



# 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 & Family Announcements

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### UPS and JFK

It's very rare in my life when ads stick in my brain. There are but a few, but one that actually has is the logo from UPS that started nearly 20 years ago and was retired in 2010 – "What can brown do for you?"

Likewise, it's also rare for presidential lines from famous speeches to stick for me as well, but one that I've retained is when President John F. Kennedy recited in his 1961 Inaugural Address, "My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."

At first sight, these two standards appear to clash, but I'd like to suggest that when these two compliment each other, the church is at its best.

Each year when we enter January, our culture has taught us to seek self-improvement through our new year's resolutions. Sometimes they stick, most often they do not because we sink back to old patterns and routines that are comfortable. The church is famous for that! But this year, I am hopeful that our newly elected church council will participate in a retreat early in the year to establish goals for our church that reflect our values and acknowledge the times we live in. But my hope is that our goals will tie into your goals. In other words, to steal from UPS, *What can St. John's do for you?* When it comes to your faith life, how can we help?

On the other hand, to steal from President Kennedy, *Ask what you can do for your church.* We too want to utilize the gifted person that God created you to be. In each church that I've served, I know that there are certain needs that each church has. Historically, a typical weekly worship service needs acolytes, ushers, readers, musicians, greeters, audio/visual, etc. But the other side of that coin focuses not on a needs-based analysis, but rather an asset-based analysis. I still remember several years ago speaking with a member who wanted to plug back into the church and finding out about her gift of photography! Even though we didn't have an official committee, task force, or group to immediately plug her into, she was simply given free reign to capture our ministry in action to share as part of our story. What do you enjoy doing? What brings you life? Is there a way you could share that within the context of St. John's ministry? When it comes to your giftedness, how can you help?

I can't really predict what lies ahead in 2022, especially having lived through the unpredictable 2020-21. But my hope remains strong in this church. I remain passionate about serving your needs as they pertain to your walk of faith. I hope that you too are passionate about serving your church, however that might look. When we work together as a church family, when we look out for each other, our church will be at its best!

*Pastor Halom*

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 list please stop by the church office, call the office at 715-568-5446, or email the information to: [stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net)

### Prayers of Healing for our Church Family

Shelli Rogge; Marlene Windsor; Arlene Christianson; Rod Martin; Donna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Ilene Pingel; Maggie Olson; Margueritte Werner; Carolyn Bergh; Kelly Custer; Steve Trubshaw; Merv Marquardt; Clyde Shipman, Doris Mashak (Tyler Halverson's grandmother).

### Prayers for our Active Military

Dalton Grambo, Danielle Shipman, Kelsey Leavens,  
Trenton Beaudette, Ryan Heiss

### Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of January 2<sup>nd</sup>: Pat and Cody Prill; Damian, Sara, Ava, Hank and Henry Prince; Kerry, Arianna, Isabella and Rebecca Rauscher; Loraine Reetz; Rosanne Reid; Amanda, Chuck, Gavin and Grant Richardson.

Prayers for the week of January 9<sup>th</sup>: Betty Rihn; Beverly Rihn; Eva Rihn; Janell, Mark, Justin and Karson Rihn; Jason, Jean, Leo and Wyatt Rihn; Jeff and Brandi Rihn; Jerry Rihn, Joyce Rihn.

Prayers for the week of January 16<sup>th</sup>: Patti and Tyler Rihn; Richard Rihn; Rosella Rihn; Janet Rogge; Jeff, Shelli and Samantha Rogge; Ashley, Athena, Lennon and Paris Rogge; Andrew, Chassy, Cora and Corbin Roggenbuck.

Prayers for the week of January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Daniel, Suzette and Travis Rosebrook; Barb Ross; Dennis, Val, Trevor, Tyler and Zach Rubenzer; Kyle, Michelle, Jenna and Mikayla Ruffedt; Gina, Michael and Ashley Sarauer.

Prayers for the week of January 30<sup>th</sup>: Gregory Sarauer; Barry, Melissa, Alexander and Morgan Sarauer; Erin, Bella and Christina Schell; Josh, Tara, Connor, Reid and Briggs Schemenauer; Carly, Zachary and Madden Schimmel; Nancy Schindler.

# JANUARY 2022 CALENDAR

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs-	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service	<b>27</b> NO PRE-SCHOOL	<b>28</b> NO PRE-SCHOOL 11:15 AM Staff	<b>29</b> NO PRESCHOOL 9:30 AM Foundation Meeting	<b>30</b> NO PRE-SCHOOL	<b>31</b> NO PRE-SCHOOL	<b>1 HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>
<b>2</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M. 5:30 PM Youth In Action	<b>10</b> 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>12</b> 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship Service	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Pastor's Conference	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Annual Meeting 10:15 AM J.A.M.	<b>17</b> Pastor's Conference 6:00 PM Care of Creation Meeting (zoom)	<b>18</b> 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Quilting Group	<b>19</b> 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship Service	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM First communion retreat	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M. 5:30 PM Youth In Action	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 11:15 AM Staff Meeting	<b>26</b> 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service-Baptism Theodore Sarauer 10:15 AM J.A.M.	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

# Church News

## FED & FORGIVEN RETREAT

**Who:** Anyone who hasn't had their first communion yet  
**When:** Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

Is your child interested in taking communion? Join us for our Fed & Forgiveness retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp! We'll learn all about communion, have some outside play time, and some time to hang out with friends! Please contact Katie for more information, or sign up at our Signup Genius at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/>



Our high school youth at Youth In Action had a cookie decorating "contest" in December. It was fun to let our creativity shine and see what the youth would come up with.

Thank you to all who bought butter braids! The St. John's youth raised **\$1535** which will help go towards summer camp, Quake, the Youth Gathering, and more!

*We thank you again for your support.*



## St. John's is beginning to set up Meals On Wheels For January



If you would be available for one or more weeks in January to drive and/or deliver meals, please contact **Janice Naset at 568-5615 -- or -- Martha Libersky at 568-4653** To schedule.

**Thank you for helping with this community project!**

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the Red Cross Bloodmobile drive. Tom, Ted, Lisa, Janice, Kathy, Nancy, Barb, Kim, Bonnie and Harley & Kerry. Your help was greatly appreciated!

*Sharon Schwartz*

## Neighbor To Neighbor



A new ministry of the Northwest Synod of WI

Details can be found on bulletin boards at both church entrances.

## Deadline for February 2022 Newsletter

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

## FINANCE UPDATE

Year-To-Date as of Dec. 29, 2021

Year-To-Date:	
Weekly Contributions	\$213,655.70
Other Raised Funds	<u>26,921.40</u>
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$240,577.10</b>
- Expenses	<u>\$-229,779.00</u>
<b>Total remaining after expenses</b>	<b>\$ 10,798.10</b>

**\*\*Other raised funds includes youth fundraising and preschool tuition payments. Year to date we have needed to borrow \$25,000 from our line of credit to cover operating expenses.\*\***

## Quilting Group

Will be meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

*Everyone is welcome!!*



# Church Council Minutes

## December 13, 2021

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Acting President Adam Anderson.

**Opening Devotion:** Prayer by Pastor Martin.

**Approval of Agenda:** Addition of Pastor 2022 housing allowance and preschool substitute pay rate. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to approve the agenda, with flexibility. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2021:** Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Marcy Trubshaw, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Jeff Cole, to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### *Property:*

- Geissler fixed toilet in office area.

#### *Social Ministry:*

- Care for Creation ministry continuing with weekly care tips. Starting energy conservation in 2022.

#### *Worship/Music Committee:*

- Planning musicianship for Christmas services.

#### *Youth and Family Ministry:*

- Meeting December 14.
- Butter braids will be in Wednesday.
- Christmas pageant on December 19. Only immediate family in household to attend pageant.

#### *Preschool:*

- 3-month review of staff done.

#### *Pastor's Report:*

- Progressive Christmas pageant taking place December 19.
- Martha will be preaching on December 26 with Katie possibly helping out with the service.

#### *Membership Update:*

- Baptisms: Anson Downs; Asher Eisenhuth. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.
- Transfer to Church Triumphant: Marlene Rosenbrook. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

- AED looks to be working properly. Jeff will do monthly checks.

# Church Council Minutes *(continued)*

## New Business:

- Pastor Martin requesting 2022 housing allowance of \$32,000. Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Pat Prill, to approve Pastor's 2022 housing allowance of \$32,000. Motion carried.
  - Discussed preschool substitute pay. If Christina is gone, Krissie steps up to director position and substitute steps into teacher assistant position. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer for Krissie to make \$10 per hour on days she's director and substitute teacher assistant make flat rate of \$38 per day. After discussion, motion rescinded. Further discussion held. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer for substitute teacher assistant to make flat rate of \$38 per day (\$9.50 per hour for four hours). Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Janelle Yeakey opposes. Motion carried.
  - Discussed 2022 budget. Motion made by Melissa Sarauer at 6:40 p.m. to go into closed session. Seconded by Marcy Trubshaw. Motion carried. Motion made by Marcy Trubshaw at 7:25 p.m. to return to open session. Seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Janelle Yeakey for a 1% increase for Pastor, youth director, and financial secretary/office manager. Seconded by Marcy Trubshaw. Motion carried. Financial secretary salary will be \$7,000; office manager salary will be \$17,400. Youth director salary will be \$32,350 including benefits. Motion made by Marcy Trubshaw, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to approve the 2022 budget. Motion carried. 2022 budget will be posted on Facebook and sent out electronically. Hard copies will be available in the narthex.
- Discussed wearing masks during church services. Motion made by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Pat Prill, to revisit at January meeting. Motion carried. Discussed having one service on Christmas Eve with masks encouraged but not required. Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to have masks encouraged at the 8 p.m. Christmas Eve service. "Yes" votes by Melissa Sarauer, Janelle Yeakey, Alicia Bonczyk, Pat Prill, Terri Smith. "No" votes by Jeff Cole, Tom Ewings, Marcy Trubshaw. Adam Anderson abstained. Motion carried.
  - Annual meeting January 16, 2022, will be in person and by Zoom. Child care will be available.

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Marcy Trubshaw. Motion carried.

**Closing Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Martin.

Next regular council meeting will be January 10, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Terri Smith, Secretary

**Present:** Pastor Martin, Adam Anderson, Alicia Bonczyk, Janelle Yeakey, Jeff Cole, Marcy Trubshaw, Melissa Sarauer, Pat Prill, Terri Smith, Tom Ewings. **Absent:** Kaitlyn Bohl.

### ON THE FINANCIAL FRONT

Offering envelopes are available in the chapel area toward the front of the church. If you do not have any left over from 2021, please pick up a box and mark the sheet!

The 2022 proposed budget is also available in the chapel area. Please read the cover letter for the pertinent information regarding the proposed changes.

And **THANK YOU** for your continued faithful giving and support of this church!

### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

- Sunday, January 16 at 10:15 am
- Childcare will be available

**Please make time in your  
schedule to attend this  
all-important gathering!**

# Youth Announcements

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### JESUS & ME (JAM)

**Who:** Pre-K – 5th Grade  
**When:** Sunday @ 10:15am & Wednesday @ 5:30pm

Join us in the sanctuary on either Sunday or Wednesday for Jesus & Me (aka JAM)! Your kids will learn about a new Bible story each week, play some fun games, and grow in their faith with their peers.

**Note:** There will be NO JAM on January 2nd.

### WORSHIP ACOLYTE & COMMUNION HELP

**Who:** All who have been through Fed & Forgiven

**When:** Christmas Eve @ 4, 6, or 8pm, Christmas Day @ 9am

We are in need of some additional help on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day during our worship services. Here's the amount of helpers we need at each service:

- 12/24 @ 4pm (1)
- 12/24 @ 6pm (2)
- 12/24 @ 8pm (2)
- 12/25 @ 9am (1)

If you are able to help, please let Katie know.

### YOUTH IN ACTION



**Who:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth  
**When:** January 9th & 23rd @ 5:30pm

Join us for some fun, fellowship, and FOOD! All are welcome (yes, even friends)! It's bound to be a good night for all.

### CONFIRMATION

**Who:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
**When:** Wednesday @ 5:30pm

This year our confirmation students are learning about the 10 Commandments. Join us as we grow with our peers to explore our faith, ask great questions, and have a lot of fun together!

### Youth Gathering

**Who:** 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
**When:** July 24-28, 2022

The Youth Gathering will be here before we know it, and it's not too late to sign up! If you are interested, please contact Katie ASAP to register. Registration fees go up again on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, so the earlier you register the better.

### QUAKE MEETING

**Who:** 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Families  
**When:** February 11-13, 2022  
It's not too late to sign up for Quake! If you are interested and haven't signed up yet, please contact Katie to let her know.

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



The St. John's children's Christmas program, "New Star," went so well! The kids did amazing! If you haven't had a chance to watch it, you can check it out on our YouTube channel.