



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:

- ELCA
- Announcements
- Council Meeting
- Financial Report
- Youth and Family
- Preschool

STAYING CONNECTED TO THE ELCA

It was two years ago when we made a small, yet significant shift in our worship practices. Since January of 2013, we have started most of our worship services with a quiz. In 2013, we learned a great deal about the ministries of the ELCA because I feel that it's important to understand how the greater church functions. Remember any of these topics?

- * ELCA campus ministry
- * ELCA colleges and universities
- * ELCA Word Hunger
- * ELCA camps and outdoor ministries
- * Full communion partners
- * ELCA disaster response
- * Synods and Conferences
- * Bishops election process

If not, I still have these questions and can help refresh your memory!

In 2014, we learned about worship practices and covered topics like:

- * Worship space names
- * The differences between green and red hymnals
- * What makes St. John's unique
- * The tie between baptism and confirmation

It's been fun to create these quizzes because I love to teach. I love hearing your comments after church when you learn something new. That is why I want to share this next information, so that we continue to stay connected to the larger church.

The Ebola crisis is something that has sadly touched the lives of many. According to the World Health Organization, nearly 8,500 people have died in the countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea alone. Because of this crisis, Lutherans responded. The ELCA has sent \$275,000 to help prevent further damage -

- \$10,000 in air freight costs to ship protective equipment overseas
- \$135,000 in food to quarantined areas
- \$130,000 for awareness so that people learn about symptoms and prevention methods

This is our church family responding. This how we live out the ELCA-motto-God's Work, Our Hands. It's good to be the ELCA!

Peace, Pastor Martin

INSIDE THIS

Pastor's News	1
Bible Basics	2
Announcements	3
Council Minutes	4
Calendar	6
Financial Report	7
Youth and Family	8
Preschool	10

Office number: 715-568-5446

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

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



Bible Basics



January 4

Today's New Testament reading speaks about the riches of God's grace. The word grace appears in the NRSV 127 times. Which of the following books mentions grace the most?

- A) Psalms
- B) Mark
- C) Ephesians
- D) Romans

The book of Psalms mentions grace but one time, but still accounts for 1/3 of the entire Old Testament! Mark does not mention grace at all (along with Matthew and Luke). Ephesians mentions grace 12 times, and Romans a whopping 21 times!

January 11

During my first fall here teaching confirmation, we learned about the Old Testament starting with Genesis. To the confirmands, name the 4 primary patriarchs (men) who headlined the book of Genesis following the story about Noah and the flood. (Please don't say Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John!)

January 18

In today's gospel lesson, Nathanael declares Jesus to be the Son of God. How many times does one of the twelve disciples refer to Jesus as the Son of God?

- A) 2
- B) 4
- C) 7
- D) 12

The only other occurrence is when Jesus walks on water in Matthew. John the Baptist and Martha (Lazarus' sister) also refer to Jesus as the Son of God in John.

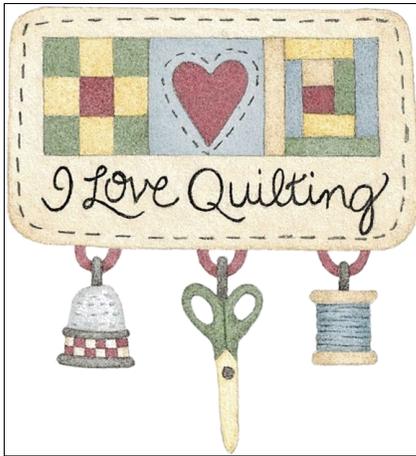
January 25

In today's Old Testament reading from the prophet Jonah, the residents of Nineveh turn from their evil ways upon the decree of their king after Jonah warned them that their lives were at stake. How does Jonah respond to their act of repentance?

- A) He helps the king host a banquet to celebrate their new life honoring God
- B) His job was done, so he went back home without further incident
- C) He becomes angry at God for God's generosity in mercy and grace
- D) He finds the large fish and rides it home saying, "Hi ho Silver, away!"

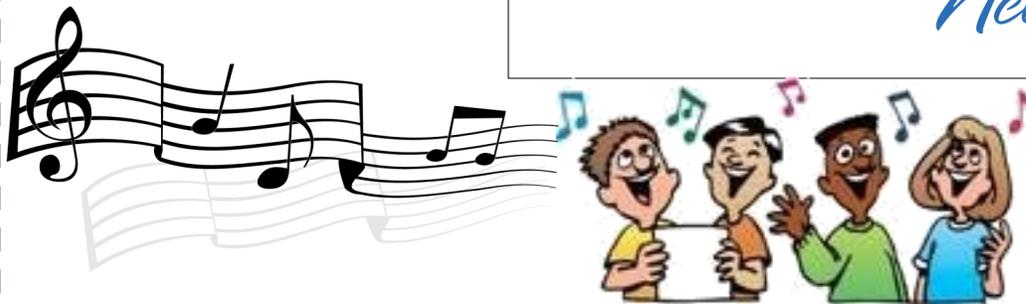
Jonah 4:1 But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A quilting date will be announced at a later date.

Do you like to read? Do you enjoy sharing with others the title of a good book you have read or listening to the recommendations of others? If so, the Library Committee invites you to come to the library on Tuesday, February 24th at 2:00. Come to share or just to listen in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship. Light refreshments will be served.



Helped Wanted!

Do you enjoy singing?

Our new hymnals have many unfamiliar songs in them and as with anything new, it takes time to get to know them and sing with confidence.

We are looking for members with experience in reading music who would like to learn the songs and then be willing to lead the congregation during those hymns.

We'd like to have several members willing to do this. If interested in helping out please contact Janice Naset, Worship Comm. Chairman or Pastor Martin for more information.



Bingo, Bingo, Bingo for all ages on Sunday afternoon March 15, 2015! We would like to plan an afternoon of Bingo fun with prizes and treats, but need to know if there is interest. Please contact the church office if you would be interested by e-mailing stjohsl-secretary@bloomer.net or calling the Church office at 715-568-5446 by February 28, 2015. Further information to come if interest is high!

Council Meeting January 13, 2015

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

- ◆ **Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Kathy Faschingbauer to approve agenda.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Janice Naset and seconded by Jordyn Keller to approve the e-mailed December meeting minutes.** Motion carried.

Council Comments: None

Congregational Comment: Wrong date for quilting in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

- ◆ Youth & Education-None
- ◆ Discipleship-None
- ◆ Worship & Music-discussed information in bulletins, Holden Evening Prayer will be used for Lenten services, discussed need for a leader for contemporary songs during worship, new flower chart in and a new liturgy will be used after Easter.
- ◆ Fellowship-will coordinate Easter breakfast, Rally Sunday, New Auburn Community Choir (when scheduled). Funeral groups are going well. Will not be heading up Sunday breakfasts. Youth could do this if going to continue. Game day (bingo) and banquet on hold.
- ◆ Social Action-Had lots of help for Agnes table on Christmas Day. Still have need for Meals on Wheels volunteers for last week in January.
- ◆ Property Management-None
- ◆ **Chair Report:** Confirmed committee reports were turned in for annual report.

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ **Motion made by Kathy Faschingbauer and seconded by Tom Buchner to accept transfer to Christ Lutheran Church of Josh Koehler, renew membership for Laurie and McKenna Koehler, transfer in membership of Trista and Joe Klemish, Lila Edin by baptism, and Transfer to the Church Triumphant Fred Henning & Lani Volkman.** Motion carried.
- ◆ Wednesday Night Dinner-New coordinator started in 2015.
- ◆ Parent's Nite Out-1/17/15 going out to dinner.
- ◆ Visit Report-communion, hospital visits and death counseling.
- ◆ Matinee Effort-on hold

Financial Report:

- ◆ **Motion made by Janice Naset and seconded by Rod Johnson to accept Financial Report.** Motion carried.
- ◆ Audit-Audit done 1/8/15 by Kathy Tozer, Kathy Geissler and Lynette Pank.
- ◆ **Motion made by Janice Naset and seconded by Tom Buchner to pay off balance of roof loan out of undesignated memorials.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Adam Ewings to communicate to the congregation that this council recommends using our operating loan to remodel/repair bathrooms.** Motion carried.

Council Meeting

Old Business:

- ◆ Dream Team/Long Range Planning-None
- ◆ Audit Committee Appointments-Done in December
- ◆ Wednesday Night Dinner Dollar Proposal-**Motion made by Shelly Lane and seconded by Jordyn Keller to transfer dollar amounts over \$500.00 to the operating loan each June.**
Motion carried.

New Business:

- ◆ Annual Meeting Agenda-discussed.
- ◆ Staff Benefit Policy-Tabled

Pastor Martin closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 8:10 P.M.

Shelly M. Lane, secretary

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

FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Preschool enrollment for congregational members 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>2 General Public preschool registration 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>3 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>4 11:00 AM Pastor attending Bloomer Clergy Meeting 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation-Camp Promo 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>5 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting</p>	<p>6 Newsletter Article Deadline</p>	<p>7 5:00 PM Parents Nite Out</p>
<p>8 Pastor is at Synod Conf. in Eau Claire 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation</p>	<p>9 No Bible Study Pastor is at Synod Conf. in Eau Claire 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Preschool Open House 2:00 PM WELCA serves birthday bingo at The Maplewood 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Preschool Open House 6:30 PM Youth Committee Meeting</p>	<p>10 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Preschool Open House 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting 6:30 PM Foundation Meeting</p>	<p>11 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Preschool Open House 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting</p>	<p>16 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>17 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>18 5:30 PM Hunger Awareness Meal 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 9:00 PM - 7:00 AM Senior High Lock-in</p>	<p>21 9:00 PM - 7:00 AM Senior High Lock-in</p>
<p>22 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation</p>	<p>23 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>1 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation</p>	<p>2 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>3 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>4 11:00 AM Pastor attending Bloomer Clergy Meeting 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>

Financial Report - Jan. 2015

	2014	2015	Budget 2015
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1st	\$7,513.00	\$3,150.00	
Income – January	\$15,556.00	\$15,753.00	\$21,145.00
Expenses - January	\$17,913.00	\$16,003.00	\$21,145.00
Balance	\$5,150.00	\$2,900.00	
Loan – Security Financial Bank	\$92,420.00	\$80,747.00	



2014 Christmas Eve Musicians

PARENT'S NITE OUT

Saturday, February 7

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.



LENTEN SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPERS



Camp & Activities Fundraiser Sponsored by all families & children attending camp

Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25

Enjoy delicious soups, sandwiches, & desserts made by St. John's youth & parents. Meal served from 5-6 pm. Monetary donations of your choice will support camp & youth activities.



"IF YOU PUT WHAT LITTLE YOU HAVE IN YOUR HAND INTO THE HAND OF GOD, IT WON'T JUST ADD UP; GOD WILL MAKE IT MULTIPLY"
-THE CIRCLE MAKER

FAITH FORMATION JANUARY SCHEDULES

Sunday, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22
Preschool through 3rd Grade, 10:15 AM

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25
Preschool through 3rd Grade
4th & 5th Grade Bible 101
6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Confirmation, 5:30 PM

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.



HAVE A FAVORITE SOUP YOU'D LOVE TO SHARE?

Soup donations on Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25 for the soup suppers would be greatly appreciated. Email Marla @ stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net or phone 715-568-5446 ext. 12 with date you are willing to share. Thank you in advance



WHERE FAITH IS NURTURED THROUGH HOLY PLAY

LUTHER PARK CAMP PROMO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

5:30-6:45 PM

GET THE SCOOP ON 2015 PROGRAMS
REGISTRATION MATERIAL AVAILABLE
FOR KINGERGARTEN-SR. HIGH

Luther Park Camp Director Keith Newman will share opportunities available for summer 2015. Connect with old friends and make new friends this summer at Luther Park. Register by March 31st & receive the Early Bird Discount. Need a break from winter? Attend the "Road Trip Recharge on March 6-7 from 7 pm Friday to 7 pm Saturday with music from the Luther

**HUNGER AWARENESS MEAL
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
AN OUTPOURING OF GENEROSITY**

“They gave offerings of whatever they could-far more than they could afford-pleading for the privilege of helping out in the relief of poor Christians.” 2 Corinthians 8:4 The Message

Money given to ELCA World Hunger

Sponsored by Confirmation Youth & Families

Ticket Sales Feb. 1, 4, 8, 11, 15.



HUNGER AWARENESS/EDUCATION EVENT FOR ALL SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY PRESCHOOL THROUGH SR. HIGH YOUTH

By donating the cost of one Wed. meal (\$4 per person or \$15 per family) & participating in the awareness event you will become the hands & feet of Jesus for someone less fortunate. Parents of children & middle school youth are asked to participate in the experience with their child. Families wishing to be seated together will receive the third world meal. Carry Outs will not be available.

Happy Valentine's Day



1 John 4:16

INTERESTED IN A WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY?

Please join me in the library at noon on Friday, February 13 for more info if your answer is yes.

Blessings, Marla

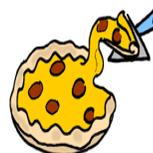
SR. HIGH "LOCK IN"

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

When: Friday, February 20, Time: 9 pm -7 am

February 21

Who: 9th -12th grade & friends



Clipart Of · 1209284

St. John's Preschool News

With only three and a half months left in this preschool year, we are looking at registration for the 2015-2016 school year! It's incredible – how fast time goes.

We'll be accepting registrations for three and four year olds on the following schedule:

Our currently enrolled families began registering their children for a second year with us, or registering another one of their children during the week of Jan. 26 – 30

St. John's congregational members are welcome to register Sun. Feb. 1st, before and after worship.

[We also accepted registrations from members on Wed. Jan. 28th]

Phone-in registration for the general public begins Mon. Feb. 2nd at noon (by calling Michelle Gasper at 715-568-1060).

We will hold our annual Open House Mon. Feb. 9th, Tues. Feb. 10th & Wed. Feb. 11th from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Our current students do have class on our Open House days. The visiting children will get a chance to participate in the activities of the day.

**New this year –* We'll have an evening Open House as well, Mon. Feb. 9th (5:30 – 7:00). This will give anyone who'd like to attend, but isn't available during morning hours, the opportunity to see the preschool, meet the staff and register their child if they'd like. Everyone is invited to the Open House – congregational members, past preschool families, anyone who'd like to see what we're all about. In celebration of our 20-year anniversary, we'll serve refreshments (bars, coffee, milk). We hope to see you there!

Just a summary about the program: We are state licensed, nondenominational and open to all eligible children of Bloomer and the surrounding communities. Children need to be at least three years old by Sept. 1st. 2015 to enroll. We offer classes for three *and* four year olds, and currently have four classes with ten children in each.

Anyone with questions, or who'd like to register their child is welcome to call Michelle at the number shown above. We'd love to have your child join us!

