



**ST. JOHN'S**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE ERIE LUTHERAN PARISH

*"You belong here."*

# The Parish Post

Monthly Newsletter

The other day, I was going through the drive-thru at Starbucks. As I approached the window a young barista looked at me with a smile and told me that the lady in the car in front of me had already paid for me. I wish I could report that I was thrilled, grateful and pleasantly surprised. Instead, I was rather annoyed and frustrated.

This has happened to me often and every time it occurs, I don't like it. Truth be told, I have broken the chain of *paying for the car behind you* numerous times. One time, I was the 22<sup>nd</sup> person to be a part of it. I chose not to continue it. In fact, I stop it every time.

Talking to baristas and people who work at establishments like Starbucks, I learned that most people don't tip the workers. Yet, it is the workers who need our charity the most. They are the working poor that we hear about and but rarely think of. They are trying to get through schools and "life" so they work hard at these locations.

Yet, research has shown that the people who frequent Starbucks and coffee shops tend to be well off and in fact, should be charitable. Thus, when I find I am a part of the charitable chain reaction at a drive-thru, I choose not to pay for the person behind me but instead tip the barista what I would have paid for the drink. They are the ones that need the charity the most.

I find that so much of charity today goes to organizations or people that (in my estimation) don't need it nor deserve it. The NRA should offend you (not because of politics of guns, that's an entire other article) but their executives have abused the members trust and gifted millions for their own personal lifestyles. The political parties and their ancillary organizations continue to shape events in Washington and Harrisburg that fits their agendas instead of being purveyors of truth and services for the people they supposedly serve. Colleges have spent so much money on gyms and dorms while paying professors and important people of their campuses measly amounts. There are much more but I will stop here.

As Christians, please consider how your charity will bring Grace, Love and Christ to this broken world and give to organizations like ELCA World Hunger ([www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger)) or local charities whose primary concerns are about restoring Hope and Life to the "least of these."

God bless you.  
Pastor Tom

**#youbelonghere@StJohnsErie**

† ST JOHN'S VISION STATEMENT †

Loved by God, alive in Christ Jesus, and guided by the Holy Spirit, St. John's unconditionally serves God's people and shares Christian love.



Congratulations to Megan Lord for her expansion in her beauty business. Megan has joined the team of Charisma Salon at 406 State street, bringing her 10 years of beauty experience to Downtown Erie, working with nails of all types as well as eyelash extensions. She is constantly creating amazing designs and never shies away from a challenge.

This fall, our confirmands are very busy keeping up with their school activities. Chris Boam and Richie Blatt are both supporting the McDowell Trojans, as Chris is a baritone in the Big Blue Marching band and Richie is on the Competitive Cheer Squad. TJ Powell (Brian and Jen Bestvina) was just inducted into the Mercyhurst National Honor Society and performs Saxophone for the orchestra at MPS. Lacey Powell, has been busy acting in the plays at Mercyhurst and will be performing in Anything Goes in November. Both Powell kids are in the ITS and TJ performs in the show choir. Things are hopping at the Brian Bestvina household. The Young kids are also keeping busy at school, Kaleb is participating in the Army JROTC program at Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy. Amelia is also completing her time in the Gardening Club and playing in the Bell Choir at Strong Vincent Middle School. Anthony Thompson also attends NPCA is furthering his musical expertise at school as well as joining the Dungeons and Dragons club there.

In addition to our confirmation students, some of our other high school and college students are doing amazing things! Kenye and Ari Richards are working hard on the McDowell JV and Varsity football squads. Emma Kulisek has begun her senior year at General McLane and sister Kellie is at Penn West – Edinboro University, playing soccer for the Fighting Scots! Jaden Harper, a 2021 graduate of McDowell is also recently joined the Penn West Men's Basketball program.

### Cole Porter's 'Anything Goes'

November 17, 18, 19 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Matinée, November 20 @ 2:00 p.m.

#### TICKETS

Adults \$10 | Seniors \$7 | Students \$5

Tickets are available at the door. We accept cash or credit card. Doors open for tickets one hour before each show and seating opens thirty minutes before each show.

Mercyhurst Preparatory School  
Performing Arts Center [PAC]  
538 East Grandview Blvd.





World Community Day Celebration  
November 6, 2022  
1:00 p.m.

“It’s Up To You In 2022”  
“A Call to Pray”

This year’s World Community Day Celebration offers a visit to your local Jewish synagogue. The celebration will start at 1:00 p.m. with a tour of Temple Anshe Hessed, 5401 Old Zuck Rd., Erie, PA 16506 in support of World Community Day. Following the tour (at approximately 2:00 p.m.) we will convene at Mt. Calvary Lutheran (32nd and Greengarden) for a program and refreshments.

The theme for 2022 World Community Day is “A Call to Pray” with a very familiar scripture reference: 1 Timothy 2:1 (NLT) “I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.”

*Join us in prayer and fellowship! Hope to see you there!*  
*“Agreed to differ, Resolved to Love, United to Serve”*

We are also continuing the very much appreciated and needed...

**Church Women United Warren State Hospital Christmas Stocking Project**

Contact Deb Sobina at [nrmommydeb@gmail.com](mailto:nrmommydeb@gmail.com) or (814)571-4077 for more information.

Needed: 150 stockings for 85 men and 65 women residents

Much needed items are gloves, socks, travel size toiletries, note pads (without wire, please), note cards, stamps, etc. Stockings can be fabric bags or stocking shape of any material. Note: fabric bags with drawstring closure ties are helpful for resident use year-round. 12 items per stocking, thank you!

Please use tags to identify bags to label for men or ladies or gender neutral. If you’d like a pdf file of labels, please email Deb at [nrmommydeb@gmail.com](mailto:nrmommydeb@gmail.com).

Thank you so much for your continued support of this important ministry.

Please bring completed stockings to the World Community Day Celebration or make alternate arrangements with Deb Sobina. Please pack in boxes labeled with your church name and quantity of stockings enclosed. Thank you and God Bless You!



**Parking:** Odd/even parking resumes November 1st to allow for plowing of city streets when necessary. Please keep this in mind when parking on the streets around St. John's.

**Prayer Requests:** Do you have someone or something to pray for? Use the "Prayer Request" link on our church website (<http://stjohnserie.org/prayer-request/>). Enter your request and we will publish it in the Parish Post as well as be able to petition it during the prayers in worship. Prayer Requests/Names will be removed on the 1st of each month unless otherwise requested. If you would like a name on the prayer list, please use the "Prayer Request" link on our church website, email or phone the church office.

**Just a Reminder:** If you would like anything put in the *Parish Post*, please have it submitted to the church office no later than the 20th of the month prior. The office email is: [office@stjohnserie.org](mailto:office@stjohnserie.org) or call the office at (814) 456-7596.

**Check In for Worship:** As you attend worship with us virtually or in person, please remember to check in. Record your attendance through the app on our "Worship With Us" web page. Or you can check in via email, letting us know where you were, who you were with, and what worship you attended, by texting or emailing that information to [attendance@stjohnserie.org](mailto:attendance@stjohnserie.org).

Check in for WORSHIP >

# Crafting Retreats at Lutherlyn

**Do you feel like you need a vacation just so you can finish a project or try your hand at a new crafting hobby?**

Lutherlyn’s Crafting Retreats are the perfect opportunities for you! You choose the length of your stay and bring your quilting, scrapbooking, or other craft supplies, and we take care of the rest!

## Retreat Focus

Lutherlyn’s Crafting Retreats provide time to work on projects while offering a lot of fun and fellowship with fellow crafters. You’ll be provided with your own table/work space with access to electricity. Our Crafty Ladies have varied interests such as quilting, weaving, scrapbooking, knitting, jewelry making, painting, and many others. Some ladies come with friends and some arrive alone and make friends while crafting, but everyone shares a lot of laughs.

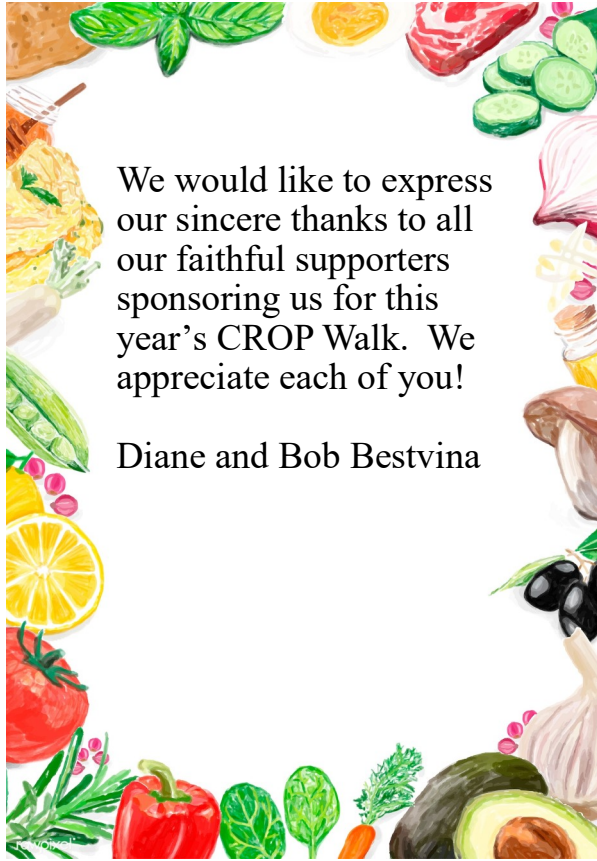
**Event Dates: November 15-20, 2022**

**Registration Deadline: November 7, 2022**

Register online at: <https://lutherlyn.campbrainregistration.com/> or call Lutherlyn at (724) 865-2161.







We would like to express our sincere thanks to all our faithful supporters sponsoring us for this year's CROP Walk. We appreciate each of you!

Diane and Bob Bestvina

**Calling all bargain shoppers!**

Project Dignity would like to give candy treat bags to all our clients this coming Christmas. As with most everything, candy prices have gone up. For those who can and would like to donate may I make the suggestion to shop for candy right after Halloween is over for sale prices. I'm sure the sweet treats and chocolate will still be good at Christmas time. Your donations can be placed in the Project Dignity cart near the ramp in the Narthex. Please put Diane Bestvina/candy somewhere on your donation. Thanks so much (from the bottom of my sweet tooth 😊)



**Musicians needed:**

St. John's Music Department is always looking for special music for the Liturgical (10:00 AM) service. If you would like to share your musical talent (vocal or instrumental) with God and our Congregation, please contact Kathy Swanson or call and leave your name at the Church office. We are especially looking for special music for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Give Thanks  
 TO THE Lord for  
**He is Good.**  
 His Love Endures  
 Forever. psalm 136:1

## CROP Walk Update

With your generous contributions, our five St. John's walkers raised \$607.62 toward feeding hungry people! Thank you for your support!



## Sunday Supper Update

On October 2, we changed up the menu, bringing a Chicken-and-Biscuits dinner to the community who find a hot dinner every Sunday evening at First Church of the Covenant. Thanks to Janet Heubel, Diane Bestvina, and all the sous-chefs, donors, and servers for providing a nourishing meal to 94 guests and additional volunteers. Nolan and Brennan Durst brought their energy and enthusiasm as first-time servers! We welcome volunteers for St. John's next catering event in coming months.

# WHAT'S COMING UP?

## Christmas Gifts for Bethesda

Yes, Thanksgiving comes first, but early December is the time that Bethesda Lutheran Services in Meadville collects gifts to brighten Christmas for their residents and students. We anticipate receiving wish lists in mid-November. When the wish lists arrive, we'll invite the congregation to sign up to support this ministry of the Outreach Committee (formerly known as Social Ministry Committee). There are at least three options for giving: 1) shop for an individual, 2) shop for items on the Bethesda general wish list, or 3) donate funds to be used as needed. Stay tuned for more news!

## WQLN "Chronicles" Producers Visit St. John's

Have you been watching WQLN's half-hour history show "Chronicles"? The show opens chapters in Erie area history, interviewing local people and displaying photos from the past. Two producers toured St. John's early in October, planning to include our church among others in an episode scheduled for December. They want to examine our church's place in the community in the past, and how we operate in the new digital age. They may bring their camera to a worship service, and their scanner to collect images from our Archives. With our history stretching back to 1808, we have stories to share!

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO BE MYLE  
the table Young Adult Gathering

## Save the Date!

July 16-20, 2024

Watch upcoming issues of Parish Post for more information, or go to [elca.org](http://elca.org) and click on Youth Gathering.

## November 2022 St. John's Lutheran Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Fri.	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 6PM Theo Pub (online) 8PM Confirmation Class (online)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5PM WORSHIP
<b>6</b> 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 5PM WORSHIP	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6PM Theo Pub (online)  Election Day	<b>9</b> 7PM CONG. COUNCIL	<b>10</b> 11:30AM WELCA	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5PM WORSHIP
<b>13</b> 10AM WORSHIP 12PM Brew Crew 5PM WORSHIP	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6PM Theo Pub (online) 7:00PM Duf- ford Terrace Board 8PM Confirmation Class (online)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5PM WORSHIP
<b>20</b> 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 5PM WORSHIP	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6PM Theo Pub (online)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Office Closed	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5PM WORSHIP
<b>27</b> 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 12PM Worship/ Ministry Meeting 5PM WORSHIP	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6PM Theo Pub (online)	<b>30</b>			

### St. John's Lutheran Church

2216 Peach St., Erie PA 16502

(814) 456-7596 [www.StJohnsErie.org](http://www.StJohnsErie.org)

"You Belong Here!"