



St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church is a community of people united to God and to each other by faith in Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the love of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Love of witness, proclamation, nurture, service, and outreach at home and abroad will occur through faithful use of the scriptures, the sacraments, and prayer. We are motivated by our gratitude to God for his abundant gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Knowing
- Pastor's News
- Committee Minutes
- Financial Report
- Church News
- Youth and Family
- Preschool News

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KNOWING MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Normally at church we talk about the importance of believing, the root of faith. But today I want to discuss the importance of knowing. A few weeks ago I met with the Bloomer Clergy Association and our guest speaker was Karen White, the volunteer services coordinator for the hospital here in Bloomer. We spoke to her about the process in which clergy are notified when our members are hospitalized and we were definitely enlightened!

We are fortunate to have a great chaplain at the hospital and whenever she meets a new patient in the hospital, she will ask about a religious affiliation and whether or not the pastor knows about the patient's hospital status. The chaplain then is willing to contact the pastor of the church if the patient agrees. Without this permission, the chaplain is unable to make contact due to privacy issues.

I have made several visits to several different hospitals since my arrival and I am thankful to be invited. But I am dependent on knowing who is in which hospital, so that is where I need your help! If you are hospitalized, please make sure I know. If nothing else, I can add you to my private prayer list unless you are willing to be added to our public prayer list. As many of you know, I do my best to keep the congregation updated on our public prayer concerns at each worship service – not as a means of gossip – but as a vehicle for prayer.

So if you have anything going on, please don't forget to let us know. I can be reached at home, church, or my cell. Even if you don't want a visit from me, I can still pray for you. But also know that I normally bring communion if you do elect to have a visit and that's certainly not going to hurt anything!

Your privacy matters to me, which is why I will ask on my visits what information is public. But if you are willing to make things known to our church family, you will be blessed through the prayerful support that this church brings to the table. But as I mentioned before, it all starts with knowing!

Pastor Martin

Office number: 715-568-5446

Like us on Facebook! St. John's Lutheran Church - Bloomer, WI

St. John's Website: www.Stjohns-bloomer.org

Pastor's News

NEW MEMBER CLASSES OFFERED

St. John's will publicly welcome all new members on Sunday, April 26 during the worship service. All families and individuals who have joined St. John's since November are invited to come forward and be recognized as our newest brothers and sisters in Christ.

You are also invited to participate in new member classes, which will be held after church on April 12 and 19. These classes are not a requirement for membership, but a great opportunity to learn more about the Lutheran church and St. John's in particular. It is also a great chance to meet others and to start building those relationships.

Current members are certainly invited to these sessions as well. If you would like to learn a bit more about the history and future of St. John's, we'd love to have your questions and experiences too!

Please contact Pastor Martin if you are likely to attend these sessions. Refreshments will be offered at these classes as well!

PARENTS NITE OUT

Our final parents nite out for the school year is scheduled for Saturday, April 11. If you have children who are in elementary school or younger, give it a try and see if you like this great opportunity for young families to bond and deepen relationships! For just \$5/child, you will get them fed along with a night filled with fun activities with our quality childcare. In the meantime, you can enjoy some quality adult time knowing that your children are being taken care of! This event will begin at 5 pm and usually lasts until 7:30 or 8 pm. Let Pastor Martin know if you'd like to participate the week before.



WALKING TOGETHER

At this year's annual synod assembly, the precursor to the event is called *Walking Together*, which features several different workshops by congregations for congregations. Anyone can attend Walking Together and benefit from these workshops that can make a difference in our church life together. The cost is \$15/person who attends (18 and younger are free!) if registered by May 22 or \$25 at the door. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 30 at UWEC from 9-4 (registration opens at 7 am).

To give you an idea of the kinds of workshops available, I will be leading a workshop on midweek worship and faith formation. I will also be leading a workshop on stewardship with young people. Melinda will be leading a workshop on how to incorporate children in worship. There are 5 workshop opportunities for us to attend (along with worship and lunch), but likely dozens of workshop selections! Please contact the office if you'd like to be a part of this unique synod gathering and help us look at new ways to do our ministry around here!



Bible Basics



March 1

Jesus informs his disciples that “the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.” How many times will Jesus repeat this warning that is called the passion prediction?

- A. No more times
- B. Once more
- C. Twice more
- D. Three more times

March 8

The Old Testament Lesson today is the original 10 Commandments as found in Exodus 20. All Christian denominations ascribe to the same 10 Commandments.

- A. True
- B. False

In Luther’s small catechism, there is no commandment that refers to graven images, yet 2 commandments (9 & 10) that talk about coveting. Another set of commandments adds a second commandment that reads, “You shall have no graven images” and condenses the coveting commandments into one!

March 15

In Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, he mentions both grace and mercy in our New Testament passage. Grace is mentioned in the Old Testament but 4 times in the NRSV, while mercy is mentioned 77 times! In the New Testament letters, grace is mentioned 104 times, while mercy is mentioned only 33 times. Which word is emphasized more in the Gospels?

- A. Grace
- B. Mercy

Mercy is mentioned 24 times in Matthew-Luke (none in John) while grace is mentioned just 4 times (all in John)!

March 22

Next week is the beginning of Holy Week. Which of the 4 gospels devotes the highest percentage of its story to Holy Week (Palm Sunday – Easter)?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Matthew – 7.5 chapters out of 28 (26.8%); Mark – 6 chapters out of 16 (37.5%); Luke – 5.5 chapters out of 24 (22.9%); John – 8 chapters out of 21 (38.1%)

Council Meeting March 10, 2015

Meeting called to order: by President Rod Johnson at 6:30 p.m.

Opening devotion and prayer: given by Lynette Pank

Approval of agenda: Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster, seconded by Pat Boettcher to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Lynette Pank, seconded by Ellyn Hudacek to approve the minutes of the February 3rd meeting. Motion carried.

Council member concerns: There is a calendar on the desk in the office, make sure and put any meeting on the calendar.

Congregational concerns: More upbeat tempo to the music on the hymns, bathroom remodeling - concerned that we are doing all the bathrooms; we are just remodeling the two bathrooms by the dining room

Committee reports:

- . **Discipleship** – hoping to have the new member booklet ready for next month
- . **Fellowship** – Library needs to be included under fellowship. Book club met and was well attended. Bingo day will be on 3/15, 30 people have signed up; there will be prizes, cookies/bars, coffee. There will be Easter breakfast
- . **Property:** The committee met with Jim Bresina and they went through the bathrooms and he gave them a list of what he thought should be done, they have no bids yet, broken window – Dennis will take care of it
- . **Social Ministry:** doing the Basket of Promise
- . **Worship/Music:** None
- . **Youth/Family: Lock-in;** 13 attended, pizza & bowling – successful, **Hunger Awareness meal;** 25 fewer in attendance, **Wednesday Lenten suppers;** well attended, **Christ Jam in Rice Lake;** 1 day retreat on March 14 Middle School students, **Youth Encounter – WI Dells;** currently 5 boys have signed up, **Confirmation Retreat;** conflicts with Middle School 8th grade play- Pastor Martin will contact play coordinators for options, **summer camp;** July 19-24, **National Youth Gathering in Detroit;** no students have signed up, **Maundy Thursday – 1st Communion;** for 10 students, **Parents Night Out;** will be March 21st at the Halom resident for game night, Marla is requesting a youth bake sale for March 29 – a motion was made by Ellyn Hudacek, seconded by Lynette Pank to allow the youth to have a bake sale on March 29th, motion carried 5 yes – 3 no

Chair report: none

Pastor's report: Christmas Pageant & dinner; \$850.60 taken in - A motion was made by Pat Boettcher, seconded by Tom Buchner to give \$500 to the Clothes Closet and \$350.60 to the Bloomer Clergy Association Transient Fund – motion carried. **Walking Together;** March 30, 2015, **Membership update: Membership by baptism;** Emmitt Schwarzenberger, **Transfer member to Church Triumphant;** Donald Rothbauer. Motion made by Pat Boettcher and seconded by Tom Buchner to approve membership changes. Motion carried.

Council Meeting

Financial report: A motion was made by Pat Boettcher, seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- . **Dream Team/Long Range Planning:** The following are on this committee; Tom Ewings, Denise Michaelson, Martha Libersky, Jill Gengler, Tyler Seibel and Pastor Martin – There will be a congregation bonfire/get together on June 14th at the North Park by the Dream Team
- . Staff Benefit policy: the committee is working on writing up a unified staff benefit policy
- . Sam's card – application has been made

New Business:

- . **Key policy and locks:** an estimate was presented and given to the Property Committee to review at their next their next meeting.
- . **UW Stout Campus Ministry:** Pastor Martin gave us information on this and he will bring it to the next Worship meeting, possible dates of April 12 or 19
- . **E-mail voting:** Discussion
- . **Fundraising:** Discussion

Motion was made by Alice Zinsmaster, seconded by Kathy Faschingbauer to adjourn at 8:45. Motion carried

Pastor Martin led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Janice Naset, acting Secretary

Meeting attended by Pastor Martin, Rod Johnson, Tom Buchner, Alice Zinsmaster, Pat Boettcher, Adam Ewings, Lynette Pank, Kathy Faschingbauer, Ellyn Hudacek, Janice Naset

APRIL 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29 Youth Bake Sale before and after worship 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Dream Team Meeting 10:15 AM Egg Hunt 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>30 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>31 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>1 3:30 PM Fed and Forgiven Bread Baking</p>	<p>2  MAUNDY THURSDAY No Preschool 11:30 AM Golden Ager's Dinner 1:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship 5:00 PM Fed and Forgiven Seder Meal 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>3  GOOD FRIDAY No Preschool 1:30 PM Good Friday Eccumenical Worship at UCC 7:00 PM Good Friday Worship at St. John's</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5  He is RISEN 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise Service 7:30 AM Easter Breakfast 9:00 AM Easter Worship Service</p>	<p>6 No Bible Study No Preschool</p>	<p>7 No Preschool</p>	<p>8 11:00 AM Pastor attending Bloomer Clergy Meeting 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>9 1:30 PM WELCA</p>	<p>10 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library</p>	<p>11 11:00 AM Sharon Reid Memorial Service 5:00 PM Parents Nite Out</p>
<p>12 9:00 AM Worship Service with Lutheran Campus Ministry (UW Stout) 10:15 AM Camp Registration 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>13 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Youth Committee Meeting</p>	<p>14 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>15 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 6:45 PM Camp Registration 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>16 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM Pastor's Conference Meeting</p>	<p>17 Youth Encounter 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library</p>	<p>18 Youth Encounter</p>
<p>19 Youth Encounter 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation</p>	<p>20 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>23 Preschool Field Trip</p>	<p>24 No Preschool 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:00 AM Worship and New Member Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>27 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>28 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>29 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>30 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting</p>	<p>1 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library</p>	<p>2</p>

Church News

NEEDED: Confirmation pictures from 1983 thru 1993 and 1969, 1971 and 1997 for display

We are looking for these pictures for our display in the dining hall. We can make copies or we can make them a permanent part of St. John's Confirmation picture display. We currently have pictures from late 1800's through present except for the dates listed. Any help you can give us with this project is greatly appreciated. Please contact Janice Naset 715-568-5615, Pat Prill 715-568-5802 or Shelly Lane 715-568-2094. You can also leave any picture in the office with Tracey. **Thank You!**



Palm Sunday- March 29th at 9:00 a.m.
No Wednesday Worship on April 1
Maundy Thursday – April 2nd at 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Ecumenical Good Friday (at UCC) – April 3rd at 1:30 p.m.
Good Friday (St. John's) – April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.
Sunrise Easter- April 5th at 6:30 a.m.
Easter – April 5th at 9:00 p.m.

QUILTING

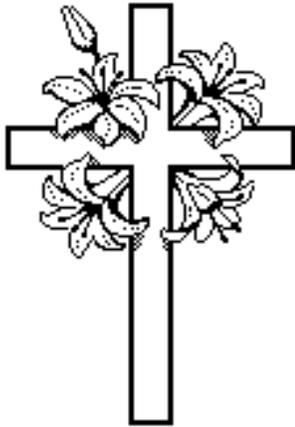
March 28, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!

Financial Report - March 2015

	2014	2015	Budget 2015
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1st	\$7,513.00	\$3,150.00	
Income –March	\$44,947.00	\$46,231.00	\$43,241.00
Expenses – March	\$45,752.00	\$47,979.00	\$43,241.00
Balance	\$6,708.00	\$1,402.00	
Loan – Security Financial Bank	\$90,420.00	\$78,750.00	

Church News



Our menu is:
Scrambled Eggs
Sausage
Rolls/Danish
Fruit
Milk, Coffee and Juice



Easter Breakfast

Please join us on Sunday, April 5, 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

Overlooked Blessings

Have you stopped to think about how much you have to be thankful for?

If you woke up this morning with more body parts that don't hurt than those that do, you are blessed. If you have food, clothes, and a place to live, you are more secure than 75 percent of the world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, or spare change at home, you are among the top 8 percent of the world's wealthiest people. If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people in the world. If you read this message, you are more blessed than two billion people in the world who cannot read.



Don't overlook any blessing-----thank God every day for His goodness in your life.

Currently, we have three funeral groups who serve lunch after funerals. We always need more people to join a funeral group. If anyone is interested, call Karen Klingenberg. (715) 237-2498



Fellowship Report:

On March 15, 2015; approximately, fifty people gathered together for a fun (rather hilarious at times) time playing bingo at St. John’s Lutheran Church. We played many variations of bingo and there were several prizes to give away. Wendy LaGesse donated a beautiful comforter that was given away as our door prize. Dan Lewis was the lucky winner of the comforter. We will be continuing to play bingo once a month throughout the winter months.

A special thanks to Lyn Panke, Wendy LaGesse, Nylah Gust, Joe Lewis, and Tom Buchner for their donations, work, and efforts to bring us closer together as a Christian family and to prove that “Lutherans can be loud in church”.

Tom Buchner
Committee Liaison



BINGO				
12	18	41	47	61
7	26	39	54	70
4	27	FREE 4785 SPACE	49	63
5	23	35	58	73
3	30	32	52	75

PARENT'S NITE OUT

Saturday, April 11

Child care provided for children up to 4th grade. Please call 715-568-5446 for more info or to sign up for a night out with adults.



APRIL LEARNING

Sunday, April 12, 19, 26
Preschool through 3rd Grade, 10:15 AM

Wednesday, April 8, 15, 22, 29

Preschool through 3rd Grade
4th & 5th Grade Bible 101

WEATHER ALERT!

Parents and youth, rule of thumb for St. John's Lutheran, when school is cancelled due to bad weather all learning events, scheduled (preschool, elementary, middle school, & Sr. high) are cancelled as well.



SUMMER CAMP AT LUTHER PARK

Programs for 5K through Sr. High, Family Camp, Grandparents/Kids and more. Brochures available at Welcome Station & counter outside Main office. Get complete camp info at www.LutherPark.org. Enjoy a great week where faith is nurtured through Holy Play. Info & Registration materials available in dining hall after worship April 12 & before worship April 15.



A Friend

Is someone who knows the song in your heart, and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words.

THANK YOU FRIENDS IN FAITH VOLUNTERS for sharing your time & faith with children & youth this year.

SPRING FLOWER SALE MAY 2015 Dates & Times To Be Announced



CELEBRATE CHILDREN SUNDAY, MAY 10

Children's voices at 9 am worship
1st grade children receive bibles

Pot luck meal for all members to enjoy.
Hot Dogs and beverage provided.

Everyone welcome.





Preschool News

With only a few weeks left of our school year, we're looking forward to warmer weather and the chance to play outdoors. Our last days of preschool will be May 14th & 15th, celebrated with potluck meals and graduation ceremonies.

We still have openings in the enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year. If interested, please call Michelle at 715-568-1060 for more information.

We'd like to thank Magdalen Olson and Nylah Gust for recently directing their Thrivent Choice Dollars to the preschool. \$211 was deposited in our account, as a result of their thoughtfulness in considering our program to receive these funds.

April 23rd will be a great day for the preschoolers, parents and staff! We'll be taking two buses to the Children's Museum of Eau Claire, for a morning of learning and fun. Each child will bring one parent or other adult, to enjoy the field trip with. Watch for photos in upcoming newsletters.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy Spring!

