

**MARCH
2019**



THE LOG
a newsletter of
**Lamb of God
Lutheran Church**



A Message from our Pastor

Ash Wednesday is on March 6th, so it is time for us to turn our attention to all things Lent. One question that comes up every year at this time is, "Why don't we use the word Alleluia during Lent?" The following is from the ELCA Worship Site and gives us a good answer to that question.

"Based on the Hebrew word, hallelu yah, meaning "Praise the Lord," alleluia has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the church and was prominent in early Christian liturgies. Because of the penitential character of the season of Lent in the Western church, singing or saying the word "alleluia" has historically been suspended during Lent's forty days. This period of individual and congregational reflection on the quality of our baptismal faith and life suggests that the joyful nature of alleluia is more appropriately reserved for our Easter celebrations when it is given full and jubilant voice."

At the Easter Vigil, when the Alleluia is brought back into our worship, the church responds by turning the lights full on and, in recent years, the members of the congregation ring small bells. It is a joyous sight and sound. You cannot help but smile and feel elated that this word is once again a part of our worship language.

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**Lamb of God
Lutheran Church**

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

606 East 38th Street
Erie, PA 16504

Rev. Kimberly A. Hirsch, Pastor
Church e-mail: lambogod2@verizon.net
www.lambogoderie.org
Lamb of God Lutheran Church at FACE BOOK

**MISSION
STATEMENT**

Lamb of God Lutheran Church is a loving, compassionate, forgiving Christian family; children of God, caring for each other, strong and united in their witness of Jesus Christ and his holy Gospel.

We have been called by God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to work as an evangelistic, faithful congregation in teaching and spreading the Gospel and witnessing Christian love within the community and the world through service to others, care and concern for God's creation, and the uplifting of word and sacrament.

Office Hours:

Monday
Wednesday
Friday
9 am to 12 pm

814-825-8830

Church Staff & Leaders

Pastor Kim Hirsch
814.218.4569

Organist, Shirley
Dennis

Janitor, Terry Grossman

Office Secretary:

Sandee Krivonak (M-W)

and

Carol Kroh (F)

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

President, Dave Belczyk

VPresident, Sandy Cook

Sec., Nancy Serwinski

Treas, Sandee Krivonak

FinSec., Carol Kroh

Pastor Kim Hirsch

David Belczyk

Jean Moses

Kim Bowden

Barb Malinski

Joe Harayda

Transportation for Elderly to Church call:

Jerry & Mary Ellen

Heeter

825.2868

Carol Kroh

866.2747

Donna Wright

899.8107

From page 1

At Lamb of God, we use an Alleluia banner to signify the removal of that word from our Lenten worship. As the service concludes on Transfiguration Sunday, we sing the hymn, Alleluia, Song of Sweetness, process out of the church with the banner and say farewell to that wonderful word until the Easter Vigil. We have also in the past “buried” the alleluia, a sign with Alleluia on it, in a box under the altar. It will not be unburied until Easter Sunday when it helps us to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

May God’s Spirit lead us in this season of Lent to a deeper understanding of Christ’s call to love and to serve.

Peace, Pastor Kim

Council Highlights - February 12

Social Outreach: Souper Bowl collected \$238 for World Hunger. Sherry Moffett’s pizza soup was the winner of the 1st annual Golden Spoon Award. Upcoming overflow shelter meals are Feb 25 & March 31. Mary Rose Sanctuary is accepting personal care items and money donations through the end of March. May 11 has been put on the calendar as a day to clean & reorganize the kitchen.

Christian Education: March 3 the Youth will host the Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast after church on Sunday. Reminder that Pr Kim leads a 9:30am adult Sunday school class each week.

Erie Lutheran Parish (ELP): Will receive a print out of the last meeting minutes. Pastor & Dave will contact pastors of churches with low ELP attendance for their feedback. Upcoming dates: Aug 11 beach service/Sept 8 God’s Work, Our Hands: Sept 15 Crop Walk

Worship & Music: Pr Kim will preside at the marriage of Emily Alexander & Mark Campbell on Feb 15.

Pr Beth Siefert is coming next council to speak about some smaller congregations options.

Lenten Banners have arrived; white paraments at a later date. Summer Homecoming service and lunch to promote all members’ attendance is being considered.

Property: All baseboards will be sprayed for ongoing ant problem. Tiles under pews need replaced. Carpet in secretary office needs replaced. Organ cover needs repair.

Women of the ELCA: Upcoming events were reviewed (see newsletter for details)

Old Business: Tabled (1)pre-school room clean-up (2) rummage sale (3) CPR Class (4) church/building safety measures

New business:

- Council voted to donate \$250 to Community Shelter Services for their furnace replacement.
- Marnie Brown will take a class so she can give communion already consecrated to others in the pastor’s absence.
- Consider measures to take to help keep people safe while in the building.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 12 (6:00 PM)

Facts & Figures

Attendance

Sat. Jan 26 - 11	Sun. Jan 27 - 27	Giving
Sat. Feb 02 - 08	Sun. Feb 03 - 43	\$ 2,077.00
Sat. Feb 09- 10	Sun. Feb 10 -25	\$ 2,271.00
Sat. Feb 16 - 10	Sun. Feb 17 - 33	\$ 1,476.00
		\$ 768.00



2018 ELCA Congregational Report

Lamb of God's 2018 Congregational Report to the ELCA:

Reported that as of the end of 2017 we had 264 Baptized Members. Our council sent letters to our inactives this past year to update our records. In reply to that mailing our membership records have been adjusted to:

137 Baptized members

101 Confirmed

Weekly average attendance of 42

71 people actively participating in church life

(members/nonmembers) children & adults in the life of the congregation in 2018.

Women of the ELCA

Upcoming Events: April 13/Spring Gathering, June 7-8/Annual Synodical Convention; Sept 13-15/Lutherlyn retreat

Ongoing projects: Human Trafficking SOAP project (in partnership with Sisters of St. Josephs/NW Pa, the Crime Victim's Center of PA and Gannon U campus ministry; (2) Lily Bags project expanded to UPMC/Chautauqua, NY, 2 hospitals in Iowa, and more states are making inquiries.

To be added to the email distribution list, which provides more detailed information on the above and so much more, contact Pat Bellingham/President, at pat.bellingham@hotmail.com or 814-528-5675.



Our church bulletin will have the names of those having a recent surgery or an immediate need.

Please continue to pray for these folks:



Remember to pray for:

Ed and JoAnn Schomer, Melanie Chow, Jim Klapthor, Mikki Bort, Addison Beauclerc, Steven Ebert, Ruth Dennis, Dorothy Serwinski, Connie Stanbro, Jimmy Matson, Cindy Belczyk, Alex Delamater, Robin Smith, Vicky Hall, Dinah Urbaniak, Sandy Goldsmith, Karen Davis, Ruth Ann Morse, Virginia Delo, Ben Szobody, Janice Donahue, Bob & Pat Kelly

Prayer Chain

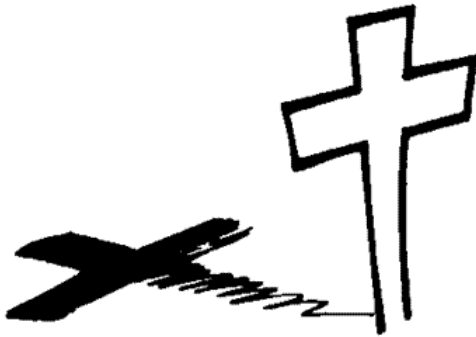
Contact

Caroline Wolff

825-8585

cwolff835@gmail.com

Wednesday Night Lenten Services



This Lent folks from LOG are going to attend the Holden Evening Prayer Service at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church 38th & Greengarden.

The services will begin March 13 at 7:00 pm. You can make your way to Mt Calvary yourself or meet at the Lamb of God parking lot by 6:40 pm.

Souper Bowl

THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE would like to thank everyone for making the “Souper Bowl” a huge success. There were 10 soups, numerous breads, delicious spreads & great desserts. It was topped off with Shirley Dennis’s fantastic salad. Thanks go to Pastor Kim for donating the “Golden Spoon” and mounting board. Phil’s paint job of the golden spoon was perfect. The winner of the “Golden Spoon” was Sherry Moffett with her Pizza Soup voted #1. A total of \$238.00 was raised for World Hunger. Great job LOG!

Pizza Soup

- 2 cans (14.5 oz each) diced tomato
- 2 cans (10.75 oz each) condensed Tomato Soup undiluted
- 2 cans (14.5 each) Beef Broth
- 1 jar (15 oz) Pizza Sauce
- 1# Sweet Italian Sausage, browned & crumbled
- 3.5 oz sliced pepperoni cut in quarters & fry for a few minutes to render fat out & drain on paper towel
- 1 cup chopped sweet onion
- 1 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 cup chopped yellow pepper
- 3 8 oz can sliced black olives (drained)
- ½ t. Italian seasoning
- ½ t. garlic powder
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese



Brown sausage in skillet, remove sausage & fry pepperoni for a few minutes to render fat from pepperoni. Remove pepperoni and drain all but 2T of grease. Sauté veggies until tender (onion, mushrooms, peppers)

In a large pot bring the tomatoes, soup & broth to a boil and reduce to a simmer & add meat, sautéed veggies, olives and seasonings. Serve with shredded cheese & pizza oyster crackers.

Pizza Oyster /Crackers

- 2 bags (9 oz each) oyster crackers
 - ½ cup canola oil
 - 1/3 cup grated Parmesan Cheese
 - ¼ cup pizza seasoning or Italian seasoning
 - ½ t. garlic powder
- Preheat oven to 350. Place crackers in a large bowl. In a small bowl mix oil, cheese, pizza seasoning & garlic powder – pour over crackers & toss gently to coat – transfer to 2 cookie sheets. Bake 5-7 minutes, stirring once. Cool & store in an airtight container.

Ash Wednesday

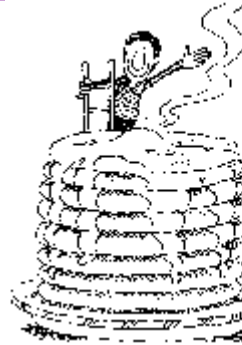


Ash Wednesday
 March 6, 2019
 6:00 pm
 Worship and Imposition of Ashes

Mardi Gras Lunch

Mardi Gras celebration will be held after church on March 3. The youth will be hosting a luncheon. What will be served???? Come & find out.

Donations accepted



Congratulations

Pastor Kim presided at the marriage of Emily Alexander and Mark Campbell, February 15. Special witnesses were their daughter, Gia, and Mary Ellen and Jerry Heeter (Emily's grandparents)!

God's Blessings on this new couple!

Thank You

Lutherlyn: We are grateful for your support in 2018.
 Some dates to remember in 2019: May 11 Camp Blast! June 16 Camp begins.
 October 25-27 Fall Family Weekend.

Lutheran World Relief: Thank you for your generous gift to Lutheran World Relief's Quilts & Kit Shipping Fund. Your donation ensures that LWR Quilts & Kits get into the hands of people who need them most. Last spring a shipment of Kits traveled to Peru. LWR staff and our partner, CARITAS, distributed the quilts and kits to 30,600 women, men and children all across the country. Mountain-dwelling families especially welcomed the warmth of quilts as winter temperatures began to set in, hitting average lows in the 30s in July and August. The blessing of your gift doesn't end there! In our long-term projects in Peru, students receive Personal Care Kits that help their families learn better hygiene, which also helps strengthen their dairy & cheese livelihoods.

**CAMP
 LUTHERLYN**
 It's not to soon
 to think about
 summer camp.

**Lamb of God
 offers
 scholarships so
 our members
 don't miss out
 on the camping
 experience.**

**Family Camp is
 also an option.
 See the infor-
 mation on the
 bulletin board
 or
 www.lutherlyn.
 com/
 familycamp**

Fall Travel Opportunity

You are invited to take a bus trip with Anderson Travel to Lancaster this fall to see the Jesus Production at the Sight & Sound Theater.

The **October 4-5** trip includes the Shady Maple Smorgasbord, Jesus Production, Hershey Farm Market/Chocolate World, overnight stay and 2 meals for \$369.00

Please let Pastor Kim or Sandee Krivonak know if you are interested in going.



Save
the
date

Marnie Minds the Library

Greetings! I feel like I should have done an Irish book since this is the March newsletter, but sorry! I haven't read one in a while. This month's book is about love, so I feel like I am writing an appropriate review in the heart month. This book is about the Father's love for each and every one of us. It is titled "When God Winks At You".



The author tells us that a God wink is that little thing that happens that we don't know whether to call a coincidence, chance, or something more. It's when we think about a certain person and that very day that person calls us. It is when we are praying about something and something happens that answers that prayer.

Writer Squire Rushnell tells us that these little happenings are God's way of communicating with us and letting us know that he is always there and hears us when we call Him. The book is a collection of stories of God winks that have happened to people, divided into different kinds of God winks.

The first kind is personal ones. One example is of Daniel Heard whose daughter Danielle was killed in an auto accident. She had loved smiley faces - drew them everywhere. As Daniel grieved one night, he prayed to God that He would give him a sign that Danielle was OK. As he sat on the porch he looked up, a hole appeared in the dark sky and there was a full moon. Then a perfect smiley face appeared on the moon.

Another category is God winks that happen when there is need for comfort. Natalie was spending a semester studying in Paris. Not knowing anyone there, she was very lonely. Her first language was Armenian so one Sunday she attended an Armenian Church. An old woman spoke to her, asked her where she was from and when she told her Florida the old lady said that she had two nephews in Florida with whom she had had no contact for years. It turned out that the one nephew was Natalie's father!

Rushnell encourages us to go back and map out times that God winks have come to us. He suggests that there probably have been crossroads and that the God winks may have influenced the path we chose. He also encourages us to keep an eye out for God winks in the future.

Caution! You will probably not be able to read this book without getting some tears in your eyes. I found that as I read each category I could point to things happenings in my own life that were God winks. If you enjoy reading this one, there are several more God Winks book available. God is ALWAYS with us. Thanks be to God!



NW PA
Synod
Assembly
2019

June 13-15

Monthly Special - January/February/March

Please continue your donations to the Mary Rose Sanctuary, a shelter for women. Their stated mission is "to empower women and keep them safe." They have 12 beds, which are consistently full, especially in the cold weather. The executive director is Dr Grace Kennedy, daughter of local missionaries Rev Charles Kennedy Sr and Mother Mary Beth Kennedy. They are requesting our prayers for this desperately needed mission.

Please fill the offering basket with these items: toiletries-deodorant, soap, shampoo; toothpaste & toothbrushes; feminine hygiene products; laundry detergent; lotion, Chapstick, white socks, bed linens and blankets for single beds.

Monetary donations are also needed to assist them in paying their utilities. Please consider donating through our pew envelopes, or ask any member of social ministry for further information. Thank you.

Help those less fortunate

Sunday Supper Meals

March 31 is the next time we are hosting the Sunday Supper for 200. Wendy Kinross is organizing that meal. Volunteers are needed.

Other 2019 Supper Dates: 6/23 9/22 11/10

Erie Lutheran Parish

Next meeting we will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd **7:00 PM**

Confirmation Class will continue to meet once a month. Next class is March 9 from 6-9 at St John's for all the ELP Confirmands.



Bach Cantata Vesper Service March 24 6:30 Luther Memorial

On March 24 at 6:30, the Luther Memorial Church Concert Series will present our next Bach Cantata Vespers. On the eve of the "Annunciation of Our Lord" we will perform J. S. Bach Cantata #1 How Beautifully Shines the Morning Star" written by Bach 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.



Birthdays March 2019

Megan Wolff 03/02
Bertelle Ebert 03/16
Abigail Shaw 03/18



**March
Wedding
Anniversaries**
Greg & Sandee
Krivonak
March 20

Lamb of God Lutheran Church
606 E 38 St
Erie, PA 16504

LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

606 EAST 38 ST
ERIE PA 16504



**Worship Services with
Holy Communion
Sunday 10:30 am
Saturday Spoken 5:00 pm**
Healing Service 1st Saturday

814-825-8830
Rev. Kimberly A. Hirsch, Pastor
Church e-mail: lambogod2@verizon.net
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