



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

Confirmation Faith Statements

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DO WE TREAT THE CHURCH LIKE A SHOW? (Part 2)

Last month, I wrote the following provocative statement: *THE CHURCH IS NOT A SHOW. I was emphasizing that when we give money for things like a movie, going out to eat, watching a show, or attending a concert we are paying for a service, a seat, an experience. Again, these are all worthwhile things to pay good money for (especially since we don't have to store anything!) and something I encourage you to experience first hand.*

But here's the other side. We also spend money on relationships. Imagine buying a birthday present for a loved one, as long as they have performed a service for you. Imagine going on a trip with your spouse for an anniversary, as long as they have satisfied your appetite that met your expectations. If you're in such a relationship, we need to talk! The point is this. When we buy gifts for people close to us, we are not rewarding them for a service performed, we are instead sharing the message, "I love you. I value you. I am thankful for you."

That's why church is not a service. It's a relationship. We don't give to God because we hear satisfactory sermons. We don't give to God because the music was exemplary. We don't give to God because the children's sermon made us chuckle. We give to God through the church to share the message, "God, I love you. I value you. I am thankful for you!"

Giving to the church has changed significantly over the course of even my life! In person envelope giving was not only the norm, but it was the only way when I was younger. These days, many churches (including St. John's) have added to envelope giving automatic withdrawals from a bank account, mail in giving, and of course electronic giving. These various means to give provide us all the opportunity to give consistently, even when our travels prevent us from attending worship in person. Each week when I post our service on Facebook, we send a link to again make giving easy for those worshipping at home. This same link can be found on the homepage of the St. John's website as well. These options also provide opportunities to schedule regular giving, which for many of us implies monthly giving, which then helps us support the church and ultimately, regular giving lets God know that we are committed to God and God's work!

Friends, if you are ready to embrace regular giving and reveal how much you value God, please remember to give consistently. I am a firm believer that God uses our church family at St. John's to accomplish God's mission and reach out to a hungry world. And it's because we value relationships, not products. Join me, won't you?!

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 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

Family & Friends of Jane Peterson; Kyle Ruffedt; Arlene Christianson; Renee Grambo; Julie Chojnacki; Chloe Schulze; Maggie Olson; Austin Summerfield (nephew of Jenn Larson); Bob Kerckhove; Ilene Pingel; Shelli Rogge; Dohna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Kelly Custer; Steve Trubshaw.

Prayers for our Active Military

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

Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of July 3rd: Don and Kathlyn Geissler; Jill, Steve, Lauren, Stephanie and Jessica Gengler; Debra and Jerry Gillette; Alan Gingras, Haley Pierce, Keenah Gingras and Larissa Chevrier; Dianne Goettl; Lisa and Ted Goettl.

Prayers for the week of July 10th: Renee, Scott, Cayce, Charlie, Dalton and Gunnar Grambo; Heidi, Jason, Brock, Emslee, Jerzei and Kordell Graski; Kayla Gunderson, Harper Bohl, Ronnie and Henry Rihn.

Prayers for the week of July 17th: Martin, Melinda, Dylan, Jaden and Nicholas Halom; Beth, Tyler, Lauren and Leo Halverson; Margery Hansen; Christine, Jason, Braelyn and Brooks Rego; Debra, Kevin, Darion and Samuel Hanson.

Prayers for the week of July 24th: Dorothy Hassemmer; 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.

Prayers for the week of July 31st: Jason, Laurice, Abrina, Gabe and Isabelle Hillman; Amanda and Aubree Holm; Candi and Gregory Homme; Brett, Tianna, Benton, Greta Huber; Ellyn, Jim, Jeffry and Joy Hudacek.

JULY 2022 CALENDAR

July's Faith Statement

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00am Worship Service-Baptism Bonnie Corbin	27 11:00am Funeral Jane Peterson (visitation at 10) 6:00pm Care for Creation Meeting (zoom)	28 11:15am Staff Meeting	29 6:45pm Worship Service	30	1	2
3 9:00am Worship Service	4 Independence Day - Office Closed	5	6 9:30am Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg- Pastor 6:45pm Worship Service	7	8	9
10 9:00am Worship Service	11 5:30pm Church Council Meeting (TBD, Date Change Pending)	12	13 6:45pm Worship Service	14 10:00am Pastor's Conference	15	16
17 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am VBS Orientation	18 6:00pm Care for Creation Meeting (zoom) TBD	19 1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group 5:30pm Youth Committee Meeting	20 9:00am Foundation Meeting 6:45pm Worship Service	21	22	23
24 9:00am Worship Service	25 Deadline for Newsletter Submissions	26	27 6:45pm Worship Service	28	29 ONEFEST	30 ONEFEST
31 ONEFEST Vacation Bible School 9:00am Worship Service	1 Vacation Bible School	2 Vacation Bible School	3 Vacation Bible School 9:30am Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg- Pastor 6:45pm Worship Service	4	5	6

FAITH STATEMENT

Personally, I find having faith and confidence very important for almost everything you do, but you especially should always have faith in yourself. I used to struggle with certain things that I did because I lacked the self-confidence and faith that I needed. Having faith in myself has helped me a lot to get where I am in sports, in school, and just who I am as a person. No matter how hard you may work in a sport or how good you are, having confidence or believing in yourself is what will make you the best. With my sports my coach would always tell me that I needed to relax, have confidence, and just believe I could do it. Once I started actually listening it helped make me a stronger player. Same as in school, you can attempt to get perfect grades but you can't do it without trying or believing in yourself. It will also help me in the future again with school, but as well with pushing me through life keeping me strong and having positive thoughts when I may struggle. Having faith makes me not only better at sports or school, but makes me be one of the best versions of myself, and that's why I passionately believe having faith is so meaningful to have.

Bible verse: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Church News

ST. JOHN'S FACILITY PROJECTS - HELP WANTED!

Sanctuary projects

- Dust the carillon (hanging chimes on wall)
- Paint balcony wall where repaired

Dining Hall projects

- Clean all tables (including those leaning on the wall)
- Wash windows

Miscellaneous throughout the building

- Post AED location signs
- Clean dry erase boards (Windex works well!)
- Wash windows to west side entrance area

If you would like to help out with any of the remaining projects, please contact Pastor Martin so that plans can be made to follow through, including making sure you have access to the church.

Thanks for your partnership!

WELCOME NEW PRESCHOOL STAFF!

Amanda



Hello. My name is **Amanda Ritchie**. I will be the new Administrator and one of the teachers for the Preschool at St Johns Lutheran. I grew up just a half hour south of Bloomer in Eau Claire WI, and recently moved to the area with my family. I have a two-year-old son, Emmett with my fiancé Matthew, and two bonus children, Ellie (9) and Easton (5).

I have always had a passion for working with children of all abilities from a very young age. I studied in Social Work for 2 years with UW-Green Bay, and then changed degrees to Early Childhood Education. I graduated from WITC with honors in December 2018 and then continued my education at UW-Stout where I am currently finishing my degree in Special Education.

I have worked in the education field in various positions over the past 8 years, teaching children from infancy up through 7th grade. I am looking forward to serving the Bloomer community and families of the preschool program this Fall. God bless.

Jamie



Hello, my name is **Jamie Nelson**. It is my honor and pleasure to be a new team member here at St. John's Preschool as the Director/Lead Teacher this upcoming school year. In 2002 I graduated from Bloomer High school. In 2004 I graduated from Chippewa Valley Technical college with my childcare degree to successfully begin my wonderful journey working with children. In 2004 I started working for my mother, Brenda Rogge doing in home Childcare who then opened her own successful Childcare Center, Country Kids Childcare & Preschool in 2007. I worked there as the Director and Preschool Teacher until 2016. In 2016 I began working for the Bloomer School District. I worked with the 4K classroom and within the Special Education Department. In 2021 I went back to my family-owned Childcare Center where I taught the Preschool program this past year. I absolutely love teaching and working with children daily. It is such a blessing and one of the most rewarding careers that I am so fortunate to be a part of. My husband Jeremy and I have two wonderful daughters, Ryleah and River and a yellow lab named Ruger. Some of the hobbies that I enjoy outside of teaching include being outdoors, camping, boating, going for family drives and spending quality time with family and friends. I am looking forward to meeting many new faces this year.

Quilting Group

Will be meeting on
July 19th
at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!!

	Month of MAY 2022	Year to Date JAN -MAY	
INCOME	\$ 12,466	\$76,605	Financial Update
EXPENSES	\$12,089	\$85,094	
Difference (loss)	\$ 377	(\$8,489)	Current Balance on Line of Credit
Line of Credit	Princ Paid Apr \$109	Princ Paid YTD \$1,399	
			\$23,287

Deadline for August 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 **July 25th.**

Thank You!!

Church Council Minutes

June 13, 2022

Call to Order - meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Jeff Cole, Council Vice-President

Opening Devotion – Pastor Martin led the council in a scripture discussion. The council read Luke 24:13-32 and answered the questions: What do you notice?, What do you wonder about?, What is God calling you to do in this text?. Pastor then led the council in prayer.

Approval of Agenda – a motion was made by Terri Smith to approve the agenda adding in the giving opportunity, seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – a motion was made by Terri Smith to approve the minutes from the May 9th, 2022 meeting, seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

Financial Report– Current with bills as of 6/13. We were behind by 7,700 on June 7th but 8,000 in giving on June 13th brought us current with bills. Table below shows through end of May.

	Year to Date(Jan 2022—May 2022)
Income	\$76,458.52
Expenses	\$84,975.32
Difference	\$-8,516.80
Current SFB Line of Credit	\$23,242.75 decrease of \$144.51

A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the financial report. Seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried.

Old Business –

a) Katie's Exit Interview - Pastor has reached out to Katie on a few questions. Melissa Sarauer and Janelle Yeakey will be working on cleaning/organizing the office space.

New Business

a) Elevator Bills – currently comparing the bills of previous expenses and services through Schindler to new proposal from Otis.

b) Preschool Interviews

A motion was made to go into closed session by Janelle Yeakey. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

A motion was made to leave closed session by Jamie Keller. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

A motion was made to hire Jamie Nelson as Director/teacher and hire Amanda Ritchie as Administrator/teacher by Pat Prill. Seconded by Sara Wittrock. Motion carried unanimously.

Note: a suggestion was made to decrease tuition for parents cleaning the preschool area. Suggestion will be brought to the preschool committee.

c) Youth Director Candidates – Employment ad was created and posted on 6/9. July 18th is deadline for applicants.

d) July Meeting – Pastor's review will need to be completed. Pastor will send out a doodle poll to determine best date for the meeting. Possible dates: July 11th, 12th, 18th

e) Giving Opportunity – A member is asking the council to consider a giving opportunity to Phelisa-nong. The council will invite the member to the next council meeting to discuss possibilities.

Church Council Minutes *(continued)* Youth Committee Minutes June 7, 2022

Reports –

Pastor Report – Tianna Huber has been hired as the funeral custodian. Erik and Connor Larson have volunteered to mow our lawn this summer.

A **motion was made** by Terri Smith to approve the membership transfer of Katie O’Connell to Trinity Lutheran in Eau Claire and the membership transfer to the church triumphant of Marguerite Werner and Richard Rihn. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried

A **motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to accept the reports. Seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

Additional items and Announcements

A suggestion was made to begin passing the offering plates in church. Suggestion will be brought to the worship committee.

Next regular meeting: will be determined by doodle poll

Adjournment – a **motion was made** at 6:45 by Alicia Bonczyk to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

Members Present: Janelle Yeakey, Sarah Wittrock (via zoom), Pastor Martin Halom, Alicia Bonczyk, Jeff Cole, Pat Prill, Terri Smith, Katelyn Bohl, Jamie Keller

Members Absent: Adam Anderson, Marcy Trubshaw

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

VBS

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Amanda Prill, Kristine Mickelson, and Sarah Wittrock have agreed to serve on the planning committee. Pastor Martin will try to convene the group by June 17 to lay out plans, which could entail a change of date and time from the original plan of June 26-30 when Luther Park was originally scheduled to assist. Due to a shortage in Luther Park staff, they are unable to fulfill their commitment to us this year.

Katie’s office

Janelle Yeakey and Melissa Sarauer have agreed to go through Katie’s office to clean it out and determine if anything needs to be removed or recycled. Pastor Martin will also be available to make decisions as well.

Fundraising

The brat stand fundraiser scheduled for June 3-4 was canceled due to lack of leadership and organization. Pastor Martin will make a plea to families to determine if another one will be pursued at a later date. If nobody commits, then we will not pursue one this summer.

Due to the loss of the brat stand as a fundraiser, as well as the loss of the pizza fundraiser, families need only work one fundraiser (instead of the normal two) to access financial assistance for various events this year.

Families that were paid in full for the National Youth Gathering will receive a full refund as nobody has committed to attend Rebound, the Synod’s response to the National Youth Gathering cancellation. Pastor Martin will figure out which families will receive the \$310 refund.

Senior Recognition

Leah Bleskacek, Anya Dinger, Gunnar Grambo, Zach Pielhop, and Driah Zakrzewicz all participated and received their blankets that night. Pastor Martin will reach out to those families to determine if the group pictures should be submitted to the Bloomer Advance or not as not all were informed to bring their cap and gown. The remaining blankets will be held over until next year and offered to the next class. Melissa Sarauer will contact the quilters to see if they could help make the quilts for next year since the youth committee recently purchased material from the Halom rummage sale.

Hiring process

The same process will be utilized as was used to find Katie. Pastor Martin will confirm with Melissa Saurer that she’s working on the want ad that will be shared with other committee members for editorial purposes. The hope is to post the listing by June 12. The application deadline will be Monday, July 18. If a viable candidate(s) is found, the youth committee will determine who will serve on the interview team. If no viable candidates are identified, the youth committee will meet on July 19 to determine plan B. Pastor Martin will post the want ad in a variety of places, but Indeed will be added to the list.

Members present on Zoom: Pastor Martin, Alicia Bonczyk, and Beth Halverson

Youth & Family Ministry Announcements

Faith Statement

GETTING S'MORE OUT OF JESUS!

Looking for a great way to cap off the summer? St. John's will conduct its annual Vacation Bible School this year from July 31-Aug. 3. Here are the details!

Sunday (at the North Park)

5:15 Supper on the grill! VBS introduction
 6:00 Cross generational games for all ages
 6:30 Cross generational water activities
 7:00 S'mores of course!
 7:30ish dismissal

Monday/Tuesday (at St. John's)

5:15 Supper in the dining hall
 5:45 Activity 1
 6:15 Activity 2
 6:45 Activity 3
 7:15 Closing Worship
 7:45 Dismissal

Wednesday (at St. John's)

5:15 Supper in the dining hall
 5:45 Activity 1
 6:15 Activity 2
 6:45 Closing worship

Activities will rotate between arts and crafts, games, and bible study. Meals are all free will offering. Wednesday's closing worship will feature the kids in music, a skit offering, communion, and a slide show of the week's activities. Don't miss out!

You can register your kids (grades entering K-5) on the St. John's website (as soon as it's up and running). Kids are \$15 each or no more than \$30/family. Youth entering the 6th grade and above are welcome to volunteer (along with available adults!) as we desire your gifts and energy! You can already sign up to help in a variety of roles on the St. John's website or Facebook site. Childcare for infants/toddlers is available for all adult volunteers. Come join the fun!

FAITH STATEMENT

So far in my life faith has helped me immensely, whether it's I'm feeling down and need to be picked up or if I just need something to turn to. Faith has always been there for me and unlike some things, never let me down. Keeping faith through hard times is not as easy as it sounds, sometimes I would believe that it wouldn't get better no matter what, but I just stuck to my faith and made it through it. In my future I hope that faith will play just as big of a role in my life as it is right now. I hope that I will continue to use faith to strengthen myself and that I never give up on it. I hope that I can also convince a few friends to turn to faith and let it help them through tough times.

Bible Verse: "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446
Email: stjohndl-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