



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

9th Grade Faith Statement

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9th Grade Faith Statement

I've been going to this church all my life. I remember coming to church on Sundays and getting the donuts they had, which were the best part. I got baptized and went to preschool here. I remember going to Wednesday school and Sunday school as a child. As I grew up church became less important. But my parents started to encourage me and my siblings to go again. As I started going again, I realized the importance of having Jesus in my life.

There are many things that my faith means to me. As a Lutheran, I accept everyone. No matter the skin color or look. God made everyone to be perfect in his eyes, even if not everyone sees it. Along with that I accept people who like the same gender. I think people shouldn't judge others on who they love. Who you love does not change you as a person. I feel like in this day and age things are so different for teens and children. We are growing up in a totally different world than our parents. I feel everyone judges others on everything. I just have to remember that God made me how I am for a reason. I'm here to do something amazing for the world.

I've been to two quakes. Both quakes I've been to have been absolutely amazing. I got to hang out with some awesome people from church and meet new people as well. The speakers talked about their relationship with God and it was really inspirational. I think going to the quakes really helped make my faith stronger. We had an opportunity to package food for people in need which was definitely rewarding knowing I was giving back. It was cool to see all these kids my age gather in the room and think and hear about Jesus.

Faith is strong in my relationship. I feel like I've been blessed with the people who are in my life. I know that if I am ever having a bad day that I can lay in my bed and have someone to talk to. I know that if I ever need to pray for someone, he will always do his best to answer my prayer. My parents have helped in my faith journey because they encouraged me [to] show up to confirmation which I really appreciate. They also brought me to church on Sundays to help serve communion.

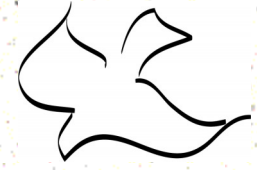
Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." This verse really means something to me. No matter what the challenge is, if you take it from an attitude of faith and pray about it things should be successful.

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 July, 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

Donna Kerckhove & Rene Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughters), Tom Buchner, Ilene Pingel, Carolyn Bergh, Willard Rogge, Maggie Olson, Dick Gladitsch, Merv Marquardt, Arlene Christianson, Elda Marvin (Kathy Tozer's mom), Cayce and Renee Grambo, Neveah Nitek and John Amodt (father of Katie Telschow), Steve Trubshaw, Ramsey Dahmer.

Prayers for our Active Military

Jacob Dachel, Jacob Johnson, Danielle Shipman, Kelsey Leavens, Trenton Beaudette, Ryan Heiss

Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of July 5th: Beth, Tyler, Leo and Lauren Halverson; Maggie Hansen; Christine, Jason (Rego), Braelyn and Brooks Hanson; Debra, Kevin Darion and Samuel Hanson; Darlene Haas; Dorothy Hassemer.

Prayers for the week of July 12th: Lyndsey, Travis, Gavin and Kylee Heintz; Jan and Rich Helgeson; Cheryl, David and Alana Helland; Anna and Christopher Hilger; Joseph, Kathleen, Eric, Lucas and Mitchell Hilger; Jason, Laurice, Abrina, Gabe and Isabelle Hillman.

Prayers for the week of July 19th: Amanda and Aubree Holm; Candi and Gregory Homme; Dean, Nicole and Dominique Hontz; Brett, Tianna, Benton and Greta Huber; Ellyn, Jim, Jeffrey and Joy Hudaceck; Janie and Robert Jacobson.

Prayers for the week of July 26th: Karen and Rod Johnson; Heather, Robert and Ava Kasparek; Heidi, Jamie, Haley, Jordyn and RyAnna Keller; Jeanie, Justin, Kelsey and Wyatt Kettner; John, Tami, Cicely and Dayne Kiecker; Joseph, Trist and Gauge Klemish.

Church News

UPDATE ON CHURCH ACTIVITIES DUE TO GOVERNMENT MANDATED SOCIAL DISTANCING

Pending events include:

1. Senior recognition, Worship Service Wednesday, June 29
2. Farewell celebration for Marla
3. Katie O'Connell installation
4. Virtual VBS—July 6-9, 6pm each evening sing-a-long with Katie.
5. Youth In Action, July 12 & 26 at 5:30 p.m.

Be advised: Meetings with limited number of attendees are allowed with safety considerations honored. See St. John's Facebook page or homepage for details.

www.stjohns-bloomer.org

Check out our calendar of events on St. John's webpage for schedule updates

Excerpt from memo from Chippewa County Department of Public Health:

- All residents are strongly encouraged to follow these disease prevention guidelines, including:
- o Maintaining distancing of six (6) feet between people;
 - o Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer;
 - o Wear a cloth face covering when going out in public;
 - o Covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands);
 - o Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces;
 - o Not shaking hands; and
 - o Following all other public health recommendations issued by Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

FINANCE UPDATE

Year-To-Date as of June 29, 2020

Year-To-Date:

Weekly Contributions	\$105,786.76
Other Raised Funds	<u>6,843.02</u>
Total Received	\$ 112,629.78
- Expenses	<u>\$-116,174.94</u>
Total remaining after expenses	\$ - 3,560.23

Deadline for August Newsletter

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



JULY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service - see safety guidelines 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Youth In Action</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:45 PM Worship Service -Parking Lot</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service - see safety guidelines</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Virtual Vacation Bible School 6:00 PM VBS Sing-a-long with Katie</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Virtual Vacation Bible School 5:30 PM Pre-School Board Meeting- TENTATIVE 6:00 PM VBS Sing-a-long with Katie</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Virtual Vacation Bible School 6:00 PM VBS Sing-a-long with Katie 6:45 PM Worship Service -Parking Lot</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Virtual Vacation Bible School 6:00 PM VBS Sing-a-long with Katie</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service - see safety guidelines 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Youth In Action</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:00 PM Youth Committee Meeting, Location TBD</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:45 PM Worship Service -Parking Lot</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 PM F.I.N. Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service - see safety guidelines</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:45 PM Worship Service -Parking Lot</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship Service - see safety guidelines 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Youth In Action</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:45 PM Worship Service -Parking Lot - Senior Recognition.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Bloomer H.S. Graduation Ceremony</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>

Church Council Minutes *(via Zoom)*

June 9, 2020

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by President Tyler Halverson.

Opening Devotion: By Pastor Martin. Prayers of healing for Renee and Cayce; prayers for comfort and strength for Jonathan and Amy on the loss of their infant and for the friends and family of "Sponge" Michels; for healing for our nation during the pandemic; for peace and understanding during the unrest in the wake of George Floyd's death in Minneapolis; prayers for law enforcement officers, leaders and officials.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Suzi McInnis, seconded by Melissa Sarauer, to approve the agenda, with flexibility. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 12, 2020: A motion was made by Suzi McInnis, seconded by Marcy Trubshaw, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting, May 19, 2020: A motion was made by Suzi McInnis, seconded by Driah Zakrzewicz, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: A motion was made by Kathy Tozer, seconded by Tom Ewings, to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Social Ministry:

Mask project is complete. Thank you to Karen Barlow, Kathy Geissler and Jeff Cole for making 175 face masks to be distributed through the Bloomer Area Food Pantry!

Random Act of Flowers project is in the works. Donated flowers from local gardens or left after weddings/funerals will be repurposed to distribute to residents in area nursing homes. A place will be needed to store donated vases, bows, etc as well as a refrigerator for storing flowers.

Youth and Family Ministry

A digital version of VBS will be offered beginning July 6, presented via Zoom at 6:00.

Katie will share a bible story and camp songs. A recording will be made for those unable to watch live. Stay tuned for more details!

Senior High Recognition will be held Wednesday, July 29. Tentative location is North Park. Cupcake and ice cream reception will be held afterward.

A motion was made by Suzi McInnis, seconded by Tom Ewings, to purchase a laptop for the Youth and Family Ministry Director at a cost up to \$1200 to be paid from Undesignated Memorials. Motion carried.

Preschool: Signed contracts for upcoming school year are due by June 15.

Council President's Report: Reminder to submit action items for the agenda ASAP.

Pastor's Report: Membership Update:

Baptism: Mia Razim.

Transfer to Church Triumphant: Beth Poirier, Don Gravunder.

A motion was made by Tom Ewings, seconded by Kathy Tozer, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.

Church Council Minutes *(continued)* June 9, 2020

Old Business

Council Terms/Seats: Tabled until July meeting.

COVID Situation Update:

Return to in person worship on Sunday, June 14 according to guidelines approved by council. Information will be sent electronically (email, Facebook, website) ASAP. Hard copies will be mailed to those receiving the newsletter by mail. Signage will be posted on doors.

In person worship on Wednesday will be held outdoors, weather permitting, following guidelines approved by council.

It is anticipated that communion will be offered beginning at July 12 worship.

Additional Items and Comments: Chippewa County will be holding a Clean Sweep June 23-24 from 2-4 PM at the Northern WI State Fairgrounds.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:22 PM by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Suzi McInnis. Motion carried.

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

Reminder to submit items to be included on the next agenda by noon Tuesday of the week prior to council meeting. **Next Meeting will be July 14, 2020 at 5:30.**

Lisa Prill Secretary

Present via Zoom: Pastor Martin, Victoria Prince-Silvas, Tyler Halverson, Melissa Sarauer, Lydia Blaha, Suzi McInnis, Kathy Tozer, Tom Ewings, Adam Anderson, Pat Prill, Marcy Trubshaw, Driah Zakrzewicz, Lisa Prill.

Youth Announcements



YOUTH AND EDUCATION



JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL VBS!

Theme: FOCUS

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith."

Hebrews 12:2 (NIRV)

Live Zoom Sing-along with Katie: July 6-9 @ 6pm
(Will be recorded and put online for later viewing)

Email Katie O'Connell at
stjohnsl-katie@bloomer.net
with any questions or to sign up.

Senior High Service Work Day at Luther Park

Tuesday, July 14th

Contact Katie O'Connell for details

stjohnsl-katie@bloomer.net or her cell phone (715) 338-9270



WEATHER ALERT

SUMMER FUN IN THE SUN CAN BE HARMFUL
TO YOUR HEALTH
STAY HYDRATED
DON'T FORGET THE SUNSCREEN

Youth Committee Meeting

June 8, 2020 via Zoom

Present: Pastor Martin, Katie, Kathy Tozer, Melissa Sarauer, Lisa Prill, Beth Halverson, Lauren and Leo

VBS: Do we want to offer? In what capacity?

Would offer one theme, five days of activities.

Include: bible story, discussion question, activity, craft ideas.

Suggestions:

Invite youth to participate via Zoom. Katie could read bible story. This would be recorded so others can watch at their convenience.

Add camp songs. Is there a licensing issue? Katie will find out.

"Campers" can email song requests in advance.

Will advertise on our website and Facebook page, Bloomer Advance, Public Access TV, Bloomer Clergy. For those without digital access, contact Katie for hardcopy.

Live Zoom will begin at 6:00 from Katie's home.

Four days of content. Theme will be "Fruits of the Spirit." Include hard copy of story, a couple questions, activity page, random act of kindness homework (share what you did)

Have families post pics of activities and projects on FB and/or send projects, coloring pages for display in entryway.

Live session runs July 6-9.

"Connect with Katie" to keep youth connected after VBS via Zoom. Weekly?

Senior Recognition:

July 29th at 6:45 in the North Park so we can practice social distancing. Sides on pavilion can be rolled down in case of rain. Will decide on venue by Sunday, July 26 based on weather forecast.

Will serve cupcakes and ice cream cups to avoid handling of food (PM will check with Krissy/Rose Marie) PM will check with Senior families on approximate numbers for ordering.

Youth in Action:

Will begin Sunday, June 14 at 5:30 via Zoom on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Incoming ninth graders and graduated seniors.

Plans for Fall:

Confirmation will probably start via Zoom August 26th.

For younger kids, Katie could use a Zoom format like VBS: opener/song/bible story/activity/online materials available. May draw in parents to participate.

Next meeting: July 13th at 5:00. Will tentatively plan on meeting August 3 and 17.

Luther Park Service Project:

Group of less than ten could participate in a service project at Luther Park.

May split a larger group.

Need to decide on transportation, mask, type of permission slip/waiver (parental permission, St. John's release form, Luther Park forms?)

Benevolence:

Youth in Action decided to donate \$400 to purchase a video camera for St. John's.

Youth in Action are donating \$400 to Luther Park general fund.

Youth fundraisers total \$4000. Numbers are from using 80/10/10.

Office equipment:

Katie needs a new desk chair. Will have her gather information on prices. Funds would come from Pastor professional budget.

Laptop for Katie: PM will check with Chris Hassemmer on cost. Will ask council about using Undesignated funds for this purchase.

Registration:

Katie will work on how to get registration online and retain information for future use.

MELISSA WILL HELP KATIE WITH FORMS

Youth Committee Meeting *(conclusion)* Letter From Pastor Martin

Fed and Forgiven:

Combine with overnight recharge in October?

PM will coordinate a Zoom meeting with parents for discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM

Next meeting is July 13th at 5:00, either in person or via Zoom.

THE UNKNOWN FUTURE LIES AHEAD

As I write this article, we've experienced three worship services face to face. To say the least, we are doing our best to provide as normal a worship experience while balancing one another's safety. When I returned home after the first experience on Sunday, June 14, I found myself greatly missing the music a normal Sunday worship experience would provide. Unfortunately, singing is one of the riskier behaviors (along with unison speaking by large crowds), which altered our worship quite significantly. After meeting again with our worship committee, we are attempting to incorporate music (unsung) into more of the service, including parts that we are not accustomed to!

Needless to say, life is not normal. Everywhere I read and listen, I hear the cries of people wanting to return to our comfort zone of normalcy. But here's the thing. I'm not convinced that a return to normal is likely. Further, I'm not convinced that a return to normal is good.

If you've heard my preaching lately, you'll have noticed a theme of justice with regard to racism. I've made attempts to put my white privilege aside and wonder what it's like to walk in a black man's shoes. What's normal and comfortable for me is not necessarily what's comfortable for the black (or any minority for that matter) population. Change is happening as we speak. Change will have some unfortunate consequences I'm sure, but my prayer is that change will help improve lives of people less fortunate than me.

As I think ahead to the fall, I have too many questions. I wonder what worship will look like. I wonder what faith formation for all ages will look like. I wonder what committee life will look like. I wonder if we'll ever get back to normal. I wonder many, many things.

But here's another thing. What if things get better? What if we reach more people because you don't have to be physically present? What if people are more likely to worship because they can fit it into their busy schedule? What if our youth come together online because they're not dependent on transportation? What if we start utilizing technology more to share our ministry instead of relying on bulletins and newsletters? These are all strong possibilities that don't take away from anything we're currently doing (like in person worship) but simply add to our collective life together!

Friends, this pandemic has created a new normal for the entire world. But if there's one thing I believe about God it is this: God responds to crisis. God is in the midst of transforming the bad into good. God brings life out of death. Maybe this is the wakeup call we needed. Maybe God has something brewing that will be amazing, much like God's grace.

Pastor Martin



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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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