



# 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.

## WHY CHURCH?

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Why Church?
- Council Minutes
- Council Update/  
Financial Report
- Women of Faith
- Youth and Family
- Preschool News

### INSIDE THIS

Worship	2
Wonderings	
Council Minutes	3
Council Updates	5
Financial	6
Women of Faith	6
Calendar	7
Youth and Family	8
St. John's Preschool	11

Have you ever thought to yourself, "Why church?" I've found myself pondering this question a lot ever since I attended our synod assembly at UW-EC. The first evening gave us an opportunity to listen to a panel of "nones" – those who would claim no religious affiliation, yet call themselves "spiritual". This is a growing trend in America as denominational loyalty decreases, yet the "nones" population continues to increase (more than 20% for the first time). After listening to the panel, I felt compelled to keep asking the question, "Why church?" because the panel of "nones" did and now answer the question differently than I do. They answered the question and have found that church is not important in their spirituality because they still pray at home, practice devotions at home, and perhaps listen to Christian music at home.

So what value is there to church? Are we foolish to spend our Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings by going to church when we can pray, read, and listen at home? Or is there something more that the nones are missing? My hope is the latter.

Enter the importance of relationships, special relationships. Relationships that have Christ at the foundation. There is an importance to those faith-based relationships because those are the people we can turn to when life nails us between the eyes. I recently spoke with a friend who endured several months of chaos in his life and I asked him how he got through it. I wasn't surprised – it was church. Not worship, but church. It was his family of faith that he could turn to when he needed that extra boost because he was depleted. Yes, he met that family of faith during worship and started those relationships during worship. But it was in the context of a small group where his church supported him during his time of trial. He had the courage to reveal his struggles with his church and God provided him with what he needed at that time – church.

When I left the campus of UW-EC following the panel discussion with the nones, I wondered if they realized what they are missing because they turned away from the church because the church let them down earlier in their lives. But I left wishing that they could find a church that fit their belief system, a church that would be open and not exclusive, a church that would embrace them in the same way my friend was embraced. Why church? Because church embodies Christ.

This is my prayer for this faith community at St. John's and beyond – that we can realize the importance of church, even if you feel that your life is just fine without it. You may be missing something vitally important that you don't even realize. It starts with worship, but it goes so much further! It goes to the core of who we are – relational beings. Some day you might get hit between the eyes by life. I hope that you turn to God and let God provide for you because God embodies commitment to us. May we now show our commitment to God.

*Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)*

Office number: 715-568-5446

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

St. John's Website: [www.Stjohns-bloomer.org](http://www.Stjohns-bloomer.org)

## How much do you know about St. John's Lutheran Church worship?

### July 6

Take out your new ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship – cranberry hymnal) and turn it to the Contents. Besides all the new Holy Communion liturgies, what new liturgies can be found in the new ELW that were not laid out in the LBW?

Welcome to Baptism  
Lent and the Three Days (all of them)  
Healing

In addition to these new liturgies, the ELW also offers more hymns (excluding service music) than the LBW – 743 hymns to 548 – and includes all 150 Psalms!

### July 13

The St. John's way of distributing communion is called intinction, where we dip the bread into the wine. Which of the following are also acceptable distribution practices?

- A) Eating the bread alone
- B) Eating the bread and pouring the wine into empty cups during distribution
- C) Eating the bread and prefilling the cups before church
- D) Eating the bread and drinking from one common cup for everyone
- E) All of the above
- F) A, B, and C

### July 20

During confession, a brief period of silence is maintained. Why?

- A) To reflect on God's grace
- B) To reflect on our own sinfulness
- C) Pastor Martin lost his place
- D) To let God prepare for the onslaught of confession!

### July 27

This week is the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, part of the longest liturgical season of the year. How many total weeks of Pentecost will we have celebrated before the next liturgical season?

- A) 13
- B) 18
- C) 23
- D) 28

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost will be Nov. 16, the final Sunday of the Pentecost season.

# Council Meeting

July 8, 2014

## Committees

### WORSHIP

-Janice Naset  
Chair/Liaison  
-Lisa Goettl  
-Janet Helgeson  
-Kathy Geissler  
-Janelle Yeakey

### FELLOWSHIP

-Lyn Pank  
-Pauline Stertz  
Liaison  
-Sue Zwiefelhofer  
-Sue Seibel  
-Nylah Gust  
-Heidi Morning

### SOCIAL

-Art Klingenberg  
Chair  
-Pauline Stertz and  
Jordyn Keller  
Liaisons  
-Heidi Keller  
-Jeff Cole  
-Gregg Anderson

### YOUTH & EDUCATION

-Adam Ewings  
Liaison  
-Michelle Ruffedt  
-Kelly Custer  
-Marla Paulson

### DISCIPLESHIP

-Kathy Faschingauer  
and Alice Zinsmaster  
Liaisons  
-Michelle Gasper  
-Alice Zinsmaster  
-Sue Nehring  
-Carrie Anderson  
-Terri Bohl

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

-Tom Buchner  
Liaison  
-David Lane  
-Stub Naset  
-Pete Zeman  
-Val Rubenzer  
-Dennis Rubenzer  
-Nadine Bresina  
-Rod Schmidt  
-Shelly Lane

President Pat Boettcher called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.  
Shelly Lane opened the meeting with prayer.

- ◆ **Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Lynette Pank to approve agenda.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Lynette Pank and seconded by Jordyn Keller to approve the e-mailed June meeting minutes.** Motion carried.

**Council Comments:** Practicality of pulpit supply pastor for Wednesday night worship service.

**Congregational Comment:** Why potlucks so close together, will 8:00 service be reinstated.

### **Committee Reports:**

- ◆ **Youth & Education**-Met 6/23 to define requirements of confirmation. 25 VBS participants.
- ◆ **Discipleship**-None
- ◆ **Worship & Music**-Using new hymnals as of 7/6.
- ◆ **Fellowship**-None
- ◆ **Social Action**-Meals on Wheels volunteers needed for some vacancies.
- ◆ **Property Management**-Not purchasing stoves, water pitchers or additional changing stations. No action taken on labeling entrances. Bathroom bids put on hold until fall when contractors are available.

**Chair Report:** None

### **Pastor's Report:**

- ◆ **Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Tom Buchner to accept membership of Rene and Denise Medina and Grayson Medina, Pippa Gaulrapp and Declan Stiehl by baptism.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Mutual Ministry**-Forming committee.
- ◆ **Wednesday Dinners**-None
- ◆ **Parent's Nite Out**-None
- ◆ **Imagine Together**-None
- ◆ **Walking Together**-None
- ◆ **God's Work-Our Hands**-None
- ◆ Pastor Skatrud to lead worship 7/9 & 7/15, Martha Libersky to lead worship 8/6,10,13/14.

### **Financial Report:**

- ◆ **Motion made by Janice Naset and seconded by Kathy Faschingbauer to accept Financial Report.** Motion carried.

**Audit Report:** None

### **Old Business:**

- ◆ **Pictorial Update**-None
- ◆ **Update on Bequest**-None
- ◆ **Membership List Update**-Postcards trickling in.

## Council Meeting

### Committees

#### WORSHIP

-Janice Naset  
Chair/Liaison  
-Lisa Goettl  
-Janet Helgeson  
-Kathy Geissler  
-Janelle Yeakey

#### FELLOWSHI

-Lyn Pank  
-Pauline Stertz  
Liaison  
-Sue Zwiefelhofer  
-Sue Seibel  
-Nylah Gust  
-Heidi Morning

#### SOCIAL

-Art Klingenberg  
Chair  
-Pauline Stertz and  
Jordyn Keller  
Liaisons  
-Heidi Keller  
-Jeff Cole  
-Gregg Anderson

#### YOUTH & EDUCATION

-Adam Ewings  
Liaison  
-Michelle Ruffedt  
-Kelly Custer  
-Marla Paulson

#### DISCIPLESHIP

-Kathy Faschingauer  
and Alice Zinsmaster  
Liaisons  
-Michelle Gasper  
-Alice Zinsmaster  
-Sue Nehring  
-Carrie Anderson  
-Terri Bohl

#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

-Tom Buchner  
Liaison  
-David Lane  
-Stub Naset  
-Pete Zeman  
-Val Rubenzer  
-Dennis Rubenzer  
-Nadine Bresina  
-Rod Schmidt  
-Shelly Lane

#### New Business:

- ◆ **Motion made by Lynette Pank and seconded by Tom Buchner to go into closed session.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made to approve Director of Youth Ministry job description as amended.** Motion carried.
- ◆ Discussion of pastor evaluation form results.
- ◆ **Motion made by Shelly Lane and seconded by Lynette Pank to destroy pastor evaluation forms.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Kathy Faschingbauer and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to come out of closed session.** Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M. with the Lord's Prayer.

Shelly M. Lane, secretary

Meeting attended by Pat Boettcher, Adam Ewings, Janice Naset, Kathy Faschingbauer, Tom Buchner, Alice Zinsmaster, Pauline Stertz, Lynette Pank, Jordyn Keller and Shelly Lane.

# Council Updates

**A message from the Social Committee:**

**“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart” – Elizabeth Andres**

A big thank you to all the volunteers that gave their time to deliver meals in the month of July.



Pauline Stertz  
Committee Liaison

**A message from the Property Committee:**

Looking for dedicated individual(s) to weed & neaten up the landscaping, as needed, through the end of the growing season. If this interests you, please let Shelly Lane or the Property Committee know. 715-568-2094 or [dmbln@bloomer.net](mailto:dmbln@bloomer.net). Thank you!



**A message from the Discipleship Committee:**

We are in the process of setting up a meeting.

Kathy Faschingbauer  
Committee Liaison

## Financial Report - July 2014

	2013	2014	Budget 2014
<b>Beginning Balance – Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	\$23,002.00	\$7,513.00	
<b>Income - July</b>	\$113,346.00	\$121,061.00	\$141,097.00
<b>Expenses -July</b>	\$127,840.00	\$126,465.00	\$141,097.00
<b>Balance</b>	\$8,508.00	-\$2,109.00	
<b>Loan – Peoples State Bank</b>	\$100,184.00	\$86,747.00	



**women OF faith™**  
**FROM SURVIVAL TO REVIVAL 2014**

**Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, MN**

**October 17, 2014 to October 18, 2014**

**“Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?” Psalm 85: 6**

**Transform your soul, awaken your spirit, and revive your faith at the 2014 event: FROM SURVIVAL TO REVIVAL.** At this event, you'll receive powerful Bible teaching, be inspired by uplifting music, worship and more. Experience the renewal that comes from spending time in the presence of God. Discover new joy and a fresh sense of purpose. Gather your friends, and put your family on notice. It's time to plan for From Survival to Revival!

**THE LINE UP:** Natalie Grant, Lisa Harper, Anita Renfroe, Lysa TerKeurst, Shelia Walsh, Kay Warren, Matthew West, Pete Wilson, Rich Stearns, Gateway Worship

Tickets: \$109.00 plus \$2.00 service charge. Order before August 30 and receive a \$20.00 discount. Call or email Marla @ [stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net) or 715-568-5446 #12, Laurie @715-403-3108, Ethne Pfalzgraf @ 715-404-1126

## AUGUST 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> Pastor attending Rethinking Stewardship 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)	<b>28</b> Pastor attending Rethinking Stewardship 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>29</b> Pastor attending Rethinking Stewardship	<b>30</b> Pastor attending Rethinking Stewardship 7:00 PM Worship with Guest Preacher, Melinda Halom	<b>31</b> Pastor attending Mission Renewal Conf.	<b>1</b> Pastor attending Mission Renewal Conf.	<b>2</b> Pastor attending Mission Renewal Conf.
<b>3</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)	<b>4</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Worship with Guest Preacher, Martha Libersky	<b>7</b> 1:30 PM Friendship Circle	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service with Guest Preacher, Martha Libersky	<b>11</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Worship with Guest Preacher, Martha Libersky	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)	<b>18</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 2:00 PM Derattus & Bowe Wedding
<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF) 10:15 AM Worship and Music Committee Meeting	<b>25</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Preschool Parent Orientation	<b>26</b> 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Preschool Parent Orientation	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism of Alexandriah Marie Zakrzewicz 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)	<b>1</b> Church office will be closed <b>Labor Day</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM Worship	<b>4</b> 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

Y  
o  
u  
t  
h  
  
a  
n  
d  
  
F  
a  
m  
i  
l  
y



“Teach me the art of creating islands of stillness, in which I can absorb the beauty of everyday things”...

Marian Stroud



**FAITH MAKES THINGS POSSIBLE NOT EASY**

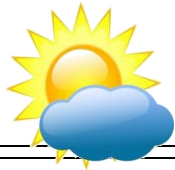
**ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**  
DETROIT MICHIGAN  
JULY 12-15, 2015  
7<sup>TH</sup> -12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Multicultural Youth Leadership Event  
Registration October 2014  
More info coming soon



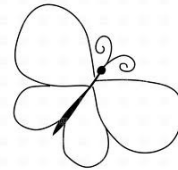
**WEATHER ALERT!**

Summer fun in the sun can be harmful to your health! Stay hydrated and don't forget the sunscreen.



**FAITH FORMATION/REGISTRATION**

- August 27: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth & Parents, 5 pm, meal, 5:30 pm conversation & evaluation
- September 7: Rally Day, Worship, Pot Luck, Fellowship
- September 10: Confirmation Orientation, 5 pm meal, 5:30 pm Orientation
- September 14: Preschool-3<sup>rd</sup> grade Parent Orientation
- September 17: Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Orientation



**GIRLS OF GRACE**  
Presented by Child Fund International

**COMING TO**  
**EDEN PRARIE, MN SEPT. 20, 2014**

**Live. LOVE. LEAD.**  
**Freely Fiercely Fearlessly**

*“For it is by Grace you have been Saved” Eph. 2: 8*

**The can't miss event for middle & Sr. high girls & their leaders.**

**For more info contact:**  
**Marla @715-568-5446 #12 or**  
**Heidi @ 715-568-2678**

# Camp



**2014**



# St. John's Preschool News

Although there are no preschool classes held during the summer months, there is plenty of planning for the upcoming school year taking place as September draws near. At the time of this printing, there are three more openings in the enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year. Classes are available for both three and four year olds. Anyone seeking more information regarding the program is welcome to call Michelle at 568-1060. *If your child turns three after Sept. 1st, he or she may be able to enroll in the program following their birthday, depending on our enrollment numbers.*

We'd like to thank the following people who recently directed Thrivent Choice Dollars to the preschool: Elmer & Evelyn Ferstenou, Marlene Windsor and Rod Schmidt. We appreciate your thoughtfulness in choosing our program to receive these gifts!

Coming soon...an opportunity for families with young children to gather for an informal support network event, provided by River Source Family Center of Chippewa Falls. The preschool will host the gathering, most likely to be held in September. The focus of the evening will be parents coming together to form connections with other parents in the area. The children will be able to play, enjoy a snack and work on art activities. Information on various parenting issues will be available. Denise Kervin of the River Source center will be on hand to answer questions and tell parents what services are offered through this resource. Date and time to be announced.

Until next time...enjoy the beautiful summertime weather!