

Parish Banner for Jesus



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

Volume 45, Issue 1

February 2019

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15am Worship ~ Chapel
10:30am Worship ~ Main Church
Children's Church
Nursery

SEPTEMBER – MAY

9:15am Spiritual Growth Class
(Sundays in Fellowship Hall)
12:30pm Confirmation ~ grades 7-9
(2nd, 4th Sundays)

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

MUSIC MINISTRY Page 5

MONTHLY EVENTS

11:45am Luncheons / Cookouts
Blood Pres. Screenings
3rd Sunday each month

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Clothe Yourself



I wanted to say thank you for this past ministry year of 2018. I thank you for your faithful and generous giving, because as you read in the annual report, this year was a positive one financially, as well as

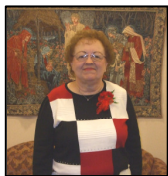
all the faithful ministry done by this congregation! Please be sure to read through the Annual Report which includes all the details of this past year. We can see what we have done **together** through the wisdom and guidance of God. The Annual Report will be posted to our website and hard copies will be available throughout the building. I am grateful that I am pastor at Luther Memorial Church, and that you are a part of my life.

I continue to believe that what we are striving to do at Luther Memorial Church and Academy is to be faithful in what God leads us to do. I also continue to ask for the wisdom to respond to what God moves us to do. The longer I am around the church, I feel we are to resist the many things that pull us away from a faith community, and the physical connections that we have to one another. Christianity is incarnational, the way in which God comes to us in the flesh. I feel conflicted at times to stay away from my faith community because I feel pulled in so many different directions. But when I do come and participate, I am glad I did. I need to be around all of you and to be reminded I am loved and valued by the Lord.

I want to share with you this passage from Colossians because it was my favorite passage in 2018, and a source of encouragement for the ministry we will continue together.

“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which bind everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.”

Welcome to our New Members



Linda Brandt – Originally from Oil City, Linda's family moved to Erie when she was about 3 years old. Her parents and family joined Luther Memorial where she was confirmed and was active in singing in the choir, helping in the nursery and spent much time. Linda's first marriage was also held at Luther Memorial. She is happy to be "rejoining" as an adult. She and her husband have 8 children, 16 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. If she has time, she enjoys bingo and ceramics.

Pat & Henry Gilbert – After living in Florida for 43 years, Pat & Henry moved to Erie this past June to be closer to their children and enjoy their two granddaughters. Pat enjoys knitting and crocheting.



Virginia Long – Originally from Punxsutawney, Virginia came to Erie for college a number of years ago and never left. She is a neonatal nurse practitioner at St. Vincent Hospital. She has two daughters, one son and three grandchildren, all who live nearby. When not working, she enjoys spending her time with family.

Jackie Lupo – Jackie has been active in our Monastery of the Heart ministry for four years. Jackie is originally from Erie and is married with three daughters. She has one granddaughter and one grandson. For 20 years she chaired the buddy walk for Down Syndrome awareness. Jackie enjoys taking advantage of all that Erie has to offer; concerts, picnics and our beautiful peninsula.



Katie Schrader – Katie is employed with Southside Trailer Service as a parts delivery driver. She is a dog lover with two of her own. She enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, Tom Schlect, and his children.

Katherine & Jonathan, Madeline & Cecilia Ulrich – The Ulrich family moved to Erie in July from Virginia. After working as a physical therapist for 12 years, Jonathan is now a Professor of Physical Therapy at Gannon. Katherine is a speech and language pathologist with early intervention. Their two daughters, Madeline and Cecilia enjoy dancing.



New Member Classes



Luther Memorial has scheduled these classes for the purpose of creating opportunities to invite those people God places into your lives into the fellowship of this ministry. Authentic evangelism happens when each disciple invites and welcomes others to hear about God's love and forgiveness. It is as simple as that. This is a ministry growth strategy! You are an evangelist! You are on the evangelism committee!

New Member Information Classes

11:45am ~ Chapel

February 17, 2019

May 5, 2019

September 1, 2019

November 17, 2019

New Members Received

10:30am Worship ~ Sanctuary

March 3, 2019

May 19, 2019

September 15, 2019

December 1, 2019

"Share the Love"



Please join us for a special coffee hour in the parlor, sponsored by our Congregational Life Committee, following each service on Sunday, February 10. "Share the Love" as we enjoy fellowship with friends and some special treats.

Luther Memorial ReCharge



4:00-5:00pm
5:00-6:00pm

Time:
Food and Fellowship
Worship

We invite you to join us for our **ReCharge service on Sunday, February 10, 2019**. We are very excited to be holding our first service of 2019 in our new worship space on the 5th floor. We will gather in the parlor at 4:00pm for

a delicious dinner, fellowship and activities. The main dish will be provided, you are welcome to bring a dish to share. Our worship service will be held at 5:00pm. We hope to see you for worship as we lift our voices in praise to our Lord for all that he has done.



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

Rob Cooney, whose grandmother, **Doris Cooney**, died December 2, 2018

Bob Maas, whose mom, **Eleanor Maas**, died December 3, 2018

Shirley Wolfe who died December 8, 2018

Joe Weber, whose mom, **Rose Weber**, died December 15, 2018

Alice Battersby, whose husband, **Chet Battersby**, died December 18, 2018

James "Red" Ragen (husband) and Winnie Lyons, (sister) on the death of

Joan Ragen, died December 30, 2018

Rebecca Carullo (daughter) and Michael Snider (grandson) on the death of

Richard Jay who died January 17, 2019

Jack Tell and family on the death of Jack's cousin, **Holly Stephan**, who died January 25, 2019

Annual Reports



A hard copy of Luther Memorial's Annual Report can be found on our hospitality tables and a copy is posted to our church website at www.luthermemorialonline.org. Please take the time to review the report and be grateful for the wonderful ministry happening in this place. As a reminder, we continue to actively use the church website to post Sunday bulletins, ministry newsletters and a daily calendar. Also, when ready, there will be new phone, address and photo directories which will be password protected.

Sunday Inserts in Sunday Bulletin



Luther Memorial Church has been using new forms to keep track of worship attendance, address or phone changes, email addresses, guest information, prayer needs, sermon reflection and ways to sign up for upcoming ministry events. **You are encouraged to use them each Sunday to improve communication among one another and the church staff, and allow people to get involved more quickly.** After completing a Sunday Insert form, please place it in the offering plate.

Did You Know . . .



- that with money given in memory of Christopher Fobes, the son of Lois and Les Fobes, Luther Memorial Church purchased a new electronic keyboard for our Sunday evening Recharge services!
- that Pat Bellingham has finished serving on council. A special thanks to Pat for her faithful service and her wonderful work with the Women of the ELCA. W/ELCA has been focusing on raising up healthy women and girls through the SOAP project and the Lily Project. Both projects seek to help women and girls in risk and harm from sexual assault and violence.

- that Jaden Williams of Luther Memorial Church received second honors at Cathedral Prep for the first quarter. A job well done Jaden! Jaden is a recent graduate from Luther Memorial Academy.

Christian Education

Confirmation

Class Time: Saturday nights from 6:00-9:00pm
Class Location: St. John Lutheran Church
 2216 Peach Street
 Confirmation Class is for our 7th, 8th and 9th graders.

Our Confirmation Class has partnered with the youth and pastors of the Erie Lutheran Parish by having one confirmation program, which will build good relationships for Confirmation Camp at Lutherlyn and the National Youth Gathering in 2021.



Schedule of Confirmation Classes

2/9/2019	Class, Food, Fun, and Fellowship	4/13/2019	Class, Food, Fun, and Fellowship
3/9/2019	Class, Food, Fun, and Fellowship	5/11/2019	Class, Food, Fun, and Fellowship

Adult Spiritual Growth

Adult Spiritual Growth class is held each Sunday at 9:15am in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. We will be digging more deeply into Advent during the month of December. Pastor Coleman appreciates all those who have been attending these classes and is thankful for so many interested in deepening their spiritual growth.

Sunday	Topic	Teacher
2/3/2019	Life after Death and Planning Your Resurrection Service	Pastor Coleman
2/10/2019	Catholic and Orthodox Christianity	Pastor Coleman
2/17/2019	Living a Jewish Life	Pastor Coleman
2/24/2019	No Class – Pastor on Vacation	



Pastor's Book Club



Book Club Our next gathering will be **on Wednesday, February 20 at 6:00pm** and for that discussion we will finish reading the book *"The End of Your Life Book Club"* by Will Schwalbe. Also, you are asked to bring to the discussion on February 20, an article, quote or book that changed your life (or continues to inform your life) and be prepared to share why that is. This is not from *"The End of Your Life Book Club"*, but something else. To help, think of this question "If I were stuck on a desert island, this is the article, quote or book that I would want with me". Of course all of you would answer "the bible", but after that what else would you bring?

Finally, so you can order it, the next book we will read is *"The Reason for God"* by Timothy Keller.

Super Wednesdays ~ February 6, 2019



Our next **Super Wednesday** will be held February 6 at 5:30pm with a meal, followed by faith conversations and prayer. Kids will have time together with Sarah Prylinski and Beth Keller. This is a relaxed and multi-generational event and exists to more deeply form community. You need to eat anyway, so why not step out of your comfort zones and schedules and give it a try! The main dish and drinks on Super Wednesdays will be provided and people who are able are invited to bring a dish to share.

The Super Wednesday schedule includes the following:

The schedule includes the following:

5:30 to 6:15pm	Meal
6:15 to 7:15pm	Devotional Time / Activities for Kids
7:15 to 8:15pm	Committee Meetings



Ash Wednesday, March 6 – Worship service only at 7:00pm

Super Wednesdays will be held every Wednesday, March 13 – April 10 at 5:30pm

Music in Worship

Thank You



Thank you to all who helped host the Presque Isle ProMusica and the D'Angelo Opera Theater's presentation of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* on Friday, January 4. The production went very well and was well-received by all those attending. The evening was rounded out by another of our now-typical post-concert receptions organized by Les Fobes. Other members assisted with the greeting of guests, helping those in need of assistance and reception setup and cleanup.

February 17 Concert

The next **Presque Isle ProMusica concert** will be held at Luther Memorial on Sunday, February 17 at 4:00pm. This concert of chamber orchestra music will feature orchestral works that evoke the sentiments of Valentine's Day, including a *Serenade* by Johannes Brahms, Antonio Salieri's *Sinfonia Veneziana* and Felix Mendelssohn's *Italian Symphony*. If you would like to help the **Luther Memorial Concert Series** host this concert, please contact Walt Gaber (WaltGaber@gmail.com; 814.602.2755). Once again, we want to be the best host that we can through our greetings, assistance and by hosting a reception following the concert.



Bach Cantata Vespers



On **March 24 at 6:30 pm**, the LM Concert Series will present our next **Bach Cantata Vespers**. On the eve of the "Annunciation of Mary" we will perform J. S. Bach's Cantata #1 - *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* ("How Brightly Shines the Morning Star") written for that festival day in 1725. In addition to the cantata, other psalms, hymns and motets will be sung, accompanied by a small chamber orchestra. If you would like to sing with us, please speak with Walt Gaber or any choir member. Rehearsals will be held each Sunday from 12:00 noon to 1:15pm beginning on February 10. We have a small group of dedicated singing friends from the Erie community that join us for each of these presentations. Why not challenge yourself to try this out and experience the fun and satisfaction of rehearsing and performing a small set of choral pieces for our community?

Choral Library



Over the past several months, a small group of choir members has worked diligently to integrate the large **St. Matthew's choral library** into our existing library. They completely reorganized the existing Luther Memorial and Bethany anthems to both reduce the storage space requirements and to update our catalog. There are still some materials that need to be examined and cataloged, but please thank **Cathie Dugan**, our music librarian and those who assisted her (**Bob Banks, Mark Lechner, Pat Young**) for their many hours of work on this project.

Special Thanks

As was mentioned during the Advent season, all of the anthems that the choir sang during those weeks were found in the St. Matthew's library. They were sung from the front of the church since their accompaniments were idiomatic to the piano. In addition, two of them required a violinist - so, a special "thank you" to **Linda Melaragno** for playing those violin parts. Her playing added much color and character to each of those anthems.



Thank You's

Sending God's "Sonshine"

I would like to express my most heartfelt thankfulness to everyone who helped in making the Military Box Collection and the Erie VA Collection for Christmas a wonderful success. We completed the Wish List Items for all of them and your love and compassion was so appreciated. We shared God's love and presence with them at this time of our Saviors Birth. Thank you to Beth Keller and her 2nd graders for making and filling stockings for the gentlemen on the 5th floor at the VA; they love receiving cards and stockings from the students and we sent cards from the students in the boxes overseas too. So with the effort from all of us at Luther Memorial we brought God's "SONSHINE" to them!

Thank you very much and may God's peace, joy and love be with you always,

Jan MacInnes

From Bethany Outreach

A BIG Thank You to Luther Memorial Church and leaders, as well as the entire body, for making it possible for the Bethany Outreach Center to exist. We appreciate the love and endless support that you provide each day.



Bethesda Center Holiday Family Dinner



Many people from Luther Memorial helped with the Holiday Family Dinner on Wednesday, December 5. The dinner this year was a blessed success!

Many thanks to Thrivent Financial for their generous contribution of Thrivent Action Team Dollars, which covered nearly everything needed for the dinner.

The folks who work at the Center; Vicki, Shay, Amy, and the many others whose names I do not know, spent countless hours beautifully decorating the dining room in true holiday style, complete with live, festive music for the enjoyment of our dinner guests. We served between 100-120 folks.

Last year was St. Matthew's 20th year of putting on the dinner, and the start of our third decade continues to be a gift from God as so many folks from our new church home, Luther Memorial, joined us this year. Everyone cheerfully volunteered to do whatever task needed done. God bless you and thank you very much for all your help and also thank you to everyone who donated all the luscious cookies, which was the dessert for the dinner guests.

Thank you, Pastor Coleman, for your enthusiasm for the event, for doing the prayer before the meal, for picking up the potatoes, and for doing the TV interview for me. To all the "formerly St. Matthew's" members, God bless you for hangin' in there, despite our recent changes. Looking forward to the 2019 Holiday Dinner at Bethesda Center! I sure hope everyone else is, too! We were a great "Team 27"!

Roberta Lobaugh
2018 Bethesda Holiday Family Dinner Chair



To all the loving hands,

Thank you so much for the time you took out of your busy lives to prepare and serve our family and friends a really splendid luncheon after the funeral service for my husband, Alan Johnson. Your care and dedication to this service is obvious and we are truly grateful and appreciative of your kindness.

With love and gratitude, *Lorraine Johnson*

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely bag of goodies you shared with me and also the cards you have sent me. You are such thoughtful and friendly folks, and I'm so glad to get to know you.

Love, *Jean Joyce*



Dear Pastor Bill,

Please accept and share with your congregation the sincere thanks from the Bethesda Lutheran Services Board of Directors and staff for your generosity with our Holiday Dinner at the Trinity Center. Your donation of purchasing, making, serving and cleaning up the food for our Holiday Dinner was greatly appreciated by all of our staff and families. We truly appreciate you taking on this great event and appreciate your continued support.

Best always, *George R. Trauner*, Chief Executive Officer



To our friends at Luther Memorial Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donations of clothing, household items and holiday cards to the Bethany Outreach Center's Clothes Closet. With the generous support of people like you, we are positioned to help many families and individuals not only to meet their essential daily needs, but to work toward hope for life change. Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support.

Yours in a better community,

Mabel Howard, Executive Director



Magic Fingers Grace Group



It's coming up on Valentine's Day so we'll add a little extra love to our knitting and crocheting. We invite you to pop in to one of our Magic Fingers Grace Group gatherings, bring your yarn project, and sit down with some friends for a wonderful morning. Magic Fingers meets twice a month to knit, crochet, embroider or work on a favorite craft of your own. If you'd like to learn how to knit or crochet, we'd love to show you.

Stop down the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and check it out at 10:00am; February 12 and February 26.

Please contact Jan MacInnes, 454-0106, ext. 233 or the church office, ext. 221 with any questions.

OWLS ~ Older, Wiser Lutherans

Sweet Treat



We will be welcoming February in style at the Bayfront Convention Center as we gather for a special afternoon; a Valentine's luncheon and entertainment.

Date: February 14
Time: 12:00 - 2:00pm
Place: Bayfront Convention Center, Grand Ballroom
1 Sassafras Pier
Cost: No charge

If you have any questions, please contact Jan MacInnes or the church office.

Monastery of the Heart

Monastery of the Heart welcomes you to join us for this spiritual growth group as we continue to study prayer using the book *"The Breath of the Soul, Reflections on Prayer"* by Joan Chittister as our guide.

When: 11:00am on Tuesday, February 19

Where: Luther Memorial Church Parlor

Please join us for any of the gatherings. For further information contact Linda Graffius at 454-0106, ext. 229.



No One Dies Alone



NODA is a national volunteer-centered program that provides companionship and support for dying individuals. It was started by Sandra Clark, RN in 2001 in Eugene, Oregon, when a patient wanted her to stay with him as he was dying. By the time she returned, the patient had died.

The goal of the program is to provide companionship and support for a dying person so that he or she doesn't die alone, but instead, has a dignified death surrounded by caring people.

As a volunteer your role is to:

- ▶ Be emotionally/physically present
- ▶ Promote dignity and respect of that patient as a person
- ▶ If appropriate read poetry, stories, scripture, and/or play music
- ▶ Be a good listener – there are no perfect words
- ▶ Ask for help if needed

This is a newly established program at UPMC Hamot in collaboration with the Palliative Care and Support Team and the Pastoral Support Services. Hamot often receives patients from the outlying region such as; Warren, Kane, Bradford, and many other areas. Many times families do not have the financial means to travel and/or stay an extended time within the Erie area to be with their loved ones during the dying time. If patients become too unstable to travel back to their home region they often stay at the hospital until the time of their passing. NODA can provide support and companionship for patients and offer relief for families that someone is with their loved one. If interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Tracy Townsend at 877-2604 for further information or Liz Stroup within the congregation as well.

Erie Bayhawks



The Inter-Church Ministries of Erie County is participating in the Erie Bayhawks "Celebrate Your Faith Night" on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Erie Insurance Arena. Tickets are \$10 per person and with that purchase you receive a \$5 food voucher. Pastor Coleman will have a signup list for those interested in going.

Messiah Lutheran Church



Messiah Lutheran Church has an opening for a Director of Music Ministry. This is a part-time position requiring approximately 20 hours per week. Some responsibilities include preparing for and leading the congregation at two (2) Sunday services and a few occasional services throughout the year, scheduling and preparing Cantors, providing instrumental music such as preludes and offertory pieces, and rehearsing and directing the choir. A full job description is available upon request. Please contact Ethelynne Cunningham at 725-4252 or Anna Mae Van Dyne at 899-5778 for further information.

Women of the ELCA

W/ELCA

Deborah Circle

TUESDAY EVENING CIRCLE:
Our next gathering will be held:
Tuesday, February 5 at 7:00pm



Tuesday, February 5
6:30pm

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.

From Pat Bellingham



No matter where your interests may be, there are a variety of ways your talents can be used through the Women of the ELCA. We invite you to attend any of our meetings to see how you may like to be involved. We welcome you to call the church office, or speak with Pat Young or Pat Bellingham.

February 22, 2019 - Pat Bellingham will be traveling to Chicago to participate in the Conference of Presidents. It is a wonderful time for W/ELCA Synodical Presidents to gather for sharing activities that our local women are doing, participating in worship, and learning about available resources in our Women's Organization. Pat has been given the opportunity to share specifically our work in NWPA in Human Trafficking and the Lily Project. It is indeed an exciting time to be a Woman of the ELCA!

March 1, 2019 - World Day of Prayer. If you receive and read W/ELCA Interchange, there was an invitation to participate, or even perhaps organize, your own event to celebrate with thousands of other women in more than 170 countries, of different races, cultures and traditions. To learn more or to download resources to help celebrate World Day of Prayer, visit www.wdp-usa.org.

March 16, 2019 - National Quilting Day. Lutheran World Relief wants to celebrate all of the women who share their talents in their quilts. LWR has a Facebook group that shows live video feeds from LWR. (facebook.com/groups/lwrquilters).

The 2019 Lutherlyn Retreat committee is looking for another member from NWPA. That person is responsible for helping to plan with our Sisters in SWPA a joint weekend retreat at Lutherlyn, being held September 13-15, 2019. It is a two year commitment. The committee meets approximately four (4) times per year at Lutherlyn. The next retreat meeting is March 2 at Lutherlyn. If you are interested in keeping our retreat alive, please see Pat Bellingham.

Thrivent Financial Members



Thrivent Financial has a new program called Action Teams. Luther Memorial Church has already received the benefit of this program through many congregational members who are Thrivent members. Each Thrivent member is eligible for two \$250 gift cards for an Action Team. These gift cards can be used for programming, fundraising, service projects, or for education purposes.

Steps to apply for an Action Team Card through Thrivent Financial:

1. Think about a project you would like to make happen at Luther Memorial Church, the Bethany Outreach Center, or another service ministry. Feel free to call Pastor Coleman to discuss.
2. Visit www.thrivent.com/actionteam (You will need your Thrivent.com login name and password)
3. Hover over "Member Involvement" and click on "How to get involved"
4. Click the "Thrivent Action Team" link in the 3rd paragraph
5. Click "Apply & Report" in the left menu
6. Request a Project - The project date must be at least 21 days in advance

A Migraine Without Pain?



I chose this subject because I have had this happen to me two times. Fortunately I don't get migraines that cause pain. So what is a migraine without pain? It is an optical or ocular migraine that affects your vision.

Typically a migraine is a recurring type of headache that can cause moderate to severe pain. It can be accompanied by other symptoms such as nausea, weakness and sensitivity to light and sound. An optical migraine occurs without head pain or nausea and is a form of silent migraine. It is characterized by a variety of vision disturbances that can appear in one or both eyes such as:

- a temporary loss of partial or complete vision in one or both eyes;
- seeing spots;
- seeing zig-zags;
- flashes of light or double vision.

Migraine sufferers might recognize these vision symptoms as an aura phenomenon that occasionally serves as a warning sign that migraine pain is coming.

An optical migraine has no headache that follows. The vision symptoms usually resolve themselves within 20-30 minutes. But, if it lasts longer or becomes worse, call your doctor or go to the emergency room. They are thought to originate in similar ways to other migraines in that irregular electrical activity occurs in the brain. Some other causes may be:

- genetics;
- gender-women more commonly have them;
- MSG- which is in some foods
- changes in weather
- stress;
- harsh lights.

There is hope for women as they age because they might have fewer headaches, less pain but more auras.

Ocular migraines themselves aren't harmful but other medical conditions can cause vision disturbances so if this is a new problem, you should inform your doctor. If eye and heart problems are ruled out, people can think about ocular migraines as a temporary inconvenience. The articles I read stated that over the counter magnesium can help ocular migraines and auras in general and this is a simple remedy that may help. But as usual, check with your health care provider before taking it. I didn't realize that magnesium may help this problem till I did research for this article. I already take magnesium every night for other reasons and in thinking back it has been a long time since I had an optical migraine, so I'm hoping the magnesium is helping this problem too.

I can hardly believe it's 2019! If you have any suggestions for a newsletter article or have questions about a medical issue you may be having please don't hesitate to call me or email me at lgraffius@luthermemorialonline.org.

Here's to a happy and healthy year ahead!

Blessings,

*Linda Graffius, RN Faith Community Nurse
Coordinator of Care and Health Ministry*

Blood Pressure Screenings



Stay healthy - blood pressure screenings will be offered by our parish nurses on **Sunday, February 10.**

Bethany Outreach Center



It has been about 30 years since the carpet in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Bethany Outreach Center was installed. This room is used every day in all seasons for programs such as Food Distribution, Bethany Storytime for young children, and the IMPACT Teen program for high-schoolers. The carpet is stained and thread-bare in areas, so it badly needs replaced. Based upon a quote and estimates received, we are in need of \$4,500 for its replacement. If you would be able to help fund this project, or know of a group or foundation that would, please contact Eric Hedlund at 814-722-7732 or eric@bethanyoutreachcenter.org.

Dear Lord,

So far today, am I doing all right.



I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have charged nothing on my credit card.

But I will be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.

February Birthday Celebrations

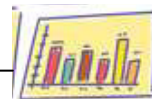
Amy Coleman	2/1		Lucy Fromyer	2/11	Coleen DiCenzo	2/21
Jessica Copfer	2/1		Alexander Spaulding	2/12	Lila Heckelman	2/21
K. Kern, II	2/1		Paul Young	2/12	Robert Weisman	2/21
Cheryl Hessinger	2/2		Christopher Allen	2/13	Cheryl Andrae	2/22
Linda Allen	2/3		David Ditz	2/13	Sheryl Kern	2/22
Linda Burling	2/3		Betty Pletz	2/13	Cathie Dugan	2/23
Montie Collier	2/3		Laura Symes	2/14	Carter Swenson	2/23
Lois Smith	2/3		Carl Anderson, III	2/16	Emma Downey	2/24
Vickie Diehl	2/4		Jasper Eagle	2/16	Atticus Wojciechowski	2/24
James Koenig	2/5		Beth Keller	2/16	Pam Arnold	2/25
Suzanne Pancurak	2/5		Jordyn Williams	2/16	Nancy Benacci	2/25
Cameron Casey	2/6		Lydia Cowan	2/17	Keith Perry	2/25
Elliott Schumacher	2/6		Melissa Fromyer	2/17	Grace Spaulding	2/25
Ashley Young	2/6		Griffin Sundberg	2/17	Joseph Pentycofe	2/26
Cathy Meyn	2/7		Stone Sundberg	2/17	John Bartlett	2/27
Michael Snider	2/7		Carolyn Carlson	2/18	Amelia Lang	2/27
Jackie Lupo	2/8		Shirley Collier	2/18	James Benson	2/28
Adam Nicotra	2/8		Lena Donnelly	2/18	Robert Carlson	2/28
Abigail Morgan	2/9		Richard Chase	2/19	Christine Fracassi	2/28
Lisa Fausnaught	2/10		Jane Kinzig	2/20	Britney Visalle	2/28
Charlie Lintelman	2/10		Rhonda Kuhrman	2/20		
John Vali	2/10		Jonathan Ulrich	2/20		

December Council Minutes



1. The minutes of the November 13, 2018 Council meeting were changed to reflect Lori Perry as excused rather than absent. The council minutes and treasurer's report were both accepted unanimously.
2. **Nominating Committee** – LMC will have one extra council member for 2019. There will be sixteen (16) members total. Upon motion it was unanimous to accept sixteen (16) members on council.
3. **Renovation of 5th Floor** – Rick Kern updated the drawing of the renovation plan along with cost estimate.
4. **Emergency Practices Task Force** – Les Fobes reported on behalf of LMA principal, Christopher Paul, that all privacy blinds were installed. The school has purchased door stops as an additional measure against forceful entry into the classrooms.
5. **Thompson Building Committee** – A cell phone has been purchased and communication regarding the Thompson Building will be received in this manner. There will be new signage named "Renew Erie LLC Professional Building".
6. **Hospitals** – Les Fobes shared on behalf of Linda Graffius that hospitals will no longer share information about our members being admitted. Therefore, this will no longer be part of her report.
7. **Committee Report** – Pat Bellingham is continuing the program with her committee that involves placing soap in restrooms to allow a discreet way to contact authorities by victims of sexual abuse.
8. **Upcoming Meetings** – Council, January 8, 2019; Budget Meeting, January 15, 2019; Vote to Approve Budget, January 20, 2019.

December 2018 Statistics



ATTENDANCE:

	<u>8:15 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>4:00 P.M. RECHARGE</u>	<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
December 2	26	151	56	3	236
December 9	44	133		22	199
December 16	35	176			211
December 23	42	121			163
December 30	33	104			137

SPECIAL SERVICES:

	<u>4:00 P.M.</u>	<u>6:00 P.M.</u>	<u>10:30 P.M.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
December 9 (St. Lucia Fest)	160			160
December 12 (Blue Christmas)		74		74
December 24 (Christmas Eve)		209	111	320

BAPTISMS: None recorded.

FUNERALS: **WEBER, ROSE** – Date of Death: December 15, 2018 / Date of Funeral: December 18, 2018 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.

CANCILLA, KATHLEEN – Date of Death: December 15, 2018 / Date of Funeral: December 19, 2018 / Pastor William E. Coleman assisting / Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

BATTERSBY, CHESTER – Date of Death: December 18, 2018 / Date of Funeral: December 22, 2018 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.

MAAS, ELEANOR I. – Date of Death: December 3, 2018 / Date of Funeral: December 28, 2018 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.

WOLFE, SHIRLEY A. – Date of Death: December 8, 2018 / Date of Funeral: December 28, 2018 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.

MEMORIALS:

SCHAAL, WILLIAM A. – FROM:

Nancy & Peter Ellis Cynthia Draher

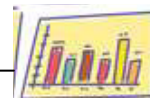
LETTER OF TRANSFER: None recorded.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED ~ DECEMBER 2, 2018:

Linda Brandt Pat & Henry Gilbert
Virginia Long Jackie Lupo
Katie Schrader
Katherine, Jonathan, Madeline & Cecilia Ulrich

WEDDINGS: None recorded.

January 2019 Statistics



ATTENDANCE:

	<u>8:15 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>4:00 P.M. RECHARGE</u>	<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
January 6	41	131		3	175
January 13	38	130		22	190
January 20	10	54		3	67
January 27		140		15	155

(Annual Meeting/8:15 not held)

BAPTISMS: None recorded.

FUNERALS: JAY, RICHARD W. – Date of Death: January 17, 2019 / Date of Funeral: January 21, 2019 / Pastor William E. Coleman.

MEMORIALS:

BATTERSBY, CHET – FROM:

Diane & Bob Banks Linda & Dan Young
Pat Young Jan & Skip MacInnes

LETTER OF TRANSFER: None recorded.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

RAGEN, JAMES P. – St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Erie, PA

WEDDINGS: None recorded.

January Council Minutes



1. The minutes of the December 11, 2018 council meeting and the Treasurer's report were both accepted unanimously.
2. ***Communications*** – Bethesda Foundation for Children thanked LMC for the holiday dinner at the Trinity Center. This was a legacy of St. Matthew's and 20 volunteers went over to serve dinner.
3. ***Sunday Security*** – Pastor Coleman shared concerns about a recent visitor to the church who seemed to have a troubled past and mental problems. A plan has been put in place to ensure the safety of the congregation during services and events at the church.
4. ***Synod Assembly Delegates*** – The Synod Assembly is held in June and two (2) LMC members attend. Pastor would like to wait until the 2019/2020 council members are in place before asking for volunteers to attend Assembly.
5. ***Commitment to Synod for the 2019 Ministry Year*** – As a congregation, we make an annual commitment to the Synod which goes to a wider array of churches. In previous years, LMC has pledged \$36,000 to be contributed.
6. ***Agenda for the Annual Congregational Meeting*** – One worship service is held at 10:30am in the main church. The Annual Meeting is held in fellowship hall, lunch will be served and child care will be available if needed. Hard copies of the Annual Report will be available.
7. ***Renovation of the 5th Floor*** – Les Fobes shared that the 5th floor has been primed and the carpentry work has been finished. After the meeting, council members were asked to visit the room to see how the project has come together. Les envisions that the room will be used for many more items/events than we previously thought.
8. ***Communication with Berman Bedding and Parking Plan*** – The owner of Berman Bedding met with his attorney to put together a proposal for church council to review for the continued use of parking for church services.
9. ***Upcoming Meetings*** – Council meeting on February 12, 2019; Budget Meeting on January 15, 2019; Vote to Approve Budget on January 20, 2019; Annual Meeting on January 27, 2019.



Luther Memorial Academy

National Geographic Geography Bee School Finals



The annual LMA Geography Bee final competition was held on January 24, 2019, in the Chapel at Luther Memorial. Ten finalists participated in a very competitive event. All the finalists are to be congratulated on a job well done!

When all was said and done, 8th grader **Eden Palkovic** emerged as the 2018/2019 National Geographic Geography Bee school champion. Way to go, Eden! Congratulations are also extended to the second place finisher, **Natalie Ramey**, 8th grade, and third place finisher, **Amara DeJohn**, 8th grade.

Geography Bee Class Champions

Samuel Gross – 4th grade
 Gabrielle Bellotti – 5th grade
 Adam Fried – 6th grade
 Nathan Tuznic – 7th grade
 Amara DeJohn, Natalie Ramey, Daniel Schwartz – 8th grade co-champions



Finalists

Joy Foster – 8th grade
 Jeffrey Logan – 8th grade
 Eden Palkovic – 8th grade

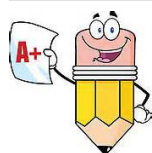
Family Bingo

What better way to escape the snow and cold than with Family Bingo Night at LMA. Spend a fun evening with the entire family; snacks, prizes and more!

Tuesday, February 12
6:00pm
Fellowship Hall



Report Card Day



Report cards were sent home with students on Friday, January 25. Be sure to check those bookbags.

School Break



School will be closed:
 Friday, February 15 – Winter Break
 Monday, February 18 – President's Day
 Have a wonderful four day weekend!

Challenge 24

Thursday, February 21

Students in grades 4-8 will test their math skills competing in Challenge 24.

Mrs. Carey has been coordinating this annual competition at LMA.



Middle School Dance

Come on out for some fun at our winter dance!

Friday, February 22
No Cost

Thank you to the PTL for generously underwriting the dance expense for students.

Guests must be in middle school.



Bake Sale



Thursday, February 7
Friday, February 8

Pick up some sweets at the bake sale and satisfy your craving. Grades 7 and 8 will be sponsoring this delicious sale to benefit the LMA Technology Fund.

Baked Potato Lunch



Fill up with a delicious baked potato for lunch:

Friday, February 22

\$3.00

Proceeds benefit our Sports Program

Easter Candy Sale

The Romolos Easter Chocolates sale is here! This will be the last fundraiser of the year hosted by the Parent Teacher League (PTL). Flyers will be coming home with your students, and you will have a few weeks to gather orders.

- **Payment is due at the time the order is placed.**
- **Payment may be made by cash or checks made payable to LMA-PTL.**
- **Orders and money are due to the school office by Monday, February 25.**
- **Anticipated delivery date to the school is Friday, April 5 with plenty of time until Easter.**



Please don't hesitate to call or text Sandra Mantsch at 814-218-9315 or email at msred411@msn.com with any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Read Across America Day



Friday, March 1

One of our most anticipated days of the year is Read Across America Day; the celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Our students are always excited for the fun and surprises that are in store throughout the day.

Speakers from our community will be visiting and sharing the importance of reading. Middle school students will be introduced to necessary every day skills from banking to cooking. **A big hats off to our LMA teachers for organizing a very special day.**

Be sure to pick out some favorite books; as part of the celebration a reading contest for LMA students will run from January 30 to February 27.

A Yummy Snack



Pick up a sweet treat in the school office and put a smile on their face!

Pulakos Candy Bars - only \$1

Bake Sale

Thursday, February 7
Friday, February 8

Pick up some sweets at the bake sale and satisfy your craving. Grades 7 and 8 will be sponsoring this delicious sale to benefit the LMA Technology Fund.

Assistant Coach



We have some enthusiastic children who would like to play basketball and develop their skills. If you would like to help and have some fun with our kids as an assistant basketball coach, please contact Lynzie Prothero. Lynzie can be reached by email at lynzieprothero@icloud.com or you are welcome to contact our school secretary, Amanda. Any help would be very appreciated. Thank you.

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 11:30am LMA Dismissal 6:30pm Club 50	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> 
3 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Spiritual Growth	4	5 7:00pm W/ELCA	6 5:30pm Super Wednesday 	7 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir	8 6:00pm Bunko	9 8:30am Houston Baby Shower 1:00pm PIAA 6:00pm Confirmation/St. John Lutheran Church
10 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Spiritual Growth 9:15/11:30am "Share the Love" Coffee Hour 11:30am Blood Pressures 12:00pm Bach Rehearsal 4:00pm ReCharge	11	12 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group 5:45pm Emergency Preparedness Meeting 6:00pm LMA Family Bingo 7:00pm Council	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 12:00pm OWLS/Convention Center 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir 	15 LMA Closed	16
17 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Adult Spiritual Growth 11:30am Cong. Life 11:45am New Member Class 12:00pm Bach Rehearsal 1:00pm VASA 4:00pm Presque Isle ProMusica Concert	18 <i>President's Day</i> LMA & Church Offices Closed 	19 11:00am Monastery of the Heart	20 12:00pm School Board 6:00pm Pastor's Book Club	21 8:45am LMA/ Challenge 24 5:00pm Teen Group 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir	22 6:00pm LMA Dance 	23 
24 8:15/10:30am Worship 12:00pm Bach Rehearsal	25 6:00pm Book Club	26 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group	27	28 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir		