



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 Gary Hedding
- Youth & Preschool News

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Time to Grow

This summer I have been excited and grateful for the explosion of new life and growth. A maple sapling we planted two years ago has struggled up until now, but this spring it has tripled its leaves and branches. The gardens are blossoming and tomatoes have set fruit. There seem to be more nests and birds around. The sun and rain have taken turns in providing what the earth needs for life and growth and I hope it continues.

The season in the church after Pentecost is a time for our spiritual lives to bear fruit and blossom. The texts focus on the power of the Holy Spirit to inspire us with Jesus' life and with the lives of his struggling disciples. We see them grow from people who didn't get Jesus to people who act and speak more like him all the time. Those texts call us with grace and mercy, confidence and faith, joy and peace even in moments of challenge so that we receive the strength and love that God has for us. They are our sun and rain that lifts us and moves us to act and speak more like Jesus.

Summer is a time for vacations, working the land, construction and, often less time for Sunday worship. It's OK. These texts and our worship are available on the St. John's website and Facebook when you are doing summer. The Holy Spirit accompanies you each day, be alert for a God moment when you weren't expecting it. God pursues us with determined love and so that we can be excited and grateful in our growing faith. God bless your summer.

Peace,
Pastor Gary Hedding
 Interim Pastor

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: stjohndl-secretary@bloomer.net



Prayers of Healing For Our Church Family

Tom Powell; Jason Rihn; Bert Tozer; The Kuehn Family; Suzette Zwiefelhofer; Lily Higbie; Kari Skaar; Rod Martin; Pat Prill; Renee Grambo; Edith Fleming; Kristi Swartz; Charlene Rosenbrook; Richard Anderson; Deanna Stuckert; Arlene Christianson; Wayne and Nancy Zogleman.

Prayers For the Saints

Prayers for the week of July 6st: Dave and Pauline Stertz; Deanna Stevens; Deanna Stuckert; Marlin and Monica Stuckert; Charlie, Nicole, Ava, Conor Sundberg; Dale and Sanja Swan; Jenny, Aubrey and James Tarnowski.

Prayers for the week of July 13th: Cody, Susan, Abigail and Ben Thiede; Jerome, Tia and Tiana Thomley; Claire, Matt, Georgia, Graham and Henry Tiller; Bert and Kathy Tozer; Brent, Ilona, Izibel and Trent Tozer.

Prayers for the week of July 20th: Dorene, Jeff, Alicyn and Morgyn Turner; Janice Turner; Melissa and Kianna Turner; Randy Turner; Jessica, Ross, Avery, Madelyn Waldofski; Jennifer, Luke, Morgan, Kayden Walta.

Prayers for the week of July 27th: Jessica and Dehija Walters; Bob, Cathy and Nathan Weber; Carol and John Weideman; Marie Weideman; Lon and Pat Wilson; Marlene Windsor; Sharon Winfield; Brent, Janelle, Blaine, Camryn and Kelly Yeakey.

2025 Confirmation Faith Statements

I feel my faith has grown tremendously over these past couple of years. Through a deeper understanding of Jesus along with my years in Faith Formation, confirmation and helping lead the younger students; I feel as if I have become closer than ever with God, our savior. Through what he has taught his disciples, reflecting on himself in the process, I have also been able to reflect on my own life and choices. Just as Jesus served others, I try to take on more responsibilities within my family; like taking care of our cows, chickens, and helping with the garden. The mercy he has given us as he died on the cross for us, relieving all of my sins through his death, I try to practice better understanding and acts of kindness for others. As I reflect on my faith I know it started at home with examples from my family, but my roots are planted at St. John's Church.

Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

My Faith has grown since taking a step up in the church by helping out with church service and helping with faith formation classes. The things I have been doing in church have helped me to have better relationships with people within the church and a better Faith and relationship with God. It has given me people to go to if I need help with something and it is a place where I can get away from the struggles that take place in this world.

Isaiah 41:10 - God doesn't promise a life without valleys and battles. He simply promises that He will not leave us alone to walk through any one of them.

JULY 2025 CALENDAR

Church News

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Stay for Coffee & Community after service	30 8:30am Bible Study	1	2	3	4  Office Closed-Happy Independence Day!!	5 
6 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Stay for Coffee & Community after service	7	8	9 10:30am - 11:30am Bloomer Clergy Assoc Mtg	10 9:30am Pastor's Conference	11	12
13  9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Stay for Coffee & Community after service	14	15  1:00pm - 3:00pm Quilting Group	16 4:30pm VBS Planning Meeting	17	18	19
20 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Stay for Coffee & Community after service	21 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	22	23	24	25 Deadline for August Newsletter	26
27  9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Stay for Coffee & Community after service	28	29	30	31	1	2

Let's work together to keep our church clean.



2nd Sunday of each month, after service
 (July 13th, Aug 17th, Sept 14th)

Activity: work together to clean up church

We still need a few volunteers for July's Meals On Wheels

If you are available for one or more weeks in July to drive and/or deliver meals, sign up in the narthex, or please Contact **Janice Naset at 568-5615** -or- **Martha Libersky at 568-4653.**



Thank you for helping with this community project!!



Quilting Group
 Will be meeting on **July 21st**
 at 1:00-3:00 p.m.

SEW CUTE!

Everyone is welcome!!



Wednesday Meals
 Is done for the next few months and will pick up again this September.



Link to our survey for a call for a new full-time pastor by using this QR code.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 16th, 2025

Call to Order - Meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Dorene Turner, Council President.

Opening Devotion – Dorene Turner led the council from the devotion book “Christ in Our Home”.

Approval of the Agenda -A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to approve the agenda with flexibility; seconded by Tyler Halverson. Motion carried.

Approval of last Council Minutes - A motion was made by Michelle Lane to approve the minutes from the May 27th, 2025 meeting; seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

Financial Report -

	Year to Date (Jan-May 2025)
Income	\$ 76,693.07
Expenses	\$ 66,211.27
Difference	\$ 10,481.80

Transfers: none

May Offerings	
Date	Total
4/6	4,018
4/13	2,201
4/20	1,206
4/27	710
Online	1,334

CD's	\$76,000	\$200,000
Location	Security Financial Bank	Security Financial Bank
% APR	5.0	5.25
Timeframe	12 months	15 months
Expires	8-8-25	11-6-25



All money is insured through FDIC

Discussion was had about the how to interpret the profit and loss. A request was made to see a check register monthly to better understand our expenditures.

A motion was made by Tyler Halverson to accept the financial report. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

Old Business-

A) Apartment Storage update: The Council is developing an inventory, and Janelle will be visiting this week to photograph items and compile a list.

B) GaGa pit: Property committee member Eric Larson was contacted and said placing the GaGa Pit in the lawn area would be okay.

C) Draft Revisions for constitution – see May 27th meeting notes for more information; Tyler will look into the documents and bring suggestions to the July meeting.

D) Pastor Salary: The council continued discussing how to determine a pastor's salary, council will consider the synod guidelines next month to determine what the church could offer an incoming pastor.

ELCA Synod Website: <https://nswi.org/congregations>

Document: 2025 Compensation Standards

E) Call Committee update: 100 surveys completed, meeting June 17th for survey results.

F) Implementing council retreat suggestions: Fall Church picnic with games, Camp style worship on Sunday, the return of the toy bags for worship. – will revisit in July to implement in the Fall

G) Preschool Play area update: a broken board was found on the fence, Michele and David Lane are working to replace

H) Kitchen sink repair update: Erik Larson will be removing drain traps under the sink to hopefully solve the problem.

Minutes continued on page 5

June 16th Church Council Minutes *(Continued)*

(council meeting minutes continued)

I) Pest control update: The property committee will need a master key to enter rooms to allow for for appropriate spraying to happen.

J) A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to create a master key of the church for the property committee. Seconded by Tyler Halverson. Motion carried.

Computers: Update from May meeting was that Earl Hassemer is no longer in the computer business; council will gather more information on potential companies to work through.

K) Benevolence: Council will discuss at the July meeting

L) Custodian/Church Cleaning: Congregation members will be encouraged to stay after church service on the 2nd Sunday to assist. Council will revisit the possibility of hiring a custodian once the salary for a pastor is determined.

M) Church Directory Update – A list of active and inactive congregation members was provided to the Council, who will now work to verify its accuracy.

New Business –

A) Preschool: Preschool was given the opportunity to purchasing the loft from the Bloomer Library. Council is requesting more information, such as measurements, before a decision is made. More discussion will occur over email.

B) Church Extension – need to update the message for incoming phone calls

Committee Reports

- Appreciation Days – **Food Service** = September 25th **Pastor** = October 13th
Musician = national hug a musician November 13 (same date in 2024) national musicians day Jan. 24th
 - Pastor's Report - August 10th at 10 am; church at the fair
- Picture Directory – if council wants to move forward; a committee would need to be created
Stewardship discussion – a giving statement was shared for council to consider.

- Discipleship—
- Fellowship Minutes – next meeting will be August.
- Preschool Minutes—full classes, 3 students on waiting list. If waiting list grows to 7, another class will be added
- Property Minutes – offer was made to fix boards by back entrance from the parking lot
- Worship & Music Minutes – next meeting will be in August.
- Youth Minutes—
- Call Committee (see above)

Additional Items and Announcements: Next Meeting: July 21st at 6 pm.

Adjournment - a motion was made at 7:45 pm by Janelle Yeakey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tyler Halverson. Motion carried. **Members Present:** Janelle Yeakey, Kay Anderson, Dorene Turner, Wendy LaGessee, Michele Lane, Gary Hedding, Alicia Bonczyk, Tyler Halverson. **Members Absent:** Aubrie Bohl, Kyle Prill, Jason Graski.



Youth & Family News

2025 Confirmation Faith Statements

VBS—Glitter and GLOW with Jesus

VBS planning is in full motion and off to a great start. It is with great excitement that we will be cohosting VBS with Our Saviors this summer once again! Although we are in the planning process of VBS, we do have dates for you all to save before your summer calendars fill up too fast. This year's VBS will take place August 3rd through the 6th from 5-7PM.

You can find flyers hung up around the church, along with additional information regarding this summer's VBS on Facebook.

Please contact Amanda Larson if you have any questions regarding VBS: amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com or 715-568-5446.

Group Leaders and Subs NEEDED for JAM and Confirmation this Fall

We are still looking for people who would be interested in substituting or teaching on Wednesday nights. Please contact Amanda Larson for more information so we can get you on a list. Also, if there is a specific age group you want to work with or would not like to work with, please let us know that information as well.

Youth Ministry Pictures

We are looking for pictures that anyone may have taken this year. If you have any pictures that you're able to share, whether it's from JAM, confirmation, lock-in, or a youth trip, please contact Amanda Larson. We can forward you a link to a Google Drive. Otherwise, photos can get emailed to: stjohnslu-theran.bloomer@gmail.com

Summer Bible Camp Reimbursement

Reminder: if your child participated in two of the fundraisers, our church will reimburse 50% of the camp costs (does not include registration or canteen).

Reimbursements will be sent out at the end of summer unless requested sooner. Please contact Amanda Larson if you have any additional questions regarding reimbursement.

Faith Statements

When I started the confirmation process it gave me the chance to be a better person. Not just as a person but also with my trust in God. When I started I had lots of questions, and questions I thought I would never get the answer to. I trust and believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord with confidence and pride. Confirmation has taught me a lot about how I can put my faith in God even when it might be tough. This was good for me because now I have a lot less stress and worry. I can go with whatever happens more often while not being scared for the future and what's to come, giving all my trust in God. "And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith" (Matthew 21:22).

Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have done to you.

One way my faith has helped me in life, is my sports. Whenever I would get in my head, I knew God would always be by my side during my journey. Another way my faith helped me is when I was going through a rough spot in my life, and I always knew I was never alone in a time of darkness. The Church has helped me become who I am by helping me come out of my comfort zone and trying new things.


Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the LORD your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

NEWS FROM PRESCHOOL STAFF! Confirmation Faith Statement

Amanda



Wait List for 2025-2026

We are officially FULL for our 2025-2026 academic year at this moment. We are incredibly grateful for this opportunity to serve families at our maximum capacity. It is going to be a fantastic school year. 

Please consider joining our waitlist if you are interested in having your child participate in our program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to message us on our Facebook page, call: 715-568-5446, text 715-226-8207, or email: amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com.

Classroom Wishlist

We have an Amazon Wishlist set up if anyone is interested in supporting the preschool program with some additional supplies we could benefit from. Our link is:

<https://a.co/7G4BmXD> - Please reach out to Amanda Larson if you have any questions about this opportunity. As always, we appreciate your continued support.

Save The Date: Open House

Amanda and Kim are excited to welcome the 2025-2026 class to St. John’s Lutheran Preschool. Monday, August 18th, and Tuesday, August 19th, from 5-7PM, we will be hosting our “Meet the Teachers” evenings as an Open House. During these evenings, you can bring the rest of your child’s paperwork, school supplies, and anything else from the welcome letter your child will receive in July. If you have any questions or are unable to attend either of these evenings, please reach out to Amanda Larson at 715-279-6962 mobile or email amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com.

Save The Date: Family Fun Night

We are excited to how our first Family Fun Night of the 2025-2026 academic year on Tuesday, August 26th from 5:45-6:30PM. We are hoping to host events like this throughout the year for our families and the community.

Our goal and hope in hosting an event like this is to spread awareness of our program. You can expect this event to be geared toward families who have children 4 years of age and under (older siblings are welcome to attend), including interactive story time, music, crafts, and snacks. All families who attend will be entered for a door prize (must be present to win). Please RSVP ahead of time via Facebook or with Amanda Larson so that we can plan accordingly.

Faith Statement

When trying to find the perfect verse I came across Psalm 23:4, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff comfort me.” When I came across this quote it stood out to me. It stood out because the number 23 is my volleyball number, also my cousin's number. The number 4 is the day we put my best friend to sleep. When I read this quote it made me realize that no matter where I am in life I'll have him right beside me. When I put my dog down I honestly was not sure how I would move on, but then I got the mindset that he's still with me. I also know that God is leading through my life, and giving life twists and turns, and taking him from me was a part of his plan.

Getting involved with the church has helped me see that God has a plan set out for me. This has helped me see that whatever is meant to happen is going to happen. He has many plans for you and in the end only one plan is going to happen. When making a decision some people go back and forth on which is the correct one to choose. Therefore I know he will always be right beside me.

Bible Verse: Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me.

	<p>ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 1403 Newman Street Bloomer, WI 54724</p>
	<p>ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED</p> <p>715-568-5446 Email: stjohndl-secretary@bloomer.net</p>

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: Deacon Martha Libersky or Pastor Gary Hedding
 Church: 715-568-5446, extension 11
 Home (Martha): 715-568-4653
 Cell (Martha): 715-829-4653
 Email: fmlibers@bloomer.net (Deacon Martha)
 paddlegh@gmail.com (Pastor Gary)

Call Committee Letter– by Pastor Gary

Dear St. John's Family,

I am grateful for the 100 people who took the time to describe St. John's Lutheran Church, let us know their priorities for ministry in the future, and who shared the qualities for which they hope in the next pastor. Their top three priorities were reaching new people and making them at home in the congregation; attracting families with children and youth; and developing spiritual generosity to financially support our ministry as the church.

We have already begun to look at generosity as a faith practice that, like prayer, worship, service, scripture, Holy Communion, Holy Baptism, and fellowship, draws us closer to God. Jesus is the source for our value as a person, our security in the present, and our hope for the future. This frees us to be generous without fear. We will continue to look at this as we prepare for future ministry and prepare for our next pastor.

Thank you so much for your help!

Pastor Gary Hedding

If you are interested in making communion bread for the communion on the first Sunday of the month, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex and recipes in the altar guild room.



Do you enjoy planning social events for all ages?

Do you enjoy brainstorming fun events?

Fellowship Committee Needs You!

Meetings approximately every other month for 45 min.

Interested or have questions?

Contact Janelle Yeakey

