handbells<br>6:45pm Choir | 22<br>LMA Closed  | 23  |
| 24 <i>Pentecost</i><br>8:15/10:30am<br>Worship<br>2:30pm Dylan<br>David Shaw<br>Concert                                  | 25 <i>Memorial Day</i><br>LMA & Church<br>Offices Closed<br> | 26<br>10:00am Magic<br>Fingers Grace<br>Group<br>10:00am Pericope   | 27<br>9:30am Early<br>Connections<br>Graduation | 28<br>12:00pm Brown<br>Bag Bible<br>1:00 Grief Group<br>2:30pm Study<br>Skills<br>5:30pm Handbells<br>6:45pm Choir | 29<br>LMA Field Day &<br>Talent Show<br> | 30  |
| 31<br>8:15/10:30am<br>Worship  |   |   |   |  |   |   |