



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

"You belong here."

The Parish Post

Monthly Newsletter

St. John's Lutheran Church

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

Christmas Eve

CANDELIGHT SERVICE

DECEMBER 24TH

4PM BLENDED

7PM TRADITIONAL

11PM ACOUSTIC

2216 PEACH STREET IN ERIE

#youbelonghere
@stjohnserie

#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.

St. John's to Appear in WQLN's Chronicles Series

The producers of WQLN's new Chronicles series featuring Erie history will include St. John's in an episode entitled "Houses of Faith: Beyond the Brickwork." The production team has toured our church, filmed a worship service on November 27th, recorded bell choir and organ music, and conducted interviews. Footage of St. John's will appear woven in with scenes and statements from other Erie houses of worship. Quoted from the December 2022 program guide, WQLN Q'd In, the episode tells "The role of some of Erie's churches, the role that faith played in shaping Erie, and the role religion plays in its future." The episode is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, at 8:00 pm, and Sunday, December 18, at 11:00 pm.

Celebrating the Holidays with Project Dignity

Throughout the year, the Project Dignity crew opens the doors to those in need in our nearby community on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We distribute food from Second

Harvest Food Bank and personal care items supported by the Magenau Fund and contributions from St. John's congregation. When special days approach, our clients often receive an appropriate treat bag. Through the generosity of Citizens Bank our food clients took home boxes filled with the makings of a Thanksgiving dinner. Project Dignity will host an event with our clients in mid-December to mark the holiday season. Following the guidelines of the Second Harvest Food Bank, we do not build religious requirements or observations into any of our activities. We celebrate the season with decorations, food, music, a free auction and friendship in a gathering that for some is their only Holiday Event!



Christmas Party



Promising Futures

Gifts for Bethesda Children and Youth

Ornaments on the tree in the lobby give the first name and the Christmas wishes of the young people served by Bethesda Lutheran Services. It's wonderful to see the generosity of our members in signing up to fill the wish lists—only a few of the twenty total ornaments remained on the tree on the first Sunday of Advent! Darlene Smith deserves our gratitude once again for being our ambassador to Bethesda, and for creating eye-catching ornaments! As a reminder, please leave purchases unwrapped, possibly in a decorative gift bag, and attach the ornament to identify the recipient. Return the gifts to the office by Sunday, December 11 so that they can be delivered to Bethesda before Christmas celebrations there. Bethesda can use cash and additional gifts not specified for any person to help meet the ongoing needs of the young people and families in their care.

Save the Date!

Please mark your calendars for a luncheon in the Parish Center on Sunday, December 18, after the 10 AM worship service. Details to follow!



St. John's Lutheran Church Christmas Poinsettia Garden

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus this Christmas season, often we remember our loved ones with beautiful poinsettias. You're invited to contribute in honor, memory, or celebration of special individuals or events

After the poinsettia plants have decorated our Sanctuary , the plants will be delivered to Church members and friends that are homebound, hospitalized, or live in Assisted Living Facilities, so they can enjoy them also!

Given by _____

Address _____ **Phone #** _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

Amount Enclosed Check # _____ Cash \$ _____

(suggested donation is \$10 per poinsettia plant)

Please place this order form in an envelope with either cash or a check and return it to the church office by Noon on Thursday, December 8th, 2022.

Your order form may also be placed in the offering plate in an envelope marked "POINSETTIA GARDEN".

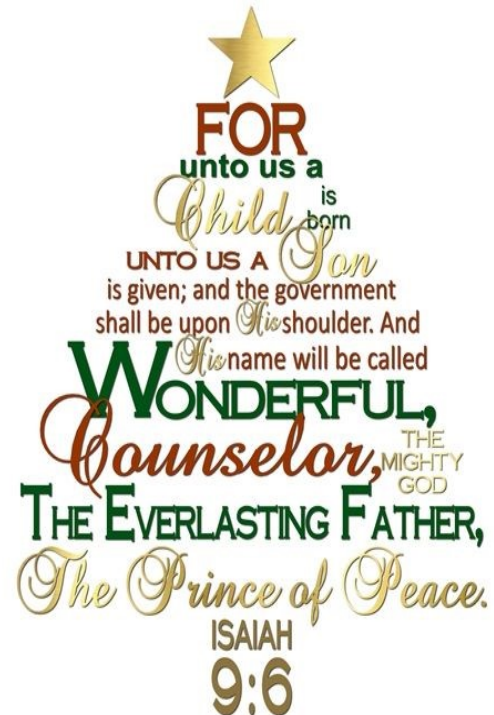
Thank you for completing this order form legibly.

_____ I would like to help with the ministry of delivering poinsettia plants!



Musicians needed:

St. John's Music Department is 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.**



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 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.

Check in for WORSHIP >



Upcoming Lutherlyn Events & Retreats

Throughout the year Lutherlyn hosts a wide variety of both day and overnight programs. There are retreats and events for kids, youth, adults, and families.

Please use the calendar of events listed below to learn more about each of our many retreats/events. As online registration becomes available, links will be added to the listing below.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to give us a call at 724-865-2161.

January 2023

10-15 - Quilting/Crafting Retreat: Come and join us for a fun-filled week/weekend of quilting/crafting/reading/relaxing/creating. It's a great time of fun and fellowship that's very popular with quilters, scrapbookers, and other crafters. (Registration Required)

20-22 - Winter Retreat: for 4th-12th graders (campers will be divided by age groups and stay in cabin with cabin leaders from the summer staff). GAGA ball in the snow, Bible study, the bouldering room, songs, worship, friends, indoor and outdoor games, lots of your summer camp favorites, and fun in the wonderful winter weather! (Registration Required)

February 2023

1 - REGISTRATION OPENS FOR SUMMER CAMP

4 - Saturday Safari: Saturday Safaris are a great way to spend a Saturday! They are designed for families and small groups. Dress to be outside. (Registration Required)

17-19 - Fathers & Sons Retreat: A weekend just for the boys! Our traditional Fathers and Sons favorites (Trail of Five Fires Worship, GAGA Challenge, Junkyard Wars, and Blessing Service) now has a winter twist! It will be a weekend of fun, faith, and relationship building.

24-26 - Grown-Up Winter Retreat: A fun weekend at camp just for grown-ups. Campfire, tree tapping and maple sugaring, Agape Feast/Worship, games and conversation by a fire, crafts, and lots of camp fun just for adults. Must be 21 or older. Registration required.

March 2023

4 - Maple Sugaring Saturday Safari: This Saturday Safari features winter tree identification, tapping a maple tree, collecting sap, and observing the evaporation process. (Registration Required)

14-19 - Quilting/Crafting Retreat: Come and join us for a fun-filled week/weekend of quilting/crafting/reading/relaxing/creating. It's a great time of fun and fellowship that's very popular with quilters, scrapbookers, and other crafters. (Registration Required)

18 - Intro to Blacksmithing Class: Learn the art of Blacksmithing in the Woodland Forge at Lutherlyn. All materials are supplied and classes are taught by master blacksmith, Flavius Brinsfield. (Registration Required)



Downtown D'Lights Come see Santa Claus light up Perry Square and the Downtown Holiday Tree with incredible professional lighting. Enjoy entertainment and refreshments in Perry Square throughout the evening!

This FREE Holiday event starts at 5:00 PM with holiday music, the Holiday Village Shops in West Perry Square, and a live-cut tree and wreath sale by Mason Farms in East Perry Square!

Santa and Mayor Joe Schember will arrive via horse-drawn carriage at 6:00 PM and help light up the park on stage! After that, Santa will be available to meet with kids during the Santa Experience in Perry Square!

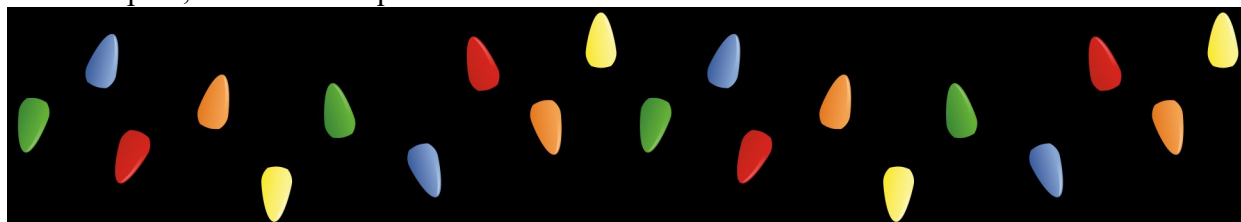
Presque Isle Lights Beginning December 1st and continuing through December 31st, experience a self-guided evening driving tour of seasonal lights throughout Presque Isle State Park from the comfort and safety of your vehicle. Visitors will follow the park's full 13-mile loop road encountering a variety of holiday lights and displays coupled with the natural beauty offered by Presque Isle after dark. Decorated areas include the Presque Isle Lighthouse, Perry Monument, Stull Interpretive Center, beach 8 and more.

Hours of operation: 6-9pm

Admission fee: FREE, donations appreciated

Winter Wonderland at Asbury Woods December 1 through 31, 2022 (Not Christmas Eve or Christmas Day) Our extended version of Winter Wonderland is back! The boardwalk adjacent to the Andrew J. Conner Nature Center at Asbury Woods will be lit up each night in December (except December 24 and 25) from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. for the community to enjoy a peaceful evening stroll on the boardwalk through the woods. Holiday lights will twinkle in the woods and wetlands along the boardwalk which covers 1/3 of a mile. Stop inside the Nature Center and view our animal exhibit and browse holiday items for sale in our expanded gift shop with products from local artisans.

The lighted boardwalk and Nature Center will be free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted, but are not required.



Port Farms Christmas Tree Farm & Holiday Attraction

Whether you're searching for the perfect Christmas tree or a place to experience a horse-drawn sleigh or carriage ride, you need to visit Port Farms. We also have oodles of festive children's activities, are serving up delectable cocktails for our 21+ guests, and are a weekend stop for Santa Claus & live music! Meet with Santa every weekend from 12PM – 3PM (no cost) and enjoy live music from 1PM – 4PM. New this year, have drinks with The Grinch on December 3rd & 4th, from 1PM – 4PM!

November 25th – December 23rd
Wednesday – Sunday: 9AM – 5PM
Santa's Workshop: WEEKENDS ONLY

Victorian Holidays

Hagen History Center's annual Victorian Holidays returns December 1st-4th. The entire museum campus will be open FREE of charge. Come see the beautifully decorated Watson-Curtze Mansion. Be sure to visit the Carriage House Gift Shop for unique and inspiring gifts for your loved ones!

Victorian Holiday Hours:

Thursday December 1st 10AM-5PM

Friday December 2nd 10AM-8PM (5PM-8PM Mansion only)

Saturday December 3rd 10AM-5PM

Sunday December 4th noon-5PM

Special Entertainment:

Friday-

5PM-8PM pop-up gift shop

5PM-8PM take a winter stroll guided by luminaries to the Women's Club of Erie for Christmas in the Mansion

6PM Northcoast Brass Alliance

Saturday-

1PM-2PM Mercyhurst Prep Show Choir

Sunday-

1PM Vocal Students performing holiday songs

Christmas at the Station

Christmas at the Station will return to the Lake Shore Railway Museum (North East, PA) in 2022! Come join us for 2 days of fun!

Speeder car rides start at noon and continue through 3:30pm!

Warm up in our dining car and grab a bite to eat!

Visit inside the station where we will have local craft vendors!

Christmas at the Station will be on December 3rd and 4th. We will be open from noon until 4pm both days. We hope to see you there!

December 2022 St. John's Lutheran Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Fri.	Saturday
				1	2	3 5PM WORSHIP
4 10AM WORSHIP 5PM WORSHIP	5	6 6PM Theo Pub (online) 8PM Confir- mation Class (online)	7	8 11:30AM WELCA	9	10 5PM WORSHIP
11 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 12PM Brew Crew 5PM WORSHIP	12	13 6PM Theo Pub (online) 5:30PM DUF- FORD/ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER	14 7PM CONG. COUNCIL 10AM Project Dignity Holi- day Event	15	16	17 5PM WORSHIP
18 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 5PM WORSHIP	19	20 6PM Theo Pub (online) 7:00PM Duf- ford Terrace Board	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 4PM Blended 7PM Traditional 11PM Acoustic
25 10AM WORSHIP	26	27 6PM Theo Pub (online)	28	29	30	31 5PM WORSHIP

St. John's Lutheran Church

2216 Peach St., Erie PA 16502

(814) 456-7596 www.StJohnsErie.org

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