

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Eastern Avenue
Wesleyville, PA 16510

Address Service Requested
Dated Material

Volume 24, Issue 12

Check Out our Web-site:
www.messiah-erie.org



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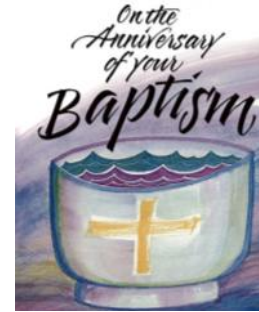
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Newsletter Deadline
All items for the monthly Newsletter must be submitted in writing no later than **December 15** and are subject to editing. No exceptions.

December Celebrations



- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Brad Bresee | 11 Jace Brainard |
| 3 Ann Kent | 13 Abel Van Horn |
| 4 Sandy Hough | 14 Lois Hollenbeck |
| 5 Sally Berlin | 19 Bill Roth |
| 10 Heather Bartlett | 20 Chase Brown |



"Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit."

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 7 Savanna Conner | 13 Rich Shatzer |
| 8 Nathan Sprouse | Cheyenne Paananen |
| 9 Cindy Anderson | 23 Gail Wolf |



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Day 1: Isaiah 7:14 | • Day 17: Luke 1:29-31 |
| • Day 2: Matthew 1:21 | • Day 18: Luke 1:32-33 |
| • Day 3: Luke 2:6-7 | • Day 19: Luke 1:34-35 |
| • Day 4: Matthew 2:10 | • Day 20: Luke 1:36-37 |
| • Day 5: John 1:14 | • Day 21: Luke 1:46-48 |
| • Day 6: John 1:1-4 | • Day 22: Luke 1:49-50 |
| • Day 7: Isaiah 9:6-7 | • Day 23: Luke 1:51-52 |
| • Day 8: Matthew 1:18-25 | • Day 24: Luke 1:53-55 |
| • Day 9: John 3:16 | • Day 25: Luke 1:66-69 |
| • Day 10: Micah 5:2-5 | • Day 26: Luke 2:7 |
| • Day 11: Psalm 72:9-14 | • Day 27: Luke 2:8-9 |
| • Day 12: Isaiah 11:1-2 | • Day 28: Luke 2:10-11 |
| • Day 13: Romans 8:1-3 | • Day 29: Luke 2:13-14 |
| • Day 14: Numbers 24:17 | • Day 30: Luke 2:29-32 |
| • Day 15: Matthew 2:10 | • Day 31: Luke 2:33-35 |
| • Day 16: Luke 1:26-28 | |

*"Rejoice, that the immortal God is born,
so that mortal man may live in eternity"*

Anonymous



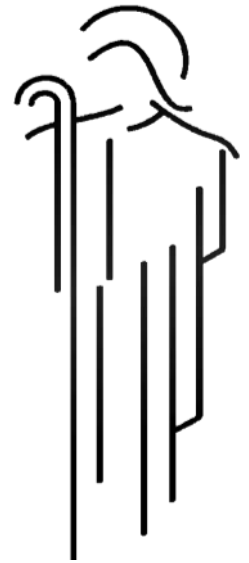
"Bless them so that all may see in their lives together within the community of your people a vision of your kingdom on earth."

From the Nuptial Blessing in the Marriage ceremony

*If we missed your Birth, Baptism, or Marriage Anniversary we apologize.
Please contact the church office to provide us with that information.*

Messiah Messenger

Published by *Messiah Lutheran Church*



Our Mission:

Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service, and our support

Our Vision:

To build and strengthen the body of Christ

Worship

Worship Ministry Committee

Next meeting is:

Wednesday, December 4, at 11:00 am in the Conference Room

To be part of this vital ministry at Messiah, contact the Church Office - 814-899-6386

Online Worship

We are live streaming our Worship Services on our **YouTube-Messiah Lutheran Church Erie**. The videos of the services will be uploaded to our YouTube channel after each church service.

Assisting Ministers and Lectors

The blank schedule for **December** will be in the **Narthex** through **December 15**. Please schedule yourself.

If you do not indicate your availability, it will be presumed that you ARE available.

Videographers needed

Would you like to help with videotaping the worship services on Sunday?



We need volunteers for both the 8:30 & 11:00 services.

Contact the Church Office!



Worship Team

We are in need of more Assisting Ministers and Lectors for both Worship Services!

Training will be provided.
Contact the Church Office if interested!



The Altar Guild is a very important "behind the scenes" ministry!

The people in this ministry make sure that our worship space is properly prepared for Sunday Worship and other special services.

To be part of this welcoming ministry please contact: Linda Voigt at 899-8618

From the desk of Pr. Tom

****December: A Season of Joy****

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As December settles in with its cooler days and longer nights, we find ourselves on the threshold of Advent - a season of waiting, anticipating, and preparing. This month, we are invited to reflect on the deep joy that comes from the arrival of Christ into the world and the gift of joy that he continues to offer us today.

The Joy of Advent: Expecting the Savior

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning *coming*. This season is a time of eager expectation as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, the light of the world. Joy is central to the message of Advent, for the coming of Christ brings not only hope but a deep, abiding joy to all who believe.

The angelic proclamation to the shepherds in Luke 2:10-11 says it all: "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." The joy that the shepherds felt at that moment was not based on earthly circumstances, but on the divine reality that God was with them - Emmanuel.

As we prepare our hearts this Advent, we are called to share in that same joy, knowing that Christ's coming is not just a historical event but a present-day reality. Jesus continues to be our source of joy, no matter what the world around us may hold.

The Joy of Giving: Reflecting God's Generosity

December is also a time when we often turn our thoughts to generosity. The joy of Christmas is reflected in the way God gave us His Son. In the same spirit, we are called to give - to our families, our communities, and the world.

This year, let us consider how we can share the joy we've received in Christ. Whether through acts of kindness, supporting local charities, or helping those in need, giving is an expression of the joy that dwells in us. The Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:7 that "God loves a cheerful giver." Joy is not only found in receiving but in giving, reflecting the love and generosity of God.

A Joyful Church Family: Celebrating Together

As a church, we have much to celebrate this Advent season. We are grateful for the ways God has worked in and through our community in the past year. Let us gather together to worship, to pray, and to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Join us for the following events this month:

Advent Services: Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00 am, as we journey through the themes of Advent - Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Christmas Eve Service: A special candlelight service on December 24 at 5:00 pm as we commemorate the birth of our Savior.

12/29/24 - The First Sunday in Christmas. We will have one worship service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

In the busyness of the season, we pray that each of us would find time to pause and experience the joy that is ours in Christ Jesus. May His joy fill your hearts and overflow into every part of your life.

A Blessing for the Season

As we look toward the new year, may we be reminded of the joy that is ours through Christ - the joy of knowing that we are loved, forgiven, and called to share that joy with others. May the peace and joy of Christmas fill your homes and hearts this season and throughout the coming year.

With joy and gratitude,

Pastor Tom

Scripture for Reflection:

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." Psalm 100:1-2

P.S. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer or support this holiday season, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to walk alongside you in joy and in struggle.

TANZANIA TRIP

Pastor Tom is in Tanzania with a group of pastors and lay leaders in our synod, including Bishop Lozano. The purpose of this trip is to visit our companion synod in Tanzania. Did you know that Lutheranism is growing the fastest in Tanzania? Pastor Tom and the group from our synod will participate in their annual synod assembly and the ordination service that will occur on Sunday, December 15. Pastor will be absent from December 5 to the 17. Please keep him and the entire synod group in your prayers.

“ITS ALL GREEK TO ME” BIBLE STUDY

The mid-week Bible study led by Pastor Tom will occur on December 3 and 18 only. With Pastor’s travel and the Christmas and New Year’s holidays, we will not meet on December 11, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day. We will resume normal schedule on January 8, 2025

SPECIAL ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE JANUARY 12, 2025 at 4:00 pm

A Sound Bath Worship Service: An Immersive Spiritual Experience

In the quiet hum of modern life, many people seek deeper spiritual connection and peace, often through practices that transcend traditional rituals. One such practice which has gained popularity in recent years is the sound bath worship service, a unique blend of spiritual reflection and auditory immersion designed to foster mindfulness, healing, and connection with the divine.

What is a Sound Bath?

A sound bath is a meditative experience where participants are enveloped by healing sounds created by singing bowls. These bowls produce a range of frequencies that can help calm the mind, lower stress levels, and promote emotional balance. The term "*sound bath*" refers to the idea of being "bathed" in sound waves, allowing the vibrations to wash over and through the body, mind, and spirit.

The Worship Element

In the context of a worship service, the sound bath

becomes a sacred ritual, blending the power of sound with spiritual intention. Often conducted in a quiet, dimly lit space, the service begins with a brief introduction and a period of silence for participants to center themselves. The Pastor guides the group in prayer or reflection, setting an intention for the experience.

As the sound bath begins, the reverberations of the sound bowls become the focal point of the service. The sound is designed to guide participants into a deep state of relaxation and spiritual openness, often evoking a sense of unity with the divine. In many traditions, sound is believed to be a powerful conduit for spiritual healing and transformation. The vibrations created by the bowls can help clear blockages, balance the energy centers of the body, and deepen one’s connection to God.

A Holistic Experience

The beauty of a sound bath worship service lies in its holistic nature. The gentle, immersive nature of the sounds allows participants to let go of the mental clutter that often crowds the mind during traditional prayer or meditation. Some may experience visions, heightened emotions, or deep moments of insight, while others simply find themselves enveloped in a sense of peace and calm.

For those seeking an alternative or complement to more conventional worship practices, a sound bath worship service can offer a unique opportunity to experience spirituality through the healing power of sound. It allows participants to engage with their faith on a deeper level, transcending the limitations of words or thoughts, and embracing the profound resonance of the universe.

Sound bath worship services are a contemporary spiritual practice that combines the ancient art of sound healing with modern worship experiences. Whether used for meditation, reflection, or connection, these services offer a transformative and deeply peaceful way to engage with spirituality in a world that often feels disconnected from its deeper rhythms. In a sound bath, the echoes of the divine are heard not through words, but through the very vibrations of the universe itself.

Merry Christmas

Happy birthday, Jesus! What do you want for your birthday gift?

Obey the ten commandments--they are not suggestions. If all obeyed them, there would be peace all over the earth. Believe in Me, for by my death and resurrection, your sins are forgiven and you shall be given eternal life.

Be kind to one another. Treat each other as you yourself wish to be treated. Help when you can; pray whether or not you think you can help.

Spread the Word! Christ is King, not only for the Jews, but for all who believe in Him. Wish each other all the blessings the Lord has to offer,

Set your shining light of faith for all to see.

Respect others--rich or poor, no matter their color or creed. Respect their decisions, right or wrong. Don't counsel unless asked. Respect their politics. Just because you don't agree doesn't mean the others are stupid.

Make your charitable contributions to the Church or to other places that you are sure will use them for those in need. Some people don't need just food or clothing; some need a hug or a listening ear.

Praise the Triune God for everything you are and everything you have. Give of your time, your talent, and your bounty in His name.

Celebrate Christmas as you wish, perhaps with candy canes and Santa Claus and presents all around. Keep in mind that this is all for our human vanity. The REAL Christmas is the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Keep Him in your heart and your mind as you go through the motions of a secular Christmas. Without Jesus, there is no Christmas!

Above all, love one another as Christ loves you!

From my family to yours, have a very merry Christmas! Our God has given us a life. For Jesus' birthday, give it back to Him.

Your servant in Christ,
Marilyn DiLuzio Rizzo



Dear Friends,


Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$152.70 to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund!

As you know, quilters and kit makers put so much loving care into creating these practical and comforting gifts of love. Time and again, their recipients tell us how touched they are that someone far away remembered them and cared for them in their time of need.

Our neighbors in Ukraine come to mind, especially those who have nowhere else to go when bombs fall or enemy troops invade. We met Natalia Chemenka, an elderly woman, at a Quilt & Kit distribution last year. She told us the comfort of a quilt meant so much to her, because her house was damaged by a missile and she felt very cold at night. I am so glad Natalia has the warm reminder of Christ's love every time she goes to bed.

Every quilt and every kit has a story. Thank you for ensuring these items get where they need to go. Your kindness brings comfort and hope to people, just when they need it most.

Thank you,


Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard
President and CEO

P.S. God bless you and your generous spirit.

Special thank you to Dave Kent for removing all the leaves next to the church.



**Combined Service Attendance
Streaming services from web site**

Date	8:30	11:00	On Line	Total
Oct. 27	18	49	29	96
Nov. 3	19	34	48	101
Nov. 10	19	42	28	89
Nov. 17	17	37	32	86

* indicates no live stream for one or both services

Special Worship Services coming up:

December 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve Service: A special candlelight service at 5:00 pm as we commemorate the birth of our Savior.

December 29, 2024 - The First Sunday in Christmas. We will have one worship service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

January 12, 2025- SPECIAL ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

A Sound Bath Worship Service: An Immersive Spiritual Experience



Property

Property Committee

Do you have an interest in helping to keep our church property in top condition?

Join the Property Committee!

Next meeting is December 8 at 9:45AM.

To get information about any project for the church or to inform us of something that needs to be repaired, please contact Art Anderson at 881-1680



**Snow Shoveling
Volunteers NEEDED!**



We will be needing volunteers to commit to

clearing our sidewalks, steps, and wheelchair ramp during the week throughout winter.

A snow blower, located in the garage, is available to use!

Please contact the church office if you are willing to help!



Stewardship/Finance

The goal of our Stewardship/Finance Ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances that God has entrusted to them.

Year - to - Date Financial Picture

The financials can be found posted in the binder marked Council in the Narthex the first Sunday of every month.

The Stewardship/Finance Ministry Committee will next meet on date TBD in the Conference Room.

Contact the office if you would like to share your talents as part of this important work of the congregation.

**Thank you for your continued Financial Support.
Your generosity is most appreciated!**



Counter Ministry

Are you good with figures?
Do you like to handle money?
Maybe the Counter Ministry is for you!

Time commitment is about 30 minutes after worship.

Training will be provided! Contact the Church Office if interested.

DID YOU KNOW...

that your offerings to Messiah Lutheran Church can be made electronically while you're on vacation or if you prefer the convenience of scheduling a monthly/weekly automatic withdrawal from your account?

It's easy to set up the following option:

Electronic transfer from your bank account

For more information, call the Church Office, 899-6386.

Make your Contribution from our Website!

Now Live!! Check it out!

Donate



Located on the home page Members and website visitors will be able to contribute to the ministry happening at and through Messiah from our website. You can choose one time or recurring transactions. You can also choose to cover the small fee!

You can pay for the sponsorship of Altar Flowers, Worship Aids, and Vigil Candles too. You will still need to sign up for them on the flower chart!

Attention Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Members...

Thrivent Members can designate Messiah Lutheran Church as a recipient of the charitable giving that Thrivent offers through Choice Dollars.

Visit their website, **www.thrivent.com**, or call your Thrivent representative for more information.

To those who have designated Messiah as a recipient of Thrivent Choice Dollars, ***we gratefully thank you!***

For more information about Thrivent Financial for Lutherans contact Vince Kremer, Financial Associate, at 814-878-5727 or visit Thrivent.com



Wesleyville Food Pantry

Please consider a financial gift for the Food Pantry.

Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

Food Pantry Distribution:

Tuesday, December 3 5-6:00 pm - Country Fair Items Only

Tuesday, December 17 10-11:30 am and at 5-6:00 pm

Thank you for your generosity!



2ND MILE GIVING APPEAL

Our 2nd Mile

Giving recipient for **December** is:

The Mercy Center for Women

You may contribute through your regular envelope, marking how much to designate to 2nd Mile on the "other" line on your envelope, or by sending a separate donation.

Through **November 26 \$00.00** has been donated for **Christmas Needy Fund**

Thank you for your generosity!

Want to know more about our 2nd Mile Giving organization?

Their Mission: Mercy Center for Women is a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and is committed to enhancing the dignity of each person it serves through the healing of body, mind, and spirit.

The Center provides safe and supportive transitional housing, education and support services for homeless women with or without children. Safe and supportive permanent housing, education and support services for men, women and children experiencing homelessness. Connections with social service agencies and volunteers to form a network of ongoing support, mentoring and education for residents. An environment based on spirituality, responsibility and ethical values.

Church Life

Contact Cindy Anderson at 881-2161 to be part of the Church Life Ministry Committee.

We would love to have some fresh faces helping with our fellowship events!

All Church Life events are for our members and friends to come together in Fellowship. Please come and enjoy each other's company!

Church Life will be cooking for the Christmas Breakfast again this year.

The menu is: cheese or western egg bake, pancakes and sausage.

Hope to see you there December 22!

This is for all church members!!!



Calling all bakers!

CYFM/Church Life is looking for Christmas Cookies to serve at the Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, December 22.

There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex to let them know what type of cookies you will be making or bringing.

December Sponsors

	8:30 Bulletin	11:00 Bulletin	Flower (1)	Flower (2)	Candle
12/1					Sally Berlin
12/8					Sally Berlin
12/15		Sprouse			Sally Berlin
12/22			Voigt	Curtis	Voigt
12/24		Sprouse	Curtis		Sally Berlin

Please consider sponsoring the Bulletins during the year.
Every sponsorship helps to defray the cost to the congregation. Thank you!



2024 Sponsorships

The completed form, and payment, are due prior to date of sponsorship

Altar Flowers: **\$30/1 vase**
 \$55/2 vases (for same day)*

Bulletins: **\$7/service/week***
 *(except Easter & Christmas)


Vigil Candle: **\$3/service/week**

Pennies for Poverty

**An ongoing project of the
NWPA Women of the ELCA**

Consider dropping
your spare change,
or even bills,
into the container
in the narthex
for this project.

Each year a charity
is selected to receive
the money collected
by the participating
churches.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Please consider sponsoring a 6.5” potted Poinsettia to help decorate our Church for Christmas Eve Services or one of the 10” potted Poinsettias for behind the Altar.

This year the Worship Committee has decided to offer Red and White Poinsettias.

The plants will be purchased from Home Depot (same as last year) for **\$8.00**. Please use the sponsorship form in the Narthex or on the next page and place your payment into a marked envelope in the offering plate or turn it into the church office before **December 15**.

About Our Members

Please keep the church office informed of any changes in your contact information. It is important for us to keep our database up-to-date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Change of Address

Bonnie & Bill Magee
3742 Crestwood Drive
Erie, PA 16510



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Please consider sponsoring a 6.5" potted Poinsettia to help decorate our Church for Christmas Eve Services.

The plants will be purchased from Home Depot.

Please fill out the following form, enclose it in an envelope with your payment and return it to the Church office, or place it in the offering plate, **no later than December 15**

Only ONE dedication per plant, please!

A complete memorial list will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins

I would like to sponsor:

_____ Red @ \$8.00 each

_____ White @ \$8.00 each

To the Glory of God and in Memory of [deceased]

To the Glory of God and in Honor of [living]

To the Glory of God and in Celebration of [event]

To the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for

By: (Your Name)

Plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

Please do not take the plastic trays under the plants, because they belong to the church. Thank you!

CYFM/FIA

Children, Youth & Family Ministry/
Faith In Action Committee

The Grateful Prayer Group



THURSDAYS AT 10:00 AM
CURRENTLY MEETING BY CONFERENCE CALL
CONTACT JEAN PARKER AT 814-528-5817
OR LINDA FRYER AT 814-899-6899.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Guided Meditation on Mondays is now a
“traveling” group. Please call Bonnie
Stearns at 814-460-0556 to find out how
you can participate in this prayer
ministry!
Every Monday (except the 3rd) 6:30 PM

In order to make a Prayer Chain request, please



PRAYER CHAIN
MINISTRY

email or call the Church Office

CYFM/Faith in Action Committee

Next meeting is **Thursday, December 5,**
at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room



BOUND TOGETHER (BOOK REVIEW CLUB)

Wednesday, December 4, at 1:00 pm
in the Study Lounge

- Dec My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You
She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman (Mary)
- Jan West With Giraffes by Lynda Ruthledge
(Jean)
- Feb The Girls of Atomic City by Denise
Kierman (Cyndi)
- Mar The Women by Kristin Hannah (Sandy)
- April ?? (Anna Mae)
- May The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by
James McBride (Bonnie M)

COME AND JOIN US!

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22
9:30AM

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

ALL ARE INVITED!
Come to enjoy the fellowship!
Egg Bake, Pancakes, Sausage and
Sweets. Several pet guests courtesy of
Heartland Pets, thanks to
Wendi Proper.

BIBLE STUDY

It's All Greek to Me Bible Study

Bible study with Pastor Tom
Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm.

Study lounge

*Note the schedule changes for December on the
calendar. See you January 8 to resume.



Servant Outreach Parish Health Ministry



Servant Outreach/Parish Health Ministry Committee
will meet December 1 at 9:45 am.

Sewing Circle



Do you like to sew? Need something to do?
The quilters are meeting again in the sewing room and are sewing up a storm!
Currently they meet on Tuesdays from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.
The day of the week can change, so please call Joyce Hauser to confirm.
Project Linus blankets continue to be made in people's individual homes.
If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please call Joyce Hauser at 814-825-3919.
Thank you!



Bethany Outreach

The collection box for donations has been removed from the Narthex, but you can still drop off men's and children's clothing!

Men's and Women's underwear.

Clothing can be dropped off at the office or in the library. Talk to Karen Pistner if you have any questions.



Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteer Opportunities

December 3 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.
December 9 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.
December 16 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.
December 17 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Messiah Prayer Shawl group is working from home.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please call Shirley Damon at 814-899-8805 with any questions or concerns. We can provide patterns, yarn, and instruction if needed.

Thank you!

Prayer Shawls are available at the Church office for anyone who would like one.

Great for baptisms, baby shower/birth, weddings, illness, hospitalization, men, women, or children who need to feel God's love wrapped around them

BLANKETS FOR BABIES

Through the Soldiers and Sailors Home we were asked if we could sew, knit, or crochet baby blankets 18x22 that will be part of a kit given to families in the National Guard.

If you want to be part of this project, contact Shirley Damon at 814-899-8805 with any questions or concerns.

This is an ongoing program our ministry would like to support.

OWLs

(Older, Wiser, Lutherans)

Thursday, December 5 at 10:00 am

Meeting with Wesley's Keenagers group. Cost is \$5.00 per person, payable at the door, for lunch. Bring a dessert to share if you wish. Gary foster will be presenting a chalk drawing. Reservation to Karen Pistner 814-899-4337 by December 1.



For the young
and
the young
at heart



Dance Exercise Class

Every **Tuesday at 6:15 pm**
Fellowship Hall

For church members and friends

Facilitated by Briana Alaniz and Cindy Anderson
Let the office know if you are planning to join the fun!

Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team



Creation Care with Eco-Friendly Wrapping

As Christmas approaches, here are some ideas for earth-friendly wrapping. Consider using alternatives to traditional wrapping, such as:

- Newspaper or brown paper rolls (kids can decorate with markers or Christmas card cut-outs)
- Reusable shopping bags (preferably cotton)
- Re-use gift bags (make it fun - see how many years you can use the same one)
- Christmas cards make great gift tags
- Wrap items in a t-shirt
- Wrap items in a tablecloth or blanket
- Instead of ribbon,
 - Use 100% cotton yarn (such as Sugar and Cream, available in many colors)
 - Use jute twine (100% biodegradable); add a fresh holly sprig for color
- Avoid shiny, glossy wrapping, as it is not recyclable
- If giving multiple gifts to a person/family, place them unwrapped in one (reusable) bag and have the recipient select one at a time. (No peeking inside first!)

Martin Luther, "God is wholly present in all creation, in every corner, behind you and before you." (LW 51:43)

The Green Team's purpose is to "raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation". Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

<https://www.northwesternpsynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html>

HOLY TRINITY SLOPPY JOE DINNER

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is in the heart of Erie's "Little Italy" neighborhood, and they have a long history of providing meals for those in need in that community. During the pandemic they collected and distributed prepared foods donated by local food vendors to 8,500 recipients.

They offer monthly Sloppy Joe dinners provided by participating churches. Messiah has participated in the past and will be providing this year's dinner on **Thursday, December 19.**

We are asking the congregation to provide cookies for dessert. They will need to be delivered to the church by **Tuesday, December 17.** Thanks to all for your support.



Angel Tree 2024

December 1-15

PLEASE Do Not wrap any of the gifts;
this will be done by the recipient agency.

If you want to help with delivery to the center, contact Jean Parker. Delivery will be after the second service on **December 15.**

All items must be in by December 15!

Church Council

Church Leadership

Council:

Briana Alaniz-(1) Secretary
Cyndi Allen- (1)
Art Anderson-(1) President
Robin Curtis (2) Vice-
President
Laurie Hecht- (1)
Steve Porada- (1)
Tim Smock -(1)
Blaine Waters (2)

Conference I Rep:

Blaine Waters

Food Pantry Board Rep:

Pr. Tom Glasoe

Committee Chairpersons:

Church Life: Cindy Anderson

CYFM: Candy Sprouse

Mutual Ministry:

Jean Parker

Property: Art Anderson

Servant Outreach:

Jean Parker

Joe Burwell

Stewardship/Finance:

Brad Bresee

Worship:

Linda Voigt

Unofficial Highlights

- + Reviewed Financials and Committee Reports;
- + Discussed boiler issues and options, waiting on quote for new boilers
- + Discussed quotes for new sign, decided to put on hold until boilers quote is in;
- + No meeting in December;
- + Next Meeting: Thursday, January 16, 2025

Contact Information

Messiah Lutheran Church

Contact Information

Church Office: (814) 899-6386

secretary@messiah-erie.org

Cindy Anderson: (814) 881-2161

Bonnie Stearns (814) 460-0556

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Pastor Thomas Glasoe: (814) 460-8529

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www.messiah-erie.org



*Find out what is
going on in the
ELCA:*

Church-wide - www.elca.org

NWPA Synod - www.northwesternpasynodelca.org

Church Office Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	10:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	10:00am-5:00pm
Friday	10:00am-5:00pm



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