



St. John's Lutheran Church

Mission Statement:

"Growing disciples who eagerly share Christ's Love!"

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Church News-
Calendar

Letter from
Pastor Halom

Youth & Preschool
News

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ROAD TRIP

As I write this from the new Luther Park ministry center, I'm watching the exuberance of kids playing a couple of outdoor games, gaga and 9 square. It's a true delight to witness firsthand the community building that camp has to offer! After last night's campfire worship, where I was blessed to participate in a crazy camp skit with my son Dylan and other staff, I left wondering, "How can I take elements from this awesome worship experience and community building activities back to St. John's?"

Fortunately for us all, there is a clear and obvious answer! On Monday night, our church council approved moving our August 6 worship service at St. John's to the annual Heart for Luther Park worship experience! The Heart for Luther Park is a day filled with several opportunities to experience what camp has to offer and how we can offer back to camp!

9:30 Outdoor Worship led by camp staff

10:00 Quilt auction viewing

11:00 lunch in dining hall

Noon Quilt auction (live or online!)

As some of you may have heard, there has been a great deal of turnover of the year round staff over the past year. And so, at the worship service, we will be installing the following new staff: Executive Director Eric Klein, Program Director Abby Vander Laan, and Property Manager Bill Reed. I am excited, as I will be helping lead the installation as the treasurer of the board. This new staff will lead Luther Park into a new and promising era!

I envision that the worship will give you a peek into what I experienced last night at campfire - a chance to feel the energy and excitement of a camp style worship. A chance to get the feel of the camp staff and why they're so effective in caring for our kids. A chance to be in the midst of God's great creation overlooking a beautiful lake through the framework of the trees.

The worship will hopefully be livestreamed on the Luther Park Facebook page, especially for those of you who may have mobility issues. Those who come may want to consider bringing lawn chairs for comfort, especially if the built in benches are not suitable for your back. To be clear, there will be no worship service offered at St. John's on Aug. 6.

Following worship, consider staying for lunch and meet the vast community that is Luther Park! Tour around the grounds and see the sites that help build up our youth. And check out the 100+ quilts that will be auctioned off along with other silent auction items as well! It's a great vibe that will leave you departing camp with a hope filled spirit!

I hope you can make it out for this great road trip and be a significant part of this relationship we have with a great camp! You won't be disappointed!

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

Please Join Our Church Family In Prayer



As we enter the month of August please join our church family in prayer. Below you will find a list of those who we will be praying for. If you or someone you know would like to be added to one of the list please stop by the church office, call the office at 715-568-5446, or email the information to: stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net

Prayers of Healing For Our Church Family

Marlene Windsor; Arlene Mohr; Dave Helin (brother-in-law of Tom Ewings); Julie Chojnacki; Fumiko (Eric Larson's sister-in-law); Pat Prill; Arlene Christianson; Renee Grambo; Steve Trubshaw; Dohna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter).

Prayers For Our Active Military

Dalton Grambo, Danielle Shipman, Kelsey Leavens, Trenton Beaudette

Prayers For the Saints

Prayers for the week of Aug 6th: Doug and Susan Martin; Amy, Christopher, Calvin and Lucas Hassemmer; Michael Marvin; Brian, Mary and Gabe Mawby; Erin, Shaun, Connor, Owen and Riley McCurdy; Sue McInnis; Kenner McInnis.

Prayers for the week of Aug 13th: Nick, Chrissy, Dominick and Rose Meisner; Justin, Kelly, Kaylee, Caleb and Leora Metcalf; Brian and Jill Meyer; Denise, Noah, Cole, Dane, Anders Michaelson; Lanna and Raymond Michels.

Prayers for the week of Aug 20th: Bonnie and Robert Mickelson; Kristine, Tyler, Charlie and Lincoln Mickelson; Mariah Miller; Masen Miller; Jeff and Teresa Miller; Garrett and Rebekah Misener; Arlene and Richard Mohr; Kristin, Tim, Micah, Miles, Tatem and Tyler Mohr.

Prayers for the week of Aug 27th: Robert and Wendy Mooney; Alex Morning; Heidi and Steve Morning; Iylah Morning; Tina and Travis Myers; Janice and Lee Naset; Butch and Sue Nehring; Eva and Kenneth Newton; Al and Judy Nimtzt; Deborah Nissen.

AUGUST 2023 CALENDAR

Church Council Minutes-Continued

AUGUST 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am Worship Service 12:45pm Fellowship-E.C. Express Game meeting time 5:00pm - 7:00pm Vacation Bible School	31 8:00am Bible Study 5:00pm - 7:00pm Vacation Bible School	1 5:00pm - 7:00pm Vacation Bible School 	2 2:00pm Bible Study 5:00pm - 7:00pm Vacation Bible School-North Park 	3	4	5
6 Heart for Luther Park Event-Quilt Auction 9:00am Worship Service **At Luther Park**	7 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 7:00pm Preschool Family Fun Night	8	9 2:00pm Bible Study	10 Luther Park Golf Outing Fundrais- er	11	12
13 9:00am Worship Service	14 8:00am Bible Study 4:30pm - 6:30pm Preschool "Meet the Teachers"	15 1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group 4:30pm - 6:30pm Pre- school "Meet the Teachers"	16 9:30am Foundation Meeting 2:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:00pm Campfire Social (Blaha Residence)	17 4:30pm Pre- school Commit- tee Meeting	18	19
20 9:00am Worship Service	21 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	22	23 2:00pm Bible Study	24	25 Wedding Re- hearsal (Time TBD)	26 1:30pm Wedding: Ackerman- Peterson
27 9:00am Worship Service 5:30pm - 6:30pm YIA Planning Meeting (At Halom Residence)	28 First Day of Preschool 8:00am Bible Study	29	30 2:00pm Bible Study	31	1	2

(Church Council Minutes continued)

New Business –

1. St. John’s Gift Policy Guidelines: see endowment policy above
2. August 6th Worship Service – A **motion was made** by Janelle Yeakey to move the August 6th worship service to Luther Park. **Seconded** by Jeff Cole. **Motion carried.**
3. Activities at Heart for Luther Park festivities will be worship, annual quilt auction, meal, and new staff Installation.
4. Property Committee Updates – Quotes for repairs: Repaint of all 4 front doors approx. \$2500; Repaint of windows in sanctuary \$200-250 per window; bids for carpeting of steps \$2300-\$4000; steps by library entrance needs repair – time and expenses will be donated by a congregation member. A **motion was made** by Barb Ross to allow the property committee up to \$5000 to repair the carpeting on the outside stairs. **Seconded** by Alicia Bonczyk. **Motion carried.**
5. Performance Evaluation – A **motion was made** at 8:18pm by Janelle Yeakey to go into closed session. **Seconded** by Alicia Bonczyk. **Motion carried.** A **motion was made** at 8:43pm by Alicia Bonczyk to leave closed session. **Seconded** by Sarah Wittrock. **Motion carried.**
6. The council did parts 1 & 2 of the performance evaluation, parts 3-5 will be completed next month.

Committee Reports

1. [Pastor’s Report](#). A **motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to transfer membership to Barum Lutheran Church for Bob and Jean LaTour and welcome membership through baptism of Attlee and Ivlee Schwarzenberger. **Seconded** by Janelle Yeakey. **Motion carried.**
2. Discipleship – needs to be started again, looking for 4-6 people.
3. [Fellowship Minutes](#) - Campfire August 16th
5. [Social Ministry Minutes](#) - none
7. [Worship & Music Minutes](#) –
4. [Preschool Minutes](#) –
6. [Property Minutes](#) –
8. [Youth Minutes](#) –

Additional Items and Announcements

1. Next Meeting: August 21st at 6 pm.
2. Adjournment - a **motion was made** at 9:01 pm by Janelle Yeakey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. **Motion carried.** **Members Present:** Jamie Keller, Dorene Turner, Pastor Martin, Janelle Yeakey, Jeff Cole, Sarah Wittrock, Alicia Bonczyk. **Others Present:** Victoria Prince-Silvas. **Members Absent:** Terri Smith, Kyle Prill, Kaitlyn Bohl

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

Youth, Preschool & Church News

Pre-Registration for 2023-24

Pre-registration is open for the 2023-24 academic year. If anyone has any questions, please contact Amanda Ritchie at mobile (715)279-6962 or email amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com.

We are excited to welcome new students to our program, and we hope to see some familiar faces returning as well.

*Right now, we have 7 students registered for MWF and 9 students for TTH.

New Staff – Welcome!

We want to give Jenna Prince a warm welcome to St. John's Lutheran Preschool. Jenna will be taking over the positions Jamie Nelson served in as the director and teacher. We are excited to have Jenna's expertise and experience at our preschool.

Jenna Prince's Introduction

Hello. My name is Jenna Prince. I will be the new Director and one of the teachers for the preschool at St. John's Lutheran.



As a Bloomer native, I'm excited to serve my community and surrounding communities in this capacity. I have two beautiful daughters, Lillianna (7) and Adalynn (5), and I just recently celebrated my two-year wedding anniversary with my husband, Tyler. We also have a puppy named Roxie.

I am passionate about working with children of all abilities and advocating for those who need it. I achieved my associate degree with CVTC with honors in 2021. Currently, I am enrolled at UW-River Falls to earn my bachelor's degree in early childhood education with a minor in Special Education. I have worked in the education field in various positions over the past 9 years, most recently serving as a lead teacher for the past three years at Head Start in Colfax, WI.

I am excited to see what God has in store for me as I work in this position.

Family Fun Night

We are excited to how our first Family Fun Night of the 2023-24 academic year. We are hoping to host one event per month or at least every other month for our families and the community. Our goal and hope by hosting an event like this is to spread awareness of our program. You can expect this event to be geared for families who have children 4 years of age and under (older siblings are welcome to attend), including an interactive story time, music, crafts, and snacks. All families who attend will be entered in for a door prize (must be present to win). Please RSVP ahead of time via Facebook or with Amanda Ritchie or Jenna Prince so that we can plan accordingly.

Meet the Teachers – Open House

Amanda and Jenna are excited to welcome the 2023-24 class to St. John's Lutheran Preschool. Monday, August 14th and Tuesday, August 15th from 4:30-6:30PM we will be hosting our "Meet the Teachers" evenings as an Open House. During these evenings, you can bring the rest of your child's paperwork, school supplies, and anything else from the welcome letter your child will receive in early August. If you have any questions or are unable to attend either of these evenings, please reach out to Amanda Ritchie (715-279-6962 mobile, amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com).

New Policy Change – More Opportunity for Enrollment

We just submitted our changes to the State, but we are going to open our program to students who are still working on potty training. We hope that this will open more doors for enrollment. If your child is currently potty training and is interested in being a part of our program,

please contact Amanda Ritchie or Jenna Prince to discuss this opportunity. *Pull-ups and wipes must be provided by the family for their child.

Quilting Group

Will be meeting on

August 15th

at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!!



PIZZA COUPONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Coupons from our pizza fundraiser are still available for purchase. Although the fundraiser is over, you can contact Amanda Ritchie if you are interested in purchasing any pizzas from Fat Boys, The Quarthouse, Valley Tavern, or Harm's Way. Fat Boys, The Quarthouse, Valley Tavern, or Harms Way.

Save the Date: Rally Day for JAM

I hope that everyone's summer vacation has been full of fun and some relaxation. These past two months flew by, and we are getting ready for JAM to start back up for the 2023-24 academic year. Our first day for our Wednesday night Faith Formation will take place on Wednesday, September 6th. After a fun night of dinner (4:45-5:30PM) and games (5:30-6:30PM), JAM students will be singing during service at 6:45PM.

*Keep your eye on your email for student registration or contact Amanda Ritchie for more information.

Library News: Check it out

St. John's Library has recently received the book A Jump Into The Past - Bloomer Sesquicentennial History 1855-2005 written by Tina Susedik.

This book is filled with information and pictures of the Bloomer area.

VBS - Incredible Me!

This year's VBS is going to be incredible. Incredible Me! It is with great excitement that we will be cohosting VBS with Our Saviors this summer! VBS will take place from Sunday, July 30th through Wednesday, August 2nd. We will be hosting this year at our church, Sunday through Tuesday, with Wednesday taking place at North Park. For more information, please check out our bulletin boards or contact Amanda Ritchie, Pastor Martin, or Kristine Mickelson.

Church Council Minutes

July 24, 2023

Call to Order - meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Dorene Turner, Council President.

Opening Devotion – Dorene led the council in devotion by having everyone share current highs and lows.

Treasurer Position: A motion was made by Sarah Wittrock to approve Barb Ross as the treasurer until the annual meeting. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried. Barb will be added as a signer on accounts at Security Financial Bank.

Approval of the Agenda -A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the agenda with flexibility, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made Terri Smith to approve the minutes from the May 8th, 2023 meeting, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Approval of last Council Minutes — A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the minutes from the June 13th, 2023 meeting, seconded by Dorene Turner. Motion carried.

Financial Report - [Profit & Loss](#) [Balance Sheet](#)

	Year to Date(Jan-June2023) (w/estate gift of \$349,201.25)	Year to Date(Jan-June2023) (w/o estate gift \$349,201.25)
Income	\$462,703.09	\$113,501.75
Expenses	\$122,275.68	\$122,275.68
Difference	\$ 340,482.51	-\$8,773.93

Contributions have been lower than normal. On 7/12 funds of \$8,480 were needed to cover payroll, utilities, mortgage, and portico. Decision was made by the executive committee to cover the bills with money from the designated account and council fund.

A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to allow the financial secretary to transfer up to \$3000 when needed to pay bills, when the amount is above \$3000 the financial secretary will need to have approval from 3 people from executive committee and the Pastor. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to make Victoria Prince the primary administrator for the quickbooks software to replace Joyce Rihn. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to accept the financial report. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Old Business-

Preschool Position – Jenna Prince accepted the position of Director/Teacher

Gift Discussion continued: Update on CD possibilities; rates for Associated Bank, Security Bank, RCU, and Dairy State Bank were considered.

A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to move \$100,000 from the council fund to a 6 or 7-month CD with Security Financial or Associated Bank, with flexibility. \$200,000 will be moved from the council fund to a 12 month CD at Security Bank at 5.25% APY . Seconded by Jamie Keller. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to pay off the balance of the Building Loan from the council fund to the St John’s Lutheran Church Foundation. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Pastor Martin will look into a celebration of cancelling the debt in the early fall. Once the CDs are created, they will show in the Misc. Funds on the balance sheet, the date of renewal should to be included for each CD.

Endowment Policy: After discussions of pros and cons of an endowment policy, the council is choosing to not create one at this time. When needed, council will reach out to those with financial knowledge to attend council meetings to help make financial decisions. Anyone is welcome to attend a council meeting at anytime.

Custodial work: Fee for a one time cleaning will be \$15/hr. **A motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to have a cleaning service do a one-time clean for up to 20 hours at \$15/hr with funds from the council fund. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

(Continued on Pg. 3)

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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1403 Newman Street
Bloomer, WI 54724

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446
Email: stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net

PASTORAL/ CONGREGATIONAL CARE
Need a visit? Yearning for Holy Communion? Have a problem? Want to suggest ways we can be of more help to you and your family? Feel you'd like to pray with someone?

CALL: Pastor Martin Halom
Church # 715-568-5446, extension 11
Home # 715-568-1515
Cell # 517-505-6509
Email: pastormartin@bloomer.net

Youth & Family Announcements

Youth Ministry Pictures
We are looking for pictures that anyone may have taken last year (2022-23 academic year) for a slideshow we are going to put together for Rally Day. If you have any pictures you're able to share, whether its from JAM, confirmation, lock-in, or a youth trip, please contact Amanda Ritchie or Pastor Martin. We can forward you a link to a Google Drive. Otherwise, photos can get emailed to: stjohnslutheran.bloomer@gmail.com

Harry Potter Bible Study

Since we have entered the busyness of summer schedules, our Harry Potter Bible Study is on a temporary hiatus until we can figure out what time works best for everyone. Please keep an eye on the bulletin or contact Pastor Martin or Amanda Ritchie for more information. **"WE ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS WE ARE UNITED, AS WEAK AS WE ARE DIVIDED."** -ALBUS DUMBLEDORE
** If you have any other bible study movie series you'd like to see done, please contact Amanda Ritchie or Pastor Martin.*

Bible Camp Reimbursements
Summer Reminder: if your child participated in two of the fundraisers, our church will reimburse 50% of the camp costs (does not include registration or canteen). Please contact Amanda Ritchie or Pastor Martin if you have any additional questions regarding the reimbursement process.

Subs Needed for JAM this Fall
Thanks to all our returning teachers this Fall for JAM, we are looking for people who would be interested in substituting on Wednesday nights. Please contact Amanda Ritchie for more information so we can get you on a list. Also, if there is a specific age group you want to work with or would not like to work with, please let us know that information as well.

Save the Date: Youth in Action
With the school year quickly approaching, our first Youth in Action planning night will take place Sunday, August 27th. We are looking forward to joining together with our high school youth to plan some super fun monthly events for the 2023-24 academic year. If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Ritchie (715-279-6962 mobile, amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com).