

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • www.ourladyofmercychurch.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Day of Obligation: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Brandon Vogt, *Director of Liturgy & Music*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

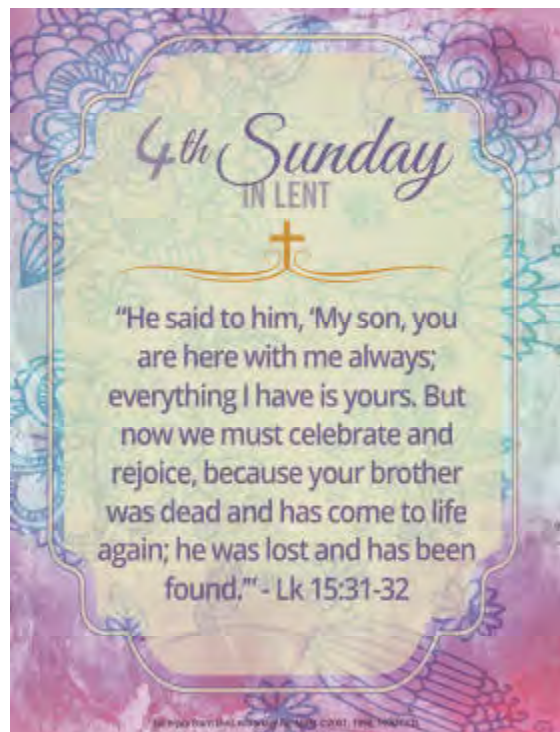
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

March 31, 2019



MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a Eucharistic, Catholic Christian Community of Communities formed by the Word of God and the teachings of the Church.
We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live the values of Jesus Christ in a prayerful, welcoming and nurturing environment.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit
ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Mon. 04/01	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Young Adult Faith Group Pastoral Facilitator
Tue. 04/02	9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC Legion of Mary Prayer Shawl Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6 Children's Choir Sister Parish Committee Pastoral Council Meeting AA Meeting
Wed. 04/03	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 04/04	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	Lenten Pastus Painting Class Potter's Clay SCC Prayer Shawl Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 04/05	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 04/06	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	Blood Drive AA Meeting Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/07		<u>Fifth Sunday of Lent</u> Casserole Club Drop Off Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 a.m. Healing Ministry 9:30 a.m. Pancakes for Fr. Pete 9:30 a.m. Religious Ed. Gr. K-2 12:00 p.m. Religious Ed. Gr. 7 & 8 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation At St. Mark

PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Call **Donna Smicker** at 899-9108
 4:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
 Call **Gerri Extein** at 899-6875



The **Hospital Visitor** for the week is **Marilyn Garwig**.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 04/01	8:30 a.m.	Pearl Brooks
Tue. 04/02	8:30 a.m.	Frank Simelli
Wed. 04/03	8:30 a.m.	David Ross (Family)
	5:30 p.m.	
Thur. 04/04	8:30 a.m.	Jeanne Costa (Janet Smith)
Fri. 04/05	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 04/06	8:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 04/07	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Frank Gerlach (Dan & Dawn Schaaf) Mabel Holodnak (Mary Ann & Daniel Tempestini)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/01	Is 65:17-21	/ John 4:43-54
Tue. 04/02	Ez 47:1-9, 12	/ John 5:1-16
Wed. 04/03	Is 49:8-15	/ John 5:17-30
Thur. 04/04	Ex 32:7-14	/ John 5:31-47
Fri. 04/05	Wis 2:1, 12-22	/ John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Sat. 04/06	Jer 11:18-20	/ John 7:40-53
Sun. 04/07	Is 43:16-21 / Phil 3:8-14 / John 8:1-11	

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **March 24, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392
Envelopes returned:	119 \$3,664.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113 \$2,941.00
Loose Change:	\$ 184.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:	\$6,789.00

QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of March 18 was **J.T. Parente, Gr. 4**, who knew that St. Paul wrote most of the Epistles in the New Testament.



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



LUKE: 15:1-3, 11-32

Our need to reflect on our spiritual growth isn't a onetime occurrence but a lifetime pursuit. Gathered with the assembly, we are asked again to scrutinize our lives with the Elect. Through baptism, we have died to our former way of life and have risen with Christ to become a "new creation." Paul says that because God has reconciled us through Christ, we are given a "ministry of reconciliation" and must offer God's mercy and forgiveness to others.

Jesus tells us a story of the "prodigal son" that speaks of the extraordinary gift of reconciliation. Some call it the parable of the "merciful father." It could also be called the parable of the "unscrupulous and self-righteous sons." In the story, the younger of two sons demands his inheritance and proceeds to squander it all. When his eyes are opened to his dissolute way of life, he decides he is not worthy to be his father's son and can only be regarded as a hired hand. The elder son is angry when his father welcomes his wayward brother back home. He complains that he has been a "slave" for his father all his life and was never rewarded for his good work. Both attitudes are wrong. We cannot lose God's love nor earn it. All who repent and accept God's mercy are sons and daughters of God. With the psalmist we pray, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

For reflection: Which son am I in the parable? Am I willing to forgive and be forgiven?

Pancakes for Fr. Pete—April 7

The Annual Pancakes for Fr. Pete breakfast will be held on **Sunday, April 7 from 9:30 to 11:30**. The cost is still \$5.00 per person or a family of 4 or more for \$20.00. In addition to a fabulous breakfast, there will also be a basket raffle and 50/50. We are currently looking for donations for our basket raffle. All proceeds from this event benefit the Maria House Projects. If you have any questions or are able to donate to our basket raffle, please contact **Tom Pearson at 450-7338**.



Vacation Bible School



Efforts are underway to bring back Vacation Bible School to OLM. If you are interested in being a part of this project, join us at **5:30 on Tuesday, April 9** or call **Irene at 899-6132** to share your ideas.

For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the May issue of For Mercy Sake is **Sunday, April 14**. Send submissions to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



OLM Book Group

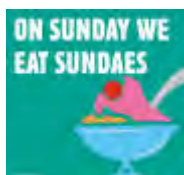


OLM Book Group: Our April title will be The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See. Join us at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd at **7:00 PM on April 24** (a week later than usual because of Holy Week) for great conversation over a glass of wine. For

those who want to read ahead, our May title will be Plainsong by Kent Haruf.

Sundae Sunday

Mark your calendar for our third annual Sundae **Sunday, April 28 at noon** in Sperry Hall. With a make-your-own-sundae bar, a cake walk and lots of fun, we will celebrate the end of another year of religious classes and the joy of Easter. This is for the entire parish, not specifically for religious education families.



Ministries



Ministries

Did you know there are 57 ministries in the parish? There is something for everyone whatever your gifts. Do you have an interest in ongoing spiritual education? Then perhaps the

AGIFT committee would be a good match (Adults Growing In Faith Together). Do you like planning ways to reach out to and engage young adults and families to help them become more involved, connecting with the parish community and their faith? Then perhaps the Lifelong Faith Formation Committee would be a good place to express creative ideas. Check out the information about these ministries on the Ministry brochure rack.



Stations of the Cross

The parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy are invited to join the following groups as we pray the Stations of the Cross on **Fridays at 7 p.m.** throughout the season of Lent:

April	5	Youth
	12	Legion of Mary
	19	Outdoor Stations of the Cross @ 1 p.m.

Lenten Pastus

Our third Lenten Pastus evening will be **Wednesday, April 3, with 5:30 Mass, 6:10 Soup Supper and 7:00 Presentation**. Our series will conclude with Sr. Anne McCarthy, OSB. In Laudato Si!: Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in embarking on a new path. The crisis demands that we reevaluate and shift our attitudes, beliefs and behaviors. A fresh look at ancient Christian wisdom offers insights for deep transformation and for living a new relationship with the planet as individuals and communities. Anne McCarthy, OSB, member of Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie, PA, coordinates Benedictines for Peace in Erie and is on staff with Benetvision and Monasteries of the Heart. She and holds a MA in Theology from St. John's University, Colledgeville with a concentration in monastic studies.

Lenten Penance Service

Lent is a beautiful season to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will gather as a local faith community on the following days:

Sunday, April 7
3:00 p.m. at St. Mark
Tuesday, April 9
7:00 p.m. at St James in Wesleyville
Wednesday, April 10
7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy

Pilgrimage Through The Symbols of Holy Week

Join us **Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 PM** for a pilgrimage through the sights and rituals of the Holy Triduum liturgies. This is a powerful and unique experience that invites the participants into a deeper appreciation of the meaning behind what we do during these most sacred days. Bring a wine glass. Wear comfortable shoes. Gather in Classroom #1.

Welcoming Guests for Holy Week and Easter

Please be mindful of people attending services and Easter Masses here who may not worship with us regularly. They could be returning home for a visit or trying out this community to see if they want to join. Please make these people feel welcome and be attentive to their needs. We have extra hearing assisted devices in the sacristy. We have the nursery in classroom area down the hallway near the front doors. If a new face is sitting near you please introduce yourself.

April Birthdays

April 4	Eileen Drotar	2
April 4	Maria Allegretto	10
April 6	Ava Still	2
April 11	Mariska Habursky	12
April 11	Griffin Tylman	5
April 11	Gweneviere Wilczynski	4
April 15	Kathryn Gilchrist	16
April 15	Samantha Bryan	11
April 17	Alex Lunger	13
April 18	Alexandra Bryan	7
April 18	Addison Tylman	8
April 19	Charlotte Dalton	17
April 19	Bernadette Berdis	17
April 21	Braeden Knepper	9
April 22	Isla Duda	1
April 22	Joseph Gabler	17
April 22	Lydia Hordych	2
April 29	Harrison DeVore	18
April 30	Hannah Smith	13



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



What does the Pastoral Council do?

The primary purpose of the Pastoral Council is the continued spiritual growth of the parish community. The Pastoral Council engages in the process of pastoral planning and helps to set the direction of the parish community in prayer, leadership, service and pastoral action in consultation with the Pastor and staff. After prayer and study of the areas of parish life the council identifies for improvement. The council prioritizes the list and forms two or three goals to be accomplished over a five-year period. E.g. Last year's Goal was to "Create a Culture in the Parish that helps people take message out to others/ community."

Please nominate yourself or someone else for the council. See the display in the gathering space.



Young Adult Small Faith Group

The Young Adult Small Faith Group will meet tomorrow, **Monday April 1st at 6pm** in the Parlor. If you are 21-39ish years old and are interested in fellowship with other young adults of the Parish please join us! We will be learning about different religions and religious practices throughout the world, while promoting Religious acceptance between all of God's people. Please contact Katie in the parish office for more information.

Dresses for Missions Baby Boxes



The birthing center is not fully open in our mission in Haiti. Our contact person, Dorothy, has found a company to manufacture baby boxes, which are beds for the newborn babies. They are filled with receiving blankets, onesies, socks, hats, diapers, etc.; and given to the mothers as a gift for taking classes. The babies then do not have to be born and placed on the ground. I am collecting the blankets, onesies, hats, socks or booties to help fill the boxes. Please bring donated items to the parish office. If you have any questions or comments, call **Carole Peters at 899-4470** and leave a message with your name and phone number. Thank you and God Bless you for your support and prayers.

Lenten Fish and Pierogi Dinner

St. Stanislaus Parish, is hosting their Annual Lenten Fish and Pierogi Dinner on **Friday April 5**, in the Parish Hall, serving from **4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** Cost: adults - \$10.00; children (6-12) - \$5.00; children 5 and under - free. Take out dinners are \$10.25. Come enjoy a delicious home cooked dinner with your family and friends.



Our Mother of Sorrows Parish Walnut, Poppy Seed, and Apricot Roll Sale

Pre-order by calling **Michael Kuzma (814)969-0497**, pastries are freshly baked the night before and will be ready for pickup Palm Sunday, April 14th at Holy Family School 1153 E. 9th Street. Rolls are \$10 each.



April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9:30 AM Rel. Ed Gr. K-2 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event 5:00 PM Gr. 11 Candidate/Sponsor Evening of Reflection	1 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Young Adult Group Mtg. 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator	2 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Sister Parish Mtg. 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	3 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 5:30 PM Lenten Pastus	4 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:30 AM Families In Faith Formation 9:30 AM Potter's Clay 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	6 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Blood Drive 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
7 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Pancakes for Fr Pete 9:30 AM Rel. Ed Gr. K-2 12:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7 & 8 3:00 PM Confessions at St. Mark	8 8:30 AM Mass 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine 7:00 PM Isalah	9 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Potter's Clay 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM VBS Planning 7:00 PM Women's Reflection - Stations of the Cross 7:30 PM AA	10 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus 7:00 PM Lenten Penance Service	11 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	13 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
14 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS PALM SUNDAY 9:30 AM Rel. Ed Gr. K-2 12:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7 & 8	15 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Seder Meal 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	16 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 6:15 PM Music Rehearsal 7:00 PM Core Team Mtg. - Canceled 7:30 PM AA	17 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Pilgrimage Through the Symbols of Holy Week	18 HOLY THURSDAY 9:00 AM Painting Class 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper 9:00 PM Night Prayer	19 GOOD FRIDAY Parish Office Closed 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 1:00 PM Outdoor Stations of the Cross 3:00 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	20 HOLY SATURDAY 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM AA 11:30 AM Blessing of Food 9:00 PM The Great Easter Vigil
21 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 AM Easter Mass 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 11:00 AM Easter Mass	22 Parish Office Closed 8:30 AM Mass 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine	23 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Potter's Clay 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Creation Care Team 7:30 PM AA	24 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	25 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 3:00 PM Social Justice Committee 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	26 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Young Adult Eucharistic Adoration	27 8:30 AM Mass 8:45 AM First Eucharist Retreat 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
28 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Rel. Ed Gr. K-2 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event 12:00 PM Sundaes Sunday	29 8:30 AM Mass	30 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Youth Open Gym 7:30 PM AA	1 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 6:00 PM Prayer & Potluck	2 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 4:30 PM Mens Night Out 5:30 PM Cursillo 1,2,3 Reunion 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 8:30 AM Mass	4 First Eucharist (all Masses) 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM First Eucharist practice 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS

LYNCH
Home Medical Supply
TIMOTHY P. LYNCH
Parishioner, Owner, Certified Orthotic Fitter
Lift Chairs & Scooters • Wound Care • Walkers
Wheelchairs • Commodes & Much More
4020 Main St. • Lawrence Park
899-3636
www.lynmhmedical.com

Star's GARDEN CENTER
Where There's Always Something GROWING on!
Jim Skarzenski & Bob Rocky - Parishioners
East: 5001 Buffalo Road, Erie, PA 16510, 899.5424
West: 5341 West Lake Road, Erie, PA 16505, 835.6960

HEISE REBUILDING
Starters • Alternators • Electrical
Rewiring • Mechanical Repairs
PA Inspections
899-8186
1291 Walbridge Rd. • Erie, PA 16511
heiserebuilding.com
~ Parishioner ~

MELISSA A. BOOZEL
WWW.MELISSABTAX.COM
- Mobile Services
- Signing Agent
- Evening & Weekend Appointments
6484 Buffalo Road Harborcreek
814-464-4111

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA REGIONAL COLLEGE
An Open Enrollment College: Requires a H.S. Diploma/GED
Started College but never finished? \$185/credit hr - Adult
Want to advance your career? \$60/credit hr - Eligible H.S.
Thinking of trying college? Juniors/Seniors
College student home for summer?
www.regionalcollegepa.org
814-230-9010 admissions@rrcnpa.org

PRICHARD CHIROPRACTIC OFFICES
6095 Buffalo Road Harborcreek, PA
899-1966
DR. LOREN J. PRICHARD
DR. SCOTT V. PRICHARD

William D. Elkin Funeral Home
65 South Lake St. • North East
725-4511
Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.
William D. Elkin, F.D.
Pre-Arrangements Available

FIDDLE INN
HARBORCREEK, PA
"Home of the EVERYTHINGS"
6615 Buffalo Road
814-899-9005
www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn

Widget Financial
widgetfinancial.com

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/PA

UPGRADE TO A VIBRANT ad
Contact us for details • 800-477-4574

DUSCKAS - TAYLOR FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
5151 BUFFALO RD. ERIE, PA 16510
ROBERT D. TAYLOR, SUPERVISOR
814-315-0911
WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM

OLLINGER PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Residential • Commercial
Quality Installations & Service
899-2809

Foster's Rose of Sharon Floral & Gift Shop
Savings of Up To 25% On Any Silk Items
2703 Buffalo Rd • 814-899-5071

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
Contact **Tim Weir** to place an ad today!
tweir@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6568

JDL COMPUTERS
"Your Computer Professional"
NEW SYSTEMS USED • REPAIRS
"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"
898-8300
Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners
JDLCOMPUTERS.COM

ICHIBAN ALL YOU CAN EAT
ORDER TO MAKE BUFFET
SUSHI & ASIAN CUISINE
4041 Buffalo Rd, Erie • 814-616-6352

Check Out Our Daily Specials online at:
ichibanichiban.com

Nicholas L. Heise Carpentry
 Interior/Exterior: Rough & Finish
 Furniture Restoration
 Windows & Doors
 Remodeling
 Decks
 Tile
814-392-6517
www.nicholasheisecarpentry.com

BOWERS FUNERAL HOME
92 SOUTH LAKE STREET NORTH EAST, PA 16428
725-4505
www.bowersfuneralhome.com

Brevillier Village
Ball Pavilion Short Term Rehab Long Term Nursing Care
Barnabas Court Licensed Personal Care, Residency & Independent Living.
5416 East Lake Road Erie, PA 16511
814-899-8600
www.brevillier.org

Melissa Boozel Business & Notary Services
Accounting, Payroll Tax Preparation & Notary
www.melissabtax.com
6484 Buffalo Road Harborcreek, PA
814-897-8755

Valley Beer Company
Michael Hamman & Amber Belson
10655 West Main St • North East
814-725-4644