

LUTHER MEMORIAL C H U R C H



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

Volume 47, Issue 7

October 2020

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15am Worship ~ Main Church
10:30am Worship ~ Main Church

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Greetings from Pastor Coleman

Being a part of Luther Memorial Church means that we are also a part of the Northwestern PA Synod and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The three church bodies are referred to as the “three expressions” of our church. We are connected to so many in this region, state and world through our shared ministry of the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus. Almost every day I receive an email from the Synod or the ELCA indicating a need to help or serve people in need. These needs are on top of the needs in this local community, so sometimes it becomes overwhelming. Plus, on top of the needs are opportunities for service and Christian Education. So as the emails keep coming I ask myself how I can best share these needs and ministry opportunities with you, so you are aware of them, while at the same time, not overwhelm you so that you just hit the delete button when you see a message from Luther Memorial Church. I do not like the scatter shot form of ministry, those times we are just running all over the place without a sense of focus or direction, but sometimes, ministry in 2020 feels an awful like that.

So in this newsletter, I have included a letter from Bishop Lozano as a connection point to the Synod and a few different ministries and connection points to the ELCA. There is so much wonderful ministry which is happening that we are completely unaware of, and yet, as you make your offerings to Luther Memorial Church, you are helping to support those ministries. One of the ways that I try to organize some of the chaos is by serving and giving in those “three expressions” of the church. I would suspect that most of us focus our time, talent and treasure in one of those expressions. So consider becoming more familiar with the other parts of our church. As an example, Amy and I support Luther Memorial Church, Inter-Church Ministries of Erie County, the Bethany Outreach Center, Camp Lutherlyn and ELCA Disaster Response and ELCA World Hunger. I am always open to conversation with you if you have any questions or may need help directing your time, talent and treasure. As you can see in this newsletter, Luther Memorial Church, even with COVID-19, is providing opportunities for fellowship in worship, study, service and fun. Consider marking your calendars to participate in many of our October events.

Luther Memorial ReCharge

ReCharge Worship
Sunday, October 4
4:00 – 5:00pm Picnic
5:00 – 6:00pm Worship



We are planning for a picnic at 4:00pm if our weather holds together. We ask that everyone bring food for their family and a blanket or chairs. If the weather doesn't cooperate the picnic will be cancelled, but we WILL worship together at 5:00pm in our fifth floor worship space.

Masks will be worn and physical distancing will be practiced. ReCharge will be limited to 25 people so we ask that you kindly RSVP to Norma in the church office by email, nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org, or by phone, 454-0106, ext. 221.

Opportunities for Continued Connection to Luther Memorial Church

- **Sunday Morning Worship** – Facebook Live at 10:30am, and then the recording will be posted to the Church Webpage and YouTube Channel by 12:00pm.
- **Tuesday Morning Prayer** – Live on LM Facebook Group page at 9:00am, and available to watch a recorded version on the Church Webpage and YouTube Channel.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** – Posted to LM Facebook Group page, Church Webpage and YouTube Channel at 10:00am.
- **Thursday Evening Prayer** – Live on LM Facebook Group page at 6:00pm, and available to watch a recorded version on the Church Webpage and YouTube Channel.

Stewardship and Leaving a Legacy

- The Stewardship Committee would like to offer the use of **electronic giving** to Luther Memorial's ministry if you are unable to worship on Sunday morning. Please note that you are able to give online by going to the church's webpage at www.luthermemorialonline.org. Feel free to contact our Parish Manager, Miriam Scheid, with any questions.
- Also, if you are considering leaving a legacy to Luther Memorial Church or Luther Memorial Academy you can do this through two ways: First, by contacting Ryan Ebner who is a Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation at 814-823-3285 / ryan.ebner@elca.org; or second, through the Erie Community Foundation.
- Luther Memorial Church gives thanks for the Legacy given by **The John F. and Pauline Urich Jageman Fund** in the Erie Community Foundation. Each year Luther Memorial Church receives money from that legacy fund, and this year, we received \$3,773. This year's distribution was used to purchase safety and sanitation equipment to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 by installing partitions in our school classrooms, purchasing stand-alone air sanitation units and adding hospital grade filters to our ventilation system.



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

Velma Gunselman who died Saturday, September 5, 2020
Helene Weed, former LMA teacher, who died Thursday, September 17, 2020
Jan Bucheri, Dawn Weborg's sister, who died Sunday, September 20, 2020
Emily Stelmack, Josh Stelmack's grandma, who died Sunday, September 13, 2020
Anne Daniel who died Monday, September 28, 2020

Music Ministry

Piano Donation for the Parlor

Thank you to the Griswold family for the donation of the piano now located in the parlor. The previous piano is still available for any family that might like to have it in their home. If no one comes forward, it will be donated to another charity in the near future.



Opportunity for *Virtual* Congregational Singing



Since we began online worship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several members of the Luther Memorial choir have been recording two or three hymns weekly to support our worship. Hopefully all of you are singing along at home. For those now worshipping in the church, we often hear a bit of humming and soft singing when the hymns are being played during the service.

As your Cantor, I am deeply concerned that we are losing an integral part of our worship as we protect each other from the spread of the virus. I would like to offer each of you an opportunity to raise your voices for two festival services in the next few weeks. It has long been our tradition to sing "A Mighty Fortress" on Reformation Sunday and "For All the Saints" on All Saints Sunday. For each of these hymns, the choir will continue to provide their sung harmonization of the hymns. However, we will sing several of the verses in unison (*i.e. just the melody with organ accompaniment*) and we invite everyone to add their voices to the recording.

If you are interested, please contact Walt Gaber (814.602.2755, WaltGaber@gmail.com) to learn how you can contribute. If you are comfortable using a computer or smartphone, you will be given instructions of how to record your singing while listening to the organ accompaniment. If you prefer to just sing with the help of someone else doing the "technical stuff," opportunities will be available for recording at the church. Watch for sign-up sheets for either Sundays (11:45am - 1:00pm) and Thursdays (4:00 - 5:30pm) during the month of October. Although we have all found it awkward to record our solo voices without the support of others singing around us, your part will be blended into the final recording. Also, families are welcome to record these hymns together since the physical distancing and mask-wearing precautions won't need to be applied for those living within a household.

"The Tree"

What stories would this tree tell. . .
If it could see?

Today it would be about volunteers. . .
Distributing groceries. . .

To the neighbors of Erie's eastside. . .
Families that are in great need. . .

There are many people that desire the hope. . .
That Bethany seems to bring. . .

Others join in the efforts by. . .
Mailing a financial seed. . .

Often delivered by the box truck. . .
With the red, white and blue stripes. . .

With the intent of helping to lighten the load. . .

So a family would sleep better at night.



*Inspired by the "THE TREE" across from Bethany Outreach Center
Written by: Mabel Howard, Executive Director*



Christian Education

Children's Church

In person Children's Church begins Sunday, October 4, and we are looking forward to seeing you. Each age group will meet monthly from 9:15-10:15am in our fellowship hall. Children in Pre-k – 6th grade are asked to bring a small pencil bag with a pencil and some crayons. Please be sure their name is on the bag and masks will be worn.

October 4 Pre-k – Kindergarten
October 11 1st – 3rd Grades

October 18 7th – 12th Grades (LYO)
October 25 4th – 6th Grades

Zoom with Children's Church



Children's Church families have begun meeting via Zoom from 6:30-7:00pm each Wednesday. Our familiar Spark curriculum is used so everyone can follow along during our time together. Materials are emailed prior to each Wednesday gathering. We hope many of you are able to join us as families each Wednesday evening through the fall. These Zoom get-togethers are in addition to our monthly Children's Church gatherings in fellowship hall. We miss you – let's Zoom together.

Bibles for our Third Graders

On Reformation Sunday, October 25, our third graders will be recognized and receive their Bible from Luther Memorial. Bibles will be given to our children following worship. Families not yet comfortable with gathering in the church are welcome to stop in the church office the following week to pick up their child's Bible.



Congratulations to each of our third grade Bible recipients:

MADDOX AMBROSE
BAILEE ANNE FOUTZ
LILLY SUE SAXTON
MADELINE ULRICH

JACK DAVID BARTLETT
MICHAEL RICHARD HEINTZEL
MASON JACOB SCHLECHT
PENELOPE ANN WOLF

MITCHELL PAUL BOYD
MAURA MYHOFFER
MADELINE CHRISTINE STELMACK
JACKSON DANIEL YOUNG

Please contact Norma in the church office by Monday, October 12 if your son and/or daughter are in third grade so a Bible can be prepared for them. Thank you.

Thank You



A long awaited thank you to my Luther Memorial family:

On October 2 it's been six months since I fell and dislocated my shoulder; months later had rotator cuff surgery in July. Although these were difficult times for me, I felt I was never alone because of all of you. I am so thankful for all the phone calls, cards and beautiful notes. The delicious food started coming immediately, and continued. The Monday meals that were prepared by great cooks and caring people and delivered with a smile, and was enough food for a few days and then some.

Thank you to my circle girls, Pastor and Norma for checking in on me, and for the altar flowers and fall bud vase flowers. I am so grateful to all of you and can't wait to get back to our hugging times at Luther.

Covid-19 certainly has changed our country, but love and kindness hasn't changed who we are at Luther Memorial. Thank you for your love and prayers.

Be safe and stay healthy.

Love, Cheryl Brown

P.S. – If you're a senior citizen turn the lights on if you get up at night; it helps!

Family & Youth News

A Virtual Auction

ONLINE AUCTION IS
OPEN FOR
BIDDING

Bidding has begun on baskets for our Virtual Silent Auction. Due to Covid we've had to change how our auction is done, but it is going on – and is fabulous. This is a bidding style auction. Each Monday an email will be sent with pictures and descriptions of **4 different baskets**. Bids will be accepted until the following Sunday at 12:00 noon. Please bid on the items in \$1 increments. All baskets are also shown on our Luther Memorial Facebook page. Bids may be placed online, emailed to our secretary, Norma, at nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org or by calling the church office at 454-0106, ext. 221. In addition, the Sunday morning bulletin will highlight the baskets available for the following week. Proceeds will benefit our youth as well as continuing events for Christian Education.

Be sure to check your emails during the coming weeks for some great deals. Please contact the church office with any questions.

“Not Too Scary” Halloween Story Night

Thursday, October 15
5:30-6:30pm
LM Front Lawn (10th Street)



Bring some favorite snacks for your family, cuddle up in some blankets and we'll read some great Halloween stories.

What you'll need for the fun: blanket(s) and/or chair, flashlight, family snacks and your face mask. The restroom facilities at church will not be available. Please RSVP to the church office or Beth Keller by Sunday, October 11.

Trunk or Treat



Sunday, October 25
1:00-2:00pm
Luther Memorial parking lot
It's time for some fun and special sweets
C'mon down to Trunk or Treat!

- Dress up in costume
 - Decorate your car
 - Fill your car with individually wrapped treats
- A ghoulishly good time for everyone!

Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated car and the best family theme.

Reservations are necessary for those decorating cars as well as those who will attend to trunk or treat. Face masks are required. Please RSVP by Sunday, October 18 to Beth Keller or the church office.

Due to Covid restrictions this event is limited to Luther Memorial Church and Luther Memorial Academy.

Delicious Goodies



In time for the holiday season we've got goodies for everyone. Don't worry about dessert, let Stanganelli's take care of that for you. Pies, cookie dough and cheesecakes will be available to order with delivery before Thanksgiving. Please watch our bulletin for more information.

Friends Helping Friends

Boscov's 2-day event
October 14 and October 15
9:00am – 9:00pm



This 2-day event is a great way to benefit a non-profit of your choice and enjoy some shopping at the same time. An extra 20% will be taken off almost everything in the store. Boscov's will donate 5% to a participating non-profit of your choice. You will be able to select your charitable non-profit from a list of pre-registered organizations when you make your purchase. Luther Memorial Church, Luther Memorial Academy, Bethany Outreach Center and Julia House (Hospice and Palliative Care Home being built in McKean) are all participating non-profits. Let's go shopping!!

Luther Memorial Church Guidelines for Ministry Groups and Committees During Covid-19



At the July 14, 2020 church council meeting Luther Memorial's Church council voted to allow Church committees to gather in the church building with the understanding they would follow all the health and safety guidelines recommended by the CDC and practiced by Luther Memorial Church. Following these guidelines will be required for all ministry groups and gatherings held in the building and on the property of Luther Memorial Church.

Expectations and Guidelines:

- If a meeting or gathering can happen online, consider doing that first. Remember that Luther Memorial Church has a Zoom Account and to schedule a Zoom meeting contact Norma Buerk or Pastor Coleman to set up the meeting.
- Realizing the need for physical connection a person to person meeting may be preferred, but please follow the following procedures.
 1. Contact the church office to schedule the meeting or gathering.
 2. Know the number of those attending so you can hold the meeting or gathering in a large enough space to practice physical distancing of 6 feet between each person.
 3. Have a sign in sheet for names attending, or the ministry leader needs to document the names of those attending to be prepared for contact tracing if that is needed.
 4. Wipe down all tables and chairs or any object that will be touched by those attending with disinfecting products before the meeting or gathering. After the meeting or gathering wipe down again all tables and chairs and objects which have been touched. If bathrooms are to be used, please direct those attending to a particular set of bathrooms and wipe down before and after the common surfaces which will be touched.
 5. Have hand sanitizer available.
 6. Masks are required to be worn inside the building. If the meeting or gathering is outside masks are recommended, but not required, when physically distanced from one another. But if you are moving around and interacting with others and not properly distanced, masks are required.

Finally, please be accommodating to all of those who serve on your committee or are considered a part of your gathering. Even with these guidelines, you or those in your group may still not feel safe. Luther Memorial Church's council has been working on finding the safe and reasonable middle ground during this pandemic, so we humbly pray for continued guidance and direction. Please feel free to contact Council President Les Fobes, Director of Care Ministries Linda Graffius, or Pastor Coleman with any comments, questions or concerns about these guidelines.

Women of the ELCA

Tuesday Circle

The Tuesday Circle will not meet in October.

Our next gathering will be held:

**Tuesday, November 3
4:00pm**

Remember to wear your face mask.

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



Deborah Circle

Tuesday, October 6

11:30am

Luther Memorial Church Parlor

Be sure to wear your face mask.

For more information, contact Judy Johnson
at 833-4600

"Thankoffering"

Our "Thankoffering" boxes, which go to the national Women of the ELCA office, are due by the November 3 meeting. If you find you are unable to attend a circle meeting in November, you are welcome to drop it off in the church office or give to Pat Young. Thank you.



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 - keep them coming! They really do add up!



Covid-19 and Nutrition: What's the Link?



Back in April when I was working from home, I was listening to a WQLN radio interview with a scientific reporter. He was asked, "What do you hope we will learn from this pandemic/quarantine experience?" He answered, "I hope that we learn that we have to take better care of ourselves." I have since read that other medical professionals are saying the same thing, 6 months later.

What the CDC hasn't addressed as clearly as their other preventive measures is the fact that nutrition is also a non-negotiable fact in the fight against Covid-19. The CDC has mentioned in their "Food and Coronavirus" guidelines the following statement: "Reduce pandemic-related stress through good nutrition; incorporate vitamins C and D, plus zinc, into your diet for possible immune system support; read labels on any foods you buy, and seek out the healthiest options; and prioritize fruits, vegetables, lean protein and whole grains." Did you even know the CDC addressed "Food and Covid-19"? I didn't! They haven't stressed nutrition enough as a preventive measure!

Preventive medicine specialist David Katz, MD states that "the greatest single influence of whether you develop a bad chronic disease or die prematurely is your diet quality. Diet is constantly, universally important. Literature shows that it is the single leading predictor of all-cause mortality." Why aren't we hearing more about this? To start, other factors that affect health and mortality are often more straightforward. For example: you either smoke or you don't; you exercise or you don't; your blood pressure is either high or normal. Diet faces many more variables. There are ways to get it right, but many more ways to get it wrong. And there are numerous other factors at play (think cultural, socioeconomic, the list goes on) that can interfere with your access and understanding of optimal nutrition. The effects of diet are not immediately felt so we don't think about the adverse health outcomes that happen with a poor diet.

I have previously written about the underlying health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, asthma and chronic lung disease that put people at higher risk of adverse Covid-19 outcomes. It is known that poor diet (obesity) is the greatest single driver of all of these conditions. This is an ideal time to prioritize diet more than ever and for people to make lasting changes. We all know that this isn't easy! But isn't your health and the health of your family worth it? Even small conscious changes can affect your health and immunity.

So what can you do....TODAY?

1. Start with 1 healthy meal...but know the benefits get better over time. Dr. Katz states, "You can alter your immune response with a single meal change, the magnitude of benefit will accrue over time, you certainly won't get the full measure from one good meal, but you can start the party." The harvest cells in the immune system react to different stimuli and are more likely to protect you following a high-quality meal than to a low quality-meal. If you chose breakfast, be sure to include a lean meat (turkey sausage) and a healthy fruit or vegetable. Smoothies are an acceptable, healthy alternative to high carbohydrate cereals.
2. Opt for wholesome, natural food. Avoid ultra-processed "stuff" and eat as much real, minimally or unprocessed foods as possible. I say "stuff" because in looking at the ingredients I wonder if there is any real food in it. Drinking water instead of soda/pop. I am amazed at how much pop/soda I have seen in people's grocery carts during the pandemic. Read the ingredients. If you can't pronounce them they probably aren't good for you. And if the list is so long it runs off the box, it's probably a bad idea. Foods rich in vitamin C, D and zinc may be particularly beneficial. Vitamin D is especially important for our immune systems. It is made by the body when our skin is exposed to sunlight for 20 minutes a day and now we are headed into winter so our levels may be low. Ask your healthcare professional about getting a Vitamin D blood test to determine if you need to take a supplement. Foods that are rich in Vitamin D are salmon and other types of fish, eggs, fortified milk, yogurt, and pork products. Mushrooms and soy products are the only vegetables with enough Vitamin D. No fruits contain vitamin D except when the juice is fortified, but then we have to be careful about the high sugar content. Zinc is more abundant in a variety of meats, fish, legumes, eggs, vegetables, whole grains, dairy, nuts and best of all dark chocolate! All of these boost our immune systems. Immunologist, Aritos Vojdani through research has determined that "58% of the immune system is almost completely determined by non-genetic factors - factors that you can control". I'm sure you've heard the saying "you are what you eat."

cont'd.:

His other concern is the chemicals we are exposed to in our food, cleaning agents, personal care products and the environment. Our bodies deal with thousands of chemicals that were not in the environment 50 years ago or some not even 20 years ago. And now that we are cleaning so much that exposure has increased. He has found "many older people who have stronger immune systems than some younger people." If you also want to "clean up" your body's exposure there are many natural products available. This could be a subject for a future article.

So let the pandemic be a teaching moment that leads to an overall healthier future. God wants us to take care of our bodies! First Corinthians 6:19-20: Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit with you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Special Note: After I submitted my article to Norma I received an email that supports this article, and I want to share this with you. I have participated in the Harvard Nurse's Health Study for many years. My name was given to a Harvard doctor who is conducting a COVID Symptom Study. I agreed to participate in this study. The most recent e-mail explained that they are studying the link between Diet and Covid-19. (And I didn't even know this before I wrote the article.) Data that has already been analyzed states: "Data from over 4 million COVID Symptom Study app users has shown that obesity, type 2 diabetes, and poor metabolic health are three significant risk factors for worse COVID-19 outcomes. These risk factors are heavily influenced by the food we eat, alongside a complex mix of physiological and social factors." I call this a coincidence or a "God moment". He wants us to take care of our bodies!!

Take care and stay well.

*Blessings,
Linda Graffius, RN
Faith Community Nurse*

Sources:

Kristine Thomason, Sr.Ed.,2020, Mind, Body, Green; accessed September 13,2020; Why Aren't We Talking More About Nutrition Amid Covid-19?, <https://www.mindbodygreen.com/articles/covid-and-nutrition>

Clint Carter (2020). 'How to Stay Healthy This Winter'. U.S: AARP Bulletin (Vol.61 No.7) September 2020, pg.12-16.

Magic Fingers Grace Group

**Tuesday, October 13
and
Tuesday, October 27
10:00am - 12:00 noon**



Who needs candy treats when you have yarn!? Bring your knitting, crocheting or other yarn project and enjoy your Tuesday morning with us.

We continue to meet in the parlor and maintain our social distancing so we can chat, laugh and work on our yarn projects

together. If you like, please bring your own drink and be sure to wear your mask.

Please RSVP for the October 13 gathering by Friday, October 9. For the October 27 gathering, please RSVP by Friday, October 23. You are most welcome to contact Jan MacInnes, 454-0106, ext. 233 or the church office, ext. 221 with any questions.



Just look at all the beautiful hats, shawls, socks, and prayer crosses that have been knitted and crocheted! They have been very busy, and we thank them for all the love and caring they put into each item they knit.

This is a picture of just some members of Magic Fingers at the September 8 gathering, from left to right; Jan MacInnes, Cathy Beck, Marjorie Johnson, Mary Lou Breyley, Jeanne Gaber, Jane Moran, Jan Birkner and Linda Graffius. Remember, if you don't know how to knit or crochet we would really enjoy teaching you; join us soon!



Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod (www.nwpaelca.org)

1 September 2020

Dear Synod: Happy Anniversary! It's been a year and what a year it has been!

I want to begin by thanking Bishop Emeritus Ralph Jones, Pastor Sandra Jones, Pastor Jake Jacobson, Ellen G. Shulin-Rutherford and Ann Warner who each in their own way set our synod up for a successful transition between bishops and continue to support our synod as staff and counsel. Thanks also goes out to our Synod Council and Officers who worked with me through the transition time. And to you, dear Synod, my deep thanks for your support of myself and my family in this first year.

A year ago, or so, I began to voice out loud a question. "Where is God leading us?" A plan was developed and laid out leading up to our 2020 Synod Assembly at which we might discern together a future direction and focus our time, talent and treasure on the answers to this question. Some initial conversation was held among our synod leadership, congregations, and rostered leaders. And then, COVID-19. COVID-19 initially set aside the question as we reacted to a changing way of being and doing church. Yet it has also allowed us as a synod to stress our capabilities. Our synod council and I lifted up three areas initially – communications, stewardship and technology. Teams are set up and working to address these areas and strengthen our capabilities. In addition, an ecumenical relations team is working to bolster our ties with our ecumenical partners and I am working on another team to address another pandemic in our nation and synod – systemic racism.

But I continue to ask myself the question, "Where is God leading us?" I come back to a late-night answer to a question posed to me and the other candidates open to election to the office of bishop. I answered that question by lifting up three areas – Faith Formation, Stewardship and Evangelism. COVID-19 has caused me to add Leadership Development and "connectivity." I am still wrestling with this last word as it goes beyond communication, or connectedness and even identity to something more. I know together we will discern answers to this question. I know God is leading us to be faithful witnesses to the gospel in our words and in our deeds. I see this daily in the stories I read and hear about you, dear people of God, dear synod. And daily I am reminded how blessed I am to be in this office of bishop.

Thank you for your faith and trust in me. Together let us go forward into this new year continuing to love and serve the Lord and all who are in want or need.

Called to Serve, Bishop Lozano

A Successful Zoom Retreat



Dearest Luther Memorial Music Ministry and Church Members,

On Friday, September 18, the NWPA Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Synodical Women's Organization held their 2020 Lutherlyn Retreat Weekend via ZOOM! The weekend began on Friday evening with none other than YOU! With the assistance of IMovie and technology, two 10 minute videos were put together with hundreds of past retreat photo memories and backed with the sound of your organ and choir. It was the opening highlight of each weekend session.

It was important to the NWPA WELCA SWO Board that our local talent was highlighted for this event and the recorded music that Mr. Walt Gaber provided us was the icing on the cake. During this time of unrest, the unknown, and the drastic changes to Sunday worship everywhere, it was an absolute blessing to hear the beautiful sound of the organ accompanied by your choir. This was a priceless gift to all of the women who attended, some of whom have been in their homes attempting to navigate worship on the inter-web, missing hymns and voices for months on end.

Interspersed throughout the weekend we added your hymns to our sessions; *Love Divine*, *Lift High the Cross* and *In Christ There is No East or West*. Please accept our most sincere thanks for helping to make our virtual weekend a success! The sounds of Luther Memorial were listened to by women from ALL over NWPA in addition to our Bishop Lozano and our Church-wide Liaison for Region 8 from Chicago, Jennifer DeLeon. You truly did help us to lift our voices to the heavens! We all sang along. Blessings for many, many more years of creating music together at Luther Memorial.

Sincerely, Tracy Heutsche and all of the women of NWPA WELCA SWO

Camp Lutherlyn (www.lutherlyn.com)



Core Purpose Statement: Lutherlyn is a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent.

Mission Statement: Lutherlyn extends the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ, by inviting all people to engage the Word of God, one another and themselves in an intentional, challenging, exciting, and fun outdoor Christian community centered in the grace of God and the goodness of earth and life.

Since summer camp was cancelled due to COVID-19 please consider making a financial contribution and be sure to check out the latest news and events at www.lutherlyn.com. You will see there are many opportunities and families are encouraged to participate in what is being provided and stay connected.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org) Update regarding the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering (July 22, 2020)



After much prayer and consideration, we have decided to postpone next summer's ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 24-28, 2022, in Minneapolis, with the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble, scheduled for July 21-24, 2022. We give thanks for

your prayers and patience as we have worked through the details with our partners in Minneapolis and across the country. We hope that by postponing the Gathering for a year, individuals and congregations will feel more comfortable and prepared to attend the Gathering in 2022. We will be updating our website and social media as more details become available. We look forward to seeing you and experiencing the boundlessness of God in Minneapolis in 2022! #ELCAYG2022

ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response



Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need who have been affected by the following disasters: U.S. Wildfires, Hurricane Response, U.S. Severe Storms, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), U.S. Tornadoes, U. S. Flooding, South Sudan Relief, Middle East and Europe Refugee

Crisis, AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors.

*Make checks payable to "Lutheran Disaster Response" and mail to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009*

ELCA World Hunger



More than 820 million people - that's about 11 percent of people in our world today - are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

*Make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and mail to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009*

Julia Hospice & Palliative Care (JHPC)

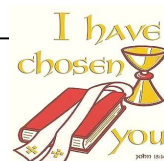


JHPC is a new healthcare provider in Erie County, Pennsylvania that would bring improved care services for those in the community living with serious illness originated because of the relatively outdated and limited services that currently exist. Care for these residents has not appreciably changed for almost 40 years, so the need for updated and "state of the art" services is imperative. With the emergence of palliative medicine as the vanguard of value-based care, particularly for serious illness, combining hospice and palliative care services that are both focused on improving quality of life, and delivered by a specially trained team of care professionals seemed only natural. JHPC became a registered non-profit corporation in Pennsylvania in April, 2020 with 501c(3) status. While waiting for this status, a detailed 3-year strategic business plan was drafted, a Board of Directors was formed, education material was crafted, and a capital campaign was developed. Land was purchased as the site for Julia House, and preliminary plans were developed for construction of Julia House. JHPC is hoping to have two thirds of their capital campaign completed by the end of 2021, and hope to break ground on Julia House by the end of 2020, or the beginning of 2021.

Linda Graffius, Director of Care & Health Ministries, was showcased as friend of Julia Hospice & Palliative Care in a recent newsletter. Here is what was in that newsletter article about Linda. *"It is with great joy that we showcase Linda Graffius in our inaugural JHPC Showcase of Friends. Linda is a registered nurse with over 50 years of extraordinary service to her patients at Hamot, Saint Vincent and Erie Shriners Hospital. Currently, Linda is a Faith Community Nurse, and the Coordinator of Care and Health Ministry for Luther Memorial Church. Linda is particularly passionate about JHPC and its Julia House. As a person of faith, she has been praying that someone would bring the first inpatient hospice house to Erie County. Linda knows first-hand how needed and how long overdue this service is to the Erie community. When Linda's husband became terminally ill, she was his primary caregiver at home. Even with help from home hospice, family, and their 4 children, she became emotionally exhausted watching him suffer with terminal delirium. Having a hospice home where he could have received 24/7 care by specially trained clinicians providing greater comfort until his natural death would have been such a relief for her. Even for this most experienced nurse, caring for a loved one who is at the end of life, was "the hardest thing I ever had to do in my nursing career"."*

Celebration of the Ordination of Women

On Sunday, October 11 2020, Luther Memorial Church will celebrate and recognize the 50th anniversary of the Ordination of Women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America during our Sunday morning worship services.



Funeral Service for Pastor Richard K. Schultz



On Saturday, October 24 at 11:00am in main sanctuary at Luther Memorial Church there will be a funeral service for Pastor Richard K. Schultz who died on May 9, 2020. Clergy are invited to wear their vestments. The color of the day will be green.

A Hand Up Erie



Volunteers are needed and welcome at the service organization A Hand up Erie. A Hand up Erie picks up and delivers donated furniture to those people who would benefit from receiving donated furniture. Volunteers are needed to help pick up and deliver the furniture. Also, if you have a donation you can contact them through their Facebook page, their website at www.ahanduperie.org, or email AHUERIE@gmail.com. If you have additional questions about the organization or ways to help you can reach out to Mark Howell, a member of Luther Memorial Church, who is very involved with this service organization. Volunteers are welcome to meet each Saturday at 9:00am at their building located at 1367 West 12th Street. It is one long building and A Hand Up Erie uses the back portion of the building. Cars will be parked there along with some trucks and trailers. There is no signage specifically for A Hand Up Erie. You can always check their Facebook page to see when their deliveries are scheduled. Delivery dates are usually posted so people are aware of the day they are delivering in case they would like to help with deliveries. Thank you.

October Birthday Celebrations

Julie Chandler	10/1	Judy Karney	10/8	Fred Sickert	10/19
John Lowry	10/1	Alaina DiTullio	10/9	Tom Schlecht	10/20
Winifred Lyons	10/1	John Overberg	10/9	Roger Sturtevant	10/20
Kristin Chaffee	10/2	Doug Werle	10/11	Joe Helm	10/22
Mary Altman	10/3	Sarah Hagen	10/12	Helen Collins	10/23
Melissa Michel	10/4	Lauren Burling	10/13	Asher Lay	10/23
Diane Parsons	10/4	Bonnie Silvis	10/13	Susanne Seward	10/23
Sarah Prylinski	10/4	Kilee Ambrose	10/14	Jean Tatar	10/24
Jared Bonaminio	10/5	To, Klomp	10/14	Ainsley Carolus	10/26
Wilda Sundberg	10/5	Lynn Pheasant	10/14	Amy McDougall	10/27
Katherine Nicotra	10/6	Mark Kay	10/16	Matthew Rieger	10/28
Susan Weber	10/6	Amy Scott	10/16	Amy Haight	10/29
Brooke McCall	10/7	George Perry	10/17	Jaden Williams	10/29
Zachary Shchouchkoff	10/7	Ann Louise Bitzer	10/19	Penelope Wolf	10/29
Joshua Stelmack	10/7	Mark Howell	10/19	Dorothy Respecki	10/30
John Downey	10/8	Kara Partusch	10/19	Kurt Altman	10/31
Jack Elliott	10/8	Diane Pirschel	10/19	Pamula Masiroff	10/31



October Birthday Celebrations for our Sunshine Members

Winifred Lyons 10/1
1142 West 21st Street
Erie, PA 16502

John Downey 10/8
P. O. Box 233
Fairview, PA 16415



Wilda Sundberg 10/5
5518 Bondy Drive
Erie, PA 16509

Dorothy Respecki 10/30
6351 West Lake Road
Elm Street 156
Erie, PA 16505

September Council Meeting via Zoom

1. *Minutes* of the August 11, 2020 meeting were reviewed and on motion unanimously accepted.
2. *Treasurer's Report* - Treasurer Greg Kern reviewed the details of his written report, indicating that church finances are in good order. The report was unanimously approved.
3. *Communications* - The below communications will be printed in the September newsletter.
 - a. Bishop Lozano set a letter on the 1-year anniversary of his election expressing thanks for congregational support.
 - b. A new hospice and palliative care center starting in Erie, and featuring Linda Graffius for her excellent work in its formation.
4. *Property Committee* - The deterioration of the interior plaster on the north walls of the church continue to be a concern. Dave Buerk will investigate a remedy to this problem.
5. *HVAC System* - It has been recommended that the filters for the school HVAC system be upgraded for the 2020-2021 school year. On motion, it was unanimous that these filters be installed.
6. *Annual Meeting Date* - The date of Sunday, January 31, 2021 has been set for the Annual Meeting.
7. *Thank you* - Council expressed their thanks to the teachers and students of LMA noting how smoothly the year started in spite of many challenging situations.
8. *Consecration Sunday* will be held on Sunday, November 22, 2020.
9. *Council Meeting* - The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00pm via Zoom.

August 2020 Statistics**ATTENDANCE:**

	<u>8:15 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>4:00 P.M. RECHARGE</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
August 2	21	42	25		88
August 9	Services held online only / in-person not held				
August 16	24	38			62
August 23	24	44			68
August 30	24	54			78

BAPTISMS: None recorded**FUNERALS:** None recorded**MEMORIALS:****BRINDLE, SANDRA** - FROM:

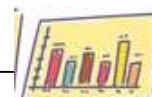
Josie Osiecki

SCHULTZ, RICHARD - FROM:

Judy Johnson

LETTER OF TRANSFER: SEDELMYER, DONNA - from Messiah Lutheran Church**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED ~ August 30, 2020:**

SEDELMYER, DONNA - from Messiah Lutheran Church

WEDDINGS: ZAMPERINI, DAVID BENJAMIN and JONES, JENNIFER NICOLE - Wedding Date: August 1, 2020 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.**LASHER, WILLIAM and HOGAN, COLLEEN** - Wedding Date: August 21, 2020 / Pastor William E. Coleman officiating.**September 2020 Statistics****ATTENDANCE:**

	<u>8:15 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>4:00 P.M. RECHARGE</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
September 6	31	52			83
September 13	22	66			88
September 20	21	43			64
September 27	22	53			75

BAPTISMS: None received.**FUNERALS:** None received.**MEMORIALS:****BRINDLE, SANDRA** - FROM:

Betty Pletz

MORAN, JANIE - FROM:

Cheryl & Sam Kaywood, Jr.

GUNSELMAN, VELMA - FROM:
Shirley Lawson**LETTER OF TRANSFER:** None received.**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED:** None received.**WEDDINGS:** None received.**WORSHIP PLANNING**
COVID19 PANDEMIC EDITION

Breathe on Me, Breath of God.....NOPE
 Precious Lord, Take my Hand.....NOPE
 Just a Closer Walk with Thee.....NOPE
 Gather Us In.....NOPE
 Close to Thee.....NOPE

COULD WORK

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters
 Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley
 I Come to the Garden Alone
 Trust and Obey



Luther Memorial Academy

From Christopher Paul, LMA Administrator

Luther Memorial Academy is approaching the end of its 1st quarter (October 27) in what has been a most unusual start to our school year. We've had to maintain a very structured routine in order to protect the health and safety of the LMA family. It was so important for our students and families to get back to school. Not only were we concerned with making sure students remained on track academically, we recognized the importance of students having the opportunity to have social interaction with peers. We have tried to put in place the health and safety protocols necessary to be together but in a safe manner. For students who are in situations requiring separation from the physical school setting, we have a remote, live-streaming learning option. We currently have 19 students in remote learning. Our total school enrollment to date is 115 students.

Although many of our extra-curricular activities have had to be postponed for now, our LMA Lego League team has been meeting and working on its project for the local competition in December. Go Lions!

We are so grateful for the support of Luther Memorial Church which has allowed us to continue our educational mission to families in the Erie community even during difficult times.

School Pictures

Don't be bashful,
show us your dazzling smile!

School Picture Day is
Thursday, October 15



Columbus Day

In observance of Columbus Day,
school will not be in session:

**Friday, October 9 and
Monday, October 12**



Opportunities to Support LMA

- **Members of Thrivent** may designate their Choice Dollars to Luther Memorial Academy by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 by March 15, 2021. It is necessary to call yearly to specify with Thrivent that your donation is to be directed to LMA. Simply specify that your donation is to benefit Luther Memorial Academy regarding the grant opportunity. The more donations that are received will boost our school's chances of being selected to receive this grant.
- **Recycling** - Save these items that help our school: cell phones and printer cartridges.
- **Amazon Smile** - When ordering through Amazon you may designate "Luther Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church" as your charity of choice. Luther Memorial Academy will receive this donation.
- **Coca-Cola Gives** - Codes on the bottle caps and boxes of 12-pack cans of Coca-Cola products can be entered online at Coca-Cola Give. Designate Luther Memorial Academy as the school of choice. For your convenience these items can be sent to the church office and we will enter them.

OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:00pm Anne Daniel Visitation 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Legos	2 11:00am Anne Daniel Funeral Service	3 10:30am Legos
4 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Children's Church/Prek-Kdg. 1:00pm Gr. 10 Zoom with Pastor 4:00pm ReCharge	5 6:00pm Legos	6 11:30am Deborah Circle 7:00pm Worship & Music via Zoom	7 6:00pm Emergency Prep. Meeting 6:30pm Children's Church via Zoom	8 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Legos	9 LMA Closed 	10 10:30am Legos
11 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Children's Church/1 st -3 rd Grade 1:00pm Gr. 7 Zoom with Pastor	12 <i>Columbus Day</i> LMA/LM Offices Closed 6:00pm Legos 	13 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Gr. 6:00pm Church Council	14 5:00pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Children's Church via Zoom	15 School Picture Day 5:30pm Halloween Story Night/10 th St. Lawn 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Legos	16	17 10:30am Legos
18 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am LYO/7 th -12 th Grade 1:00pm Gr. 8 Zoom with Pastor 1:00pm VASA	19 6:00pm Legos	20	21 6:30pm Children's Church via Zoom	22 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Legos	23 	24 10:30am Legos 11:00am Pastor Schultz Funeral Service
25 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Children's Church/4 th -6 th Grade 1:00pm Gr. 9 Zoom with Pastor 1:00pm Trunk or Treat	26 6:00pm Legos	27 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group	28 6:30pm Children's Church via Zoom	29 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Legos	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> 10:30am Legos 