



# St. John's Lutheran Church

*Mission Statement:*  
*"Growing disciples who eagerly share Christ's Love!"*

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

- Church News
- Calendar
- Council Minutes
- Pastor's Monthly Report
- Youth
- Announcements
- F.I.N
- Financial Update
- Special Note of "Thanks"

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## Dedications for Donated Poinsettias for Christmas Service

**Donated by**

- Tom & Rose Marie Powell
- Dorothy & Family
- John & Bonnie Lueck
- "Her Family"
- Marlin & Monica Stuckert
- Kathy Ludwigson
- Janice Turner
- Kim, Kari, Jana & Families
- Vernon & Deanna Stuckert
- Steve, Lydia, Reagan & Chase Blaha
- Stub & Janice Naset
- Brenda, Brian, Ty, Isaac & Trent
- Their Children
- Ray & Lanna Michels
- Butch & Sue Nehring
- Kim Oldenberg
- Rod Schmidt, Sr.
- Dale & Rita Bittney
- Martin Family
- Kathy & Don Geissler
- Bert & Kathy Tozer
- "Friends"
- Dennis & Lynette Pank
- "Family"
- Jane Peterson
- "Family"
- Martha Libersky

**In Honor or Memory of**

- Eckhardt (Shorty) & Bernadette Nimtz and Edward & Ida Powell.
- In memory of Lorne Hassemer.
- Honor: Lois North. Memory: Doug North, Harold & Irene Lueck.
- In memory of Bev Peterson
- Edwin & Anita Machado, parents of Monica Stuckert.
- In memory of Norbert Ludwigson.
- In memory of Donald Turner.
- In memory of Don Oldenberg.
- Memory: Jake & Doris Stuckert and Sharon Knoepke. Marlin & Monica Stuckert & Families
- In memory of The Blaha and DeBaker families.
- Memory: Leon & Ruth Naset and Marvin & Gladys Schroetter.
- In memory of Grandma Ruthie & Grandpa Lewie LaGessee and Grandpa Don Falck.
- In memory of Clifford and Wanda Marek.
- Memory: Ray & Ruby Ellison, Herb & Dorothy Michels, Joanne Parrish and Charlie Ellison.
- Memory: our parents, Howard & Nadine Nehring and Ernest & Joyce Delegard. Honor of our children, & grandchildren.
- "Boom" Oldenberg & Jutes & Doris Bathke.
- Memory: Mrs. Shirley Ann Schmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Otto E. Schmidt, Mrs. Charlotte Schultz, Mr. Roy Luedtke. Honor of our children, grandchildren & great grandchildren.
- Elmer & Evelyn Schroetter and Eph & Myrtle Bitney.
- Norb Martin.
- In memory of Orville & Ida Bitney and Gib & Muriel Geissler.
- Memory: Bud & Marie Tozer, Charles Marvin and Laura Babbitt-Hansen. Honor: our children, grandchildren & great grandchildren.
- In honor of Arnie & Marlene Windsor.
- In memory of Parents; In honor of children & grandchildren.
- In memory of Henry, Lena & Wilbert "Dub" Weideman.
- In memory of Bill & Bryon Peterson.
- In memory of Elmer Ferstenou.
- In memory of Francis Libersky.

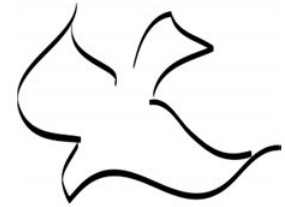
Office number: 715-568-5446

Like us on Facebook! [St. John's Lutheran Church - Bloomer, WI](#)

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

## Please Join Our Church Family

### In Prayer



As we enter the month of January, 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 lists 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

Donna Kerckhove, Rene Kerckhove, Tom Buchner, Ilene Pingel, Carolyn Bergh, Willard Rogge, Kari Skaar, Tim Loew, Melissa Berlin, Aline Buchner, Arlene Mohr, Ashton

### Prayers for our Active Military

Danielle Shipman, Kelsey Leavens, Trenton Beaudette, Caleb Reischel, Ryan Heiss

### Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of January 5<sup>TH</sup>: Charlie, Nicole, and Conor Sundberg; Dale & Sanja Swan; Clark, Kristi, Chloee, and Clayne Swartz; Eric, Katie, Genevieve, Scarlett, and Vincent Telschow; Cody, Susan, Abigail, and Ben Thiede

Prayers for the week of January 12<sup>TH</sup>: Jerome, Tia, and Tiana Thomley; Owen Thompto; Bert & Kathy Tozer; Brent, Ilona, Izibel, and Trent Tozer, Victoria Trinko

Prayers for the week of January 19<sup>TH</sup>: Marcy & Steve Trubshaw; Dorene, Jeff, Alicyn, and Morgyn Turner; Janice Turner; Janice & Kenneth Turner; Melissa & Kianna Turner

Prayers for the week of January 26<sup>TH</sup>: Jessica & Dehija Walters; Bob, Cathy, and Nathan Weber; Carol & Tom Webster; Carol & John Weideman; Marie Weideman

# Church News

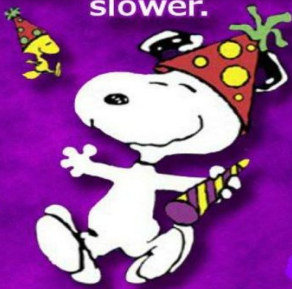
## Quilting

Please join us for quilting.  
January 21st 1:00-4:00

## BINGO

Sunday, January 19th is our next fun-filled B-I-N-G-O !  
Each 3rd Sunday of the month at 1 p.m. come and enjoy this light-hearted activity with us.  
We look forward to seeing you there!!

New year resolution:  
Laugh a little louder, smile a little bigger, love a little deeper, and walk through life a little slower.



Donation box for "Hawk's Corner" can be found in the Narthex below the bulletin board. Suggested items for donation are listed on the box. While clearing out space to make room for your Christmas gifts, please consider bringing these items by for those in our community having trouble making ends meet. Donations will be taken through Jan. 12. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!**

Every Wednesday  
beginning at 4:45 p.m.

St. John's opens their doors to **ALL** for fellowship and delicious meals!

Meals start again on January 8th.  
Expected Menus will be announced at  
Worship Services each week.



**Soup-er Bowl Sunday**  
February 2 after Worship Service,  
which will be 10:00 on this day.



There will be prizes, fun and fellowship! Bring a Crockpot of your favorite soup or bring dessert. A free-will offering will be taken for Hunger Awareness and leftovers will be offered to take home for a donation as well. Sign ups will be at the welcome Center.

Help is **ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!**



St. John's Preschool is currently accepting registration applications for January 2020



Parents may enroll their children by contacting;

Beth Cullen, (715) 497-2739 – or  
[st.johnspreschool.bloomer@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnspreschool.bloomer@gmail.com)

Classes will be offered to fully potty-trained 3 yr. old kiddos. Open enrollment will continue through February 14.

We'd love to have you join us for a fun and exciting school year!

Warmly, Your Preschool Staff,

Mrs. Beth, Miss Courtney and Mrs. Lambert

### Deadline for Newsletter

If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter please make sure to get it to the church secretary no later than the 24th of the month . Thank You!!

### Library Corner

"St. John's Best Kept Secret"



Recently added series to St. John's Library:

The American Odyssey Series is by Gilbert Morris. The 6 book series spans the time from 1900 to 1960, telling about the lives of the Stuart family. The series includes "A Time to be Born", "A Time to Die", "A Time to Laugh", "A Time to Weep", "A Time of War" and "A Time to Build."

Come in and check them out along with many of our other interesting and entertaining reads.

**STOP IN SOMETIME!!**

## January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 AM Worship Service	30 9:30 AM Foundation Meeting	31	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 Pre-School back to school!	3 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study	4
5 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM F.I.N. Meeting 10:15 AM Faith Five 12:00 PM Youth Committee Meeting	6 8:00 AM Bible Study	7 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Pre-School Board Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bloomer Cub Scouts Meeting	8 11:00 AM Host the Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg 2:00 PM Bible Study 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM Wednesday Meals 5:30 PM Confirmation-Faith Five 6:45 PM Worship	9 Conference of Pastors Meeting, Chippewa Falls	10 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study 3:30 PM Preparation for Confirmation Breakfast	11 9:00 AM Confirmation Breakfast 9:00 AM F.I.N. Retreat (Menomnie)
12 9:00 AM Worship Service -Rite of Confirmation 10:15 AM Faith Five 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Youth In Action	13 8:00 AM Bible Study	14 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bloomer Cub Scouts Meeting	15 2:00 PM Bible Study 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM Wednesday Meals 5:30 PM Confirmation-Faith Five 6:45 PM Worship	16	17 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study	18
19 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Faith Five 1:00 PM B-I-N-G-O	20 8:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Youth Committee Meeting	21 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Quilting Group 4:00 PM Staff Meeting	22 2:00 PM Bible Study 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM Wednesday Meals 5:30 PM Confirmation-Faith Five 6:45 PM Worship	23 NO PRESCHOOL	24 NO PRESCHOOL 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study	25
26 Pastor's Conference 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Faith Five 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Youth In Action	27 Pastor's Conference 8:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Bloomer Women's Club	28 ( Pastor Martin's Bday)	29 2:00 PM Bible Study 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM Wednesday Meals 5:30 PM Confirmation-Faith Five 6:45 PM Worship	30	31 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study	1

# Church Council Meeting Minutes

## December 10, 2019

### “Growing Disciples who eagerly share Christ’s Love”

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:30 by President Suzi McInnis.

#### **Financial Report:**

A motion was made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Barb Ross, to use \$2076.48 from Boiler Fund and \$2907.82 from Council Fund to reconcile the negative balance of -\$4984.30 in St. John’s Lutheran Misc. Fund - Other. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Lydia Blaha, to use \$125.00 from St. John’s Lutheran Undesignated Memorials to reconcile Accounts Payable. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lydia Blaha, seconded by Barb Ross, to update the St. John’s Lutheran Church 2020 Budget -Pastor-Medical and Disability Insurance amount \$28,600. Motion carried.

Pastor requests an increase of \$8000 in his housing allowance while decreasing his base salary by \$8000.

A motion was made by Barb Ross, seconded by Tom Ewings, to change Pastor’s housing allowance from \$24,000 to \$32,000 and to change Pastor’s base salary from \$39,500 to \$31,500. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Barb Ross, seconded by Driah Zakrzewicz, to accept St. John’s Lutheran 2020 Budget as amended. Motion carried.

Budget will be ready for dispersal no later than December 15. Lydia will contact two people about end of year audit. Audits will be done January 1 or 2. Annual Report should be out by January 5.

Please have Committee Reports to Victoria by December 22. **ANNUAL MEETING IS JANUARY 19, 2020 at 10:00 AM. PLAN TO ATTEND!**

A motion was made by Lydia Blaha, seconded by Barb Ross, to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

#### **Devotion:** Dwelling in the Word.

Discussed how God has a plan and how we need to trust Him and His plan and to have faith. God uses unexpected people in unexpected ways. We need to have patience. Sometimes big things begin with one person’s dream.

**Prayers:** Prayers of sympathy for family in Rice Lake dealing with loss of two-year-old girl; Morgan’s upcoming procedure; Laurie K. healing for leg fracture; Confirmation students who will be caroling and decorating cookies at nursing homes; college students preparing for finals; to open people’s hearts to the true meaning of Christmas; for Ms Sprague on the passing of her grandpa; for those facing Christmas after losing a loved one; prayers of strength and healing for Brian B. while enduring treatment; for Pastor’s mother recovering from a procedure; for praise to God for the gift of His Son and Eternal Life.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Barb Ross, seconded by Kathy Tozer, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**Approval of November meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Barb Ross, seconded by Melissa Sarauer, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

# Church Council Minutes (Continued)

## Issues/Information

**Committee Reports:** (Attachments: FIN, Pastor)

### Fellowship:

Soup-er Bowl Sunday event on February 2, 2020. Bring your favorite soup or dessert to share after **10:00 worship**. Free will offering will be collected for Hunger Awareness. Purchase a container of soup to take home for later! Prizes and games for all. Look for more information to come.

Opportunity to enjoy fellowship with other churches: Are you interested in joining a Dartball team? Information and a light lunch at United Congregational Church on January 25. Speak with Pastor Martin for details.

### Social Committee:

St. John's is responsible for Meals on Wheels in January and need volunteers.

A motion was made by Lydia Blaha, seconded by Barb Ross, to replace the mechanical entry door at a cost of \$2343 from TruLock. Property Committee will be asked if they can contribute to cost and funds from Undesignated Memorials will cover the balance. Motion carried.

### Town Hall Update:

Good turnout; not many younger parents attended.

Good questions were asked; raised understanding of cost breakdown.

### Nominating Committee:

Four open positions: Lisa and Driah ask to be considered for another term. Barb has a list of possible candidates for the other two positions.

Pastor will work on assembling a nominating committee for next year.

Discussed First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Concern will be forwarded to Youth Committee and Worship Committee.

Welcome Center: Will wait until after the holidays to set up a schedule.

Charcoal Chicken Fundraiser: Possible date of April 26, 2020. Help is welcomed!

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:40 by Kathy Tozer, seconded by Barb Ross. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer, led by Pastor Martin.

Lisa Prill, Secretary

Present: Pastor Martin, Victoria Prince-Silvas, Suzi McInnis, Melissa Sarauer, Lydia Blaha, Barb Ross, Kathy Tozer, Tom Ewings, Pauline Stertz, Driah Zakrzewicz, Lisa Prill. Absent: Adam Anderson.

# Youth Announcements

## YOUTH AND EDUCATION



**9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION WORSHIP**  
**9:00 AM SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020**  
**CONFIRMED IN CHRIST**

<b>Tyler Berlin</b>	<b>Madalaine Larson</b>
<b>Dylan Halom</b>	<b>Dominick Meisner</b>
<b>Kylee Heintz</b>	<b>Evan Nitek</b>
<b>Abrina Hillman</b>	<b>Zoe Pielhop</b>
<b>RyAnna Keller</b>	<b>Jensyn Skaar</b>
<b>Cicely Kiecker</b>	<b>Delaney Zwiefelhofer</b>
<b>Joshua Koehler</b>	

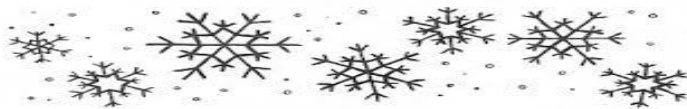
**LUTHER PARK  
BIBLE CAMP  
CHETEK, WISCONSIN  
RECHARGE**

**2019-2020  
WHO AM I?**

**JANUARY 3-4, 2020  
APRIL 3-4, 2020**

**WHO:**  
**Individuals in grades  
3-5, 6-8, and 9-12**

**WHERE:**  
**Luther Park Bible Camp  
944 241/4 Street  
Chetek, WI. 54729**



### **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.**



**WHO: 8<sup>th</sup> THROUGH 12<sup>th</sup>  
GRADE**

**WHEN: 5:30-7:30 pm,  
JANUARY 12 & 26**

**WHERE: ST. JOHNS LU-  
THERAN**

**FRIENDS WELCOME**

**FRIENDS WELCOME**

# Pastor Martin's Monthly Report

## **I CELEBRATE**

1. The abundant reception offered for the New Auburn Community Choir concert led by Janice Naset.
2. A healthy Town Hall Forum with appropriate questions and informative insights.
3. Zayah Zakrzewicz and his willingness to remove snow on Sunday mornings.
4. The continued work of the Youth and Family Ministry "call committee".

## **People I've encouraged and RESOURCED**

1. Identifying Liz Bohl as a confirmation guide for the remainder of the year.
2. RyAnna Keller, Caitlyn Bohl, Kelsey Kettner, Harley Prill have come forward to offer their musical talents at upcoming Christmas services.
3. We have also purchased brass music for Christmas!
4. Gathering and assisting the Nominations committee to find church council candidates.

## **Ways I've helped us GO DEEPER with our Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals**

1. Offering the town hall forum to discuss the future of our youth ministry and how we can continue to build an already healthy ministry.

## **I'm currently WORKING ON**

1. Completing the 2020 church calendar.
2. Completing the staff manual for final approval.
3. Annual meeting preparations including annual reports.
4. Youth and Family Ministry Director process.

## **I'm LEARNING & EXPLORING**

1. I've accepted the invitation to serve on the Luther Park board for a one year term.
2. I've accepted the invitation to serve on the next strategic planning process with the Bloomer School District.
3. Figuring out the equipment needed to consistently record sermons without the use of hand held cell phone.

## **I could use your HELP with and your PRAYERS for**

1. Finding the funding source to fix the interior entrance door.
2. Identifying people for the 2020 nominating committee as well as people to serve as synod assembly voting members.

## **Additional comments**

1. Membership updates: none

# FIN (Faithful Innovations Network)

## Thursday, November 14, 2019

Attendance: Lydia Blaha, Tom Ewings, Suzi McInnis, Pastor Martin

1. Dwelling in the Word - Acts 16
  - a. The drive for Paul and his companions to set out to Macedonia - was it the urgency of the man's dream or was it the task they were about to complete that inspired these men to head to Macedonia? Does the plead specifically to Paul versus the task alone effect the decision maker(s)?
  - b. How often does the Lord open up our hearts, but we do not respond?
2. Furthered discussion on a FB Broadcast
  - a. What do we want to learn? Do we have the ability to engage individuals physically and not physically at church each Wednesday/Sunday?
    - i. We could not see if we reached "outside the walls", as the post was uploaded as a visitor, and those stats are not captured there.
  - b. Feedback loop:
    - i. The first video was uploaded to FB, but as a visitor, which we believe is "buried" within the St. John's Facebook page. Needing to upload via Administrator, not a visitor.
    - ii. Lydia's phone worked well for it being a phone, but we may have other technology to consider in the future.
  - c. Steps for attempt #2:
    - i. PM to talk with Jeff to see if he is willing to record from upstairs, using the digital camera the church already has. We need to then understand how to get the video uploaded from there then.
    - ii. Tom Ewings to reach out to Ray Buske to ask for his possible assistance in this also.
    - iii. Need to identify folks who can be our people who can do this for us. Aiming for three people so that they can rotate or cover each week as desired.
3. Quarterly random message from PM
  - a. What do we want to learn? Can we get responses from the folks who are not consistently attending service, but may need an extra prayer said for them?
  - b. Steps:
    - i. Pastor Martin aiming for a December e-mail to his largest e-mail list
    - ii. FIN will keep PM accountable to do this on a quarterly basis
  - c. Feedback loop: Pastor Martin to share how many people respond back (not who) and share the general content of what was brought to his attention for prayer requests.
4. Presentation at last FIN meeting January, 11
  - a. We will use a board as our "teleprompter" to help organize our thoughts.
5. Next Meetings
  - a. Can be December 28-January 4. PM to gather availability to pin down a day. Bring ideas and write up script.
  - b. January 5 for film of the presentation.

# FIN (Faithful Innovations Network) - *continued*

## Finance Update

### Brainstorm Session Ideas List

- Next Bonfire - Decided to not have another fall bonfire. Instead, will do an afternoon fire on the ice. Aiming for February.
- Decided that our index card idea was too internal. We want to get outside the building. This idea will be tabled for now, but we want to get back to following through with this.
- Technology
  - Broadcast service on FB
  - Pastor's corner
  - Martha's bible study group on FB
  - Tithing
  - Endless list "How To's" (baptism, marriage, tours of different parts of our church) for info
- Youth draw/paint a picture and then we hand them out to people in our community, with the back of the picture with the child's name, their age/grade, and St. John's Lutheran Church
- Hand out free hot cocoa on a cold day, possibly aiming for a community event, to connect St. John's with our community
- Actually discuss in worship the reflection question after each session
- Live responses to the reflection questions via technology and publish the responses live at worship.
- In our experiment phase, include youth to help come up with the ideas

## FINANCE UPDATE

Numbers as of December 30, 2019

### Year-To-Date:

Weekly Contributions	\$225,505.04
Other Raised Funds	<u>15,236.16</u>
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$240,741.20</b>
Expenses	<u>\$238,096.27</u>
<b>Total remaining after expenses</b>	<b>\$ <u>2,644.93</u></b>

## Expressions of Thanks

### NOTE FROM - - Holiday Red Cross Bloodmobile 2019

#### Thank you for your support.

82 units of blood were collected at the Red Cross Bloodmobile held on Thurs, Dec 26, 2019 at the Bloomer Middle School!

Thank you to all of you who gave your precious gift of blood. **You are the lifeline that patients need!**

Thank you to the Bloomer Middle School and Staff for hosting the drive. Thank you to the Red Cross staff, who move a mountain of equipment every day, and greet every one with good cheer!

Thank you to St. John's Lutheran Church volunteers for your work in registration, canteen, set-up and tear-down - Sharon Schwartz, Bob Jacobson, Nick Hutchinson, Dennis Olson, Candis Homme, Martha Libersky, Barb Ross, Lisa Prill, Evelyn Ferstenou, Bonnie Lueck, Janice Naset Lisa Goettl, Pam Dachel, and David Lane. Thank you to all who donated food and treats for the canteen and the staff lunch.

Thank you to Bloomer Community appointment callers for spending hours on the phone so that we were able to surpass our goal - Judy Lewis, Darlene, Henneman, and Carole Schmidt; and to Ann Bowe for distributing posters. Thank you to Rick at Harm's Way for donating ice.

The next Community drive will be held at St. Paul's Catholic School on Thurs, March 26, 2020.

#### ***Also note!***

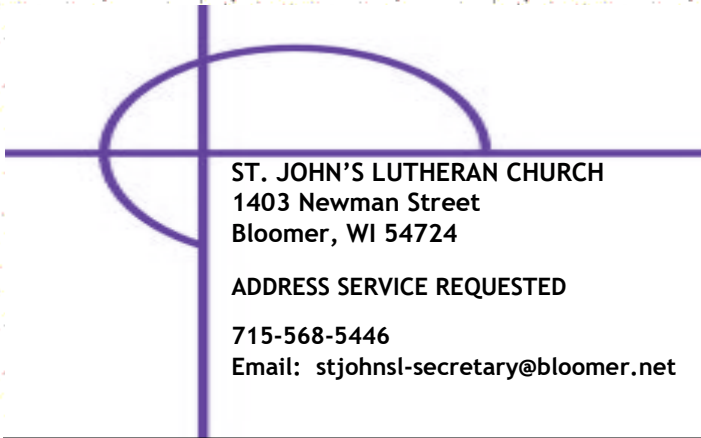
The Bloomer Aquatic & Recreation Center is holding a drive on Friday, Jan. 17 from 9:00 until 3:00!

**“Meals on Wheels”** volunteers are needed to deliver the meals for the month of January.

Sign up sheet is in the narthex at the welcome desk.

***Thank You!!***





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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446

Email: [stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net)

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Bloomer, WI

**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](mailto:pastormartin@bloomer.net)