



St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church is a community of people united to God and to each other by faith in Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the love of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Love of witness, proclamation, nurture, service, and outreach at home and abroad will occur through faithful use of the scriptures, the sacraments, and prayer. We are motivated by our gratitude to God for his abundant gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor's News
- Committee Minutes
- Church News
- Financial Report
- Youth and Family



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TOGETHER AT TWILIGHT!

As a gathered community of faith, the St. John's Dream Team would like to hear your voice as we determine the direction of our church for the future! You are cordially invited to attend a stand-alone event, *Together at Twilight*, which will be held on **Sunday, June 14.**

- 5:00 Supper provided by Fellowship Committee
- 5:45 Small group conversations
- 7:00 Bonfire with s'mores



The supper will have a simple menu of hot dogs, brats, chips, potato salad, and a cold beverage. The small group conversations will involve your ideas to make St. John's a more effective church in the community of Bloomer. It's simply a brainstorming opportunity to get your perspectives known. We will ask about areas of need in the Bloomer community and see if St. John's has the means to address those needs. Have an idea for any of our church committees? This is a perfect time to share it! We will conclude the evening with a bonfire and treat you to s'mores!

Childcare will be provided for the younger children so that adults can focus on the small group conversations. Youth confirmation age and up are strongly encouraged to participate in the conversations as well because we want to hear from a variety of perspectives. But anyone who has something to say, regardless of age, is welcome to share!

In order to move forward together, we need to dream together and then act together, which is why your participation is so important in this process. Once we hear your thoughts and dreams for St. John's, the Dream Team will formulate a strategy to implement your ideas as we develop a 1-year plan, a 3-year plan, and a 5-year plan. This is an exciting time for our family of faith, so don't miss out on the ride!

Pastor Martin and the Dream Team (Tom Ewings, Jill Gengler, Martha Libersky, Denise Michaelsen, Tyler Seibel)

~Pastor Martin

Come and join in for
SMOKE fun!



Office number: 715-568-5446

Like us on Facebook! St. John's Lutheran Church - Bloomer, WI

St. John's Website: www.Stjohns-bloomer.org

Pastor's News

TOWN HALL MEETING RECAP

The town hall meeting on May 13 brought about important changes that the youth committee implemented at its meeting May 18. Due to the abundance of children filling our church on Wednesday nights this past year, it became clear that changes needed to be made to accommodate all of that activity in one place at one time!

Confirmation will be the most impacted. Over the past few years, five small group spaces were needed to build relationships among youth following the discussion with Pastor Martin each evening. These spaces included Pastor Martin's office, the main office, the chapel, the library, and the dining hall. But 30 minutes of teaching time were insufficient and 30 minutes of small group time and announcements likewise. Instead, Pastor Martin will now have 60 minutes available to lead the evening's lesson knowing that relationships are still developing at that time anyway. That will free up the aforementioned small group spaces for the faith formation classes with younger children as needed.

The following schedule will be implemented:

	Last year	Next year
Supper	5:00-5:40	4:45-5:30
Faith Formation	5:40-6:40	5:30-6:30
Transition/child pick up	6:40-7	6:30-6:45
Worship	7:00-7:45	TBD

The worship committee would like your input with regard to the Wednesday night worship. It is now conceivable to move to a 6:45 start time and have worship conclude around 7:30. If you have opinions either way (7:00 vs. 6:45 start time), please contact a worship committee member (Janice Naset – chair, Kathy Geissler, Lisa Goettl, Jan Helgeson, Janelle Yeakey). If a change is made, the worship committee will determine what date the change would be made.

Here are a few other tweaks to the confirmation commitments for next year:

1. Journal entries will decrease from 20 to 16 (twice/month).
2. 3 service projects can be accomplished with any group of youth, not specific to the youth's assigned small group.
3. Youth will commit to at least two of the following four major events (confirmation lockin, Luther Park Recharge, Youth Encounter Quake, Luther Park end of year retreat).

We thank those who attended the Town Hall meeting and offering your thoughts. Your voices have been heard and appropriate changes have ensued to make faith formation as meaningful as possible!

~Pastor Martin



Bible Basics



May 3

Today's second lesson is from 1 John, which has a total of 5 chapters and 105 verses. How many times is the word "love" referenced in this New Testament letter?

- A. 14
- B. 22
- C. 30
- D. 38

The 4th chapter of 1 John has been nicknamed the "love chapter" for good reason – 22 times love is mentioned in just 21 verses!

May 10

May 14 is Ascension Day, which is portrayed in our mural at the front of the church. This story concludes the gospel of Luke. Which book is likely written by Luke's author and begins with the ascension story?

- A. Acts
- B. Romans
- C. Ephesians
- D. Revelation


John was likely inserted in between these two books because it stood on its own, unlike the synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, which were kept together.

May 17

In our lesson from Acts today, the 12th apostle was named. How was Matthias chosen?

- A. Peter was given authority to select him
- B. The remaining eleven apostles voted between Matthias and Barsabbas
- C. They prayed to God and cast lots between Matthias and Barsabbas and the lot fell on Matthias
- D. Barsabbas ran a smear campaign against Matthias that proved to be his downfall in the primary elections

JUNE 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Worship Service led by Martha Libersky	1 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	2	3 7:00 PM Worship	4	5 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	6
7 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Dream Team Meeting 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting	8 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	9 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	10 7:00 PM Worship	11 6:30 PM Foundation Committee Meeting	12 Newsletter Article Deadline 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	13
14 9:00 AM Worship Service	15 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	16	17 7:00 PM Worship	18	19 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	20
21  Father's Day and Summer Begins 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism for Brycen Fetting 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting	22 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS	23 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS	24 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS 7:00 PM Worship	25 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM VBS 5:30 PM VBS Potluck and Worship	26 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	27
28 9:00 AM Worship Service	29 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	30	1 7:00 PM Worship	2	3 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	4

Council Meeting May 12, 2015

Meeting called to order: Vice-president Adam Ewings @ 6:30p.m.

Opening devotion and prayer: Trey Baker

Agenda approval: Motion made by Pat Boettcher and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of April council meeting minutes: Motion made by Kathy Faschingbauer and seconded by Lynette Pank to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Council Member comments: Proof reading newsletter and bulletin to insure accuracy of information prior to printing.

Congregational Comments/concerns: N/A

Committee Reports:

- ◆ **Discipleship:** Discussing the opportunity for St John's to host 'Generosity Project' Pastor Martin will gather more information in regard to this opportunity and get back to Discipleship committee.
- ◆ **Worship & Music:** Committee will be meeting in August. Discussion/plans for Rally Sunday will be discussed.
- ◆ **Fellowship:** Bingo Sundays that have been held have been well attended with great enthusiasm. Plans to continue with the Bingo/game Sundays this fall/winter. There has been some invites extended to St John's for Eau Claire Express and MN Twins ball games. For more information contact Pastor Martin.
- ◆ **Social Ministry:** Eighteen "Baskets of Promise" kits were assembled and shipped to Lutheran World Relieve.
- ◆ **Youth & Family:** Town Hall meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th to discuss Wednesday night structure. Committee meeting scheduled Monday, May 18th. Confirmation Retreat was held the weekend of May 9th, 10th at Luther Park in Chetek. Recognition Sunday of young adults graduating from high school will be Sunday May 17th.
- ◆ **Property:** In April meeting a motion was made and carried to include kitchen doors and sacristy for lock installation. Additional cost to install these locks was brought to May council meeting...the additional cost was a concern. Discussion was held and motion was made by Lynette Pank and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to reverse April motion to include kitchen and sacristy doors to "Include Quilting room door and Sacristy door" for lock install. The kitchen doors will remain as they are with no locks. An anonymous person was very generous in taking care of the tree stump in front of church. Jim Bresina is working on getting bids and contractors for the bathroom renovation... Bohl & Proulx Plumbing, B&B Electric, Carpenter (waiting on bid), Flooring and waste/dumpster(waiting on bid). Committee meeting Sunday, June 7th.
- ◆ **Chair Report:** N/A

Council Meeting

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ **Membership updates:**

Membership by Baptism: Rayland, Miles, Brody and Lanie Lueck

Transferred to Church Triumphant: Marlene Carlson, Elaine Gladitsch, Dakota Volkman, June Balow.

Motion was made by Kathy Faschingbauer and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to accept membership update. Motion carried.

- ◆ **Pastor visits:** Made some visits in Chippewa. A bit over whelmed this past month with uncontrollable life happenings and will hopefully be able to get back on track of making more of his visits.
- ◆ **Synod Assembly/Walking Together:** Scheduled for May 30th and 31st at UWEC. Still looking for attendees to accompany Pastor to Assembly.
- ◆ **Wednesday Meals:** Are going good. Average attendance from January to April is seventy-one.
- ◆

Financial Report: Motion made by Pat Boettcher and seconded by Janice Naset to accept Financial Report. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- ◆ Staff benefit policy/handbook: in process
- ◆ Credit Card update: Credit card received by Pastor Martin.
- ◆ Wednesday night restructure: see Committee Report/Youth & Family

New Business:

- ◆ Generosity Project: see Committee Report/Discipleship

Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Ellyn Hudacek to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned and closed at 8:45p.m. with the 'Lord's Prayer' led by Pastor Martin

Pauline Stertz, Secretary

Meeting attended by: Pastor Martin, Adam Ewings, Trey Baker, Janice Naset, Kathy Faschingbauer, Pat Boettcher, Alice Zinsmaster, Ellyn Hudacek, Pauline Stertz, Tom Buchner, Lynette Pank.

**2015 RETREAT AT LUTHER PARK- Chetek, WI.
August 26th-27th, 2015**

Theme: We are Christian Women.

Presenter: Barbara Swant & Ruth Anderson – Authors of Mary's Story

Music with Jeanette Tobiason

Each Person must fill out a form and prepay. Please return the form and your check to WELCA by 8/15/2015. Retreat begins at 1 P.M. on Wed 8-26-15 and concludes at 3P.M. Thurs. 8-27-15.

Early Bird Registration \$50 by 7/31/2015. \$55 after 8/1/15

Registration: Wed. 12:00 pm Fireside room of the Chapel (lunch on your own) OR Thurs. 7:30 am.

Please bring personal items, towels, pillows, bedding or sleeping bag, flashlight, Bible, pen, notepad, swimsuit, snacks, a cushion to sit on, (those benches are hard).

2015 New Members



We welcome the following new members to the St. John's community:

Cathy , Brian, Mitchell and Tyler Calkins; Laura Franta; Trista, Joe, and Gauge Klemish;
Bob and Jean LaTour; Don and Kim Oldenberg; Rosie Reid; Chuck, Amanda, Grant Richardson

Financial Report - May 2015

	2014	2015	Budget 2015
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1st	\$7,513.00	\$3,150.00	
Income –April	\$63,518.00	\$67,724.00	\$73,634.00
Expenses – April	\$66,199.00	\$65,711.00	\$73,634.00
Balance	\$4,832.00	\$5,163.00	
Loan – Security Financial Bank	\$89,420.00	\$78,747.00	

Property Committee:


After several delays we are happy to report that the bids are in for the bathroom remodel project. The property committee will be having a meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss the bids. Then we will let the congregation know the amount of each bid, projected cost of the project, and how much money is in the fund. Please watch the bulletin and newsletters for updates.

Nadine Bresina
Committee Chair.

During Lent we chose to participate in the “Basket’s of Hope” project. This was sponsored by the Lutheran World Relief who sends Personal Care Kits to families recovering from disaster. The items collected here were assembled into the kits. Enough items were collected to make up 18 kits.

Items collected in excess of the 18 kits, like combs and bars of soap, will be distributed at Agnes’ Table the next time we server there.

Thank you from the Social Ministry to all who contributed to this project making it a success. This is a way St. John’s shows that we care about others who live abroad.



Discipleship Committee:

We are restructuring , trying to see who is interested in being a part of our group and joining to be part of our future plans. Please contact Kathy Faschingbauer if you are interested in becoming part of the Discipleship Committee. (715) 568-5484



How You Can Serve

Thanks to your generosity, \$695 was raised to benefit the Lutheran Campus Ministry and UW-Stout!



I work with American Councils for International Education that deals exclusively with U.S. State Department scholarship students. These students study for one academic year at a U.S. high school and learn about government, economy, diversity, and citizenship in the U.S. They are required to do volunteer service hours while they are here to build leadership skills. Upon their return home, they join alumni groups that design and implement projects to empower and help people in their countries.

I am currently looking for a home for a girl from Tanzania for the 2015/16 school year. She is already active in her community volunteering at a hospital and teaching Sunday school. I attached a profile of Evagrace.

The students have health insurance, spending money and a fund for school expenses and clothing. Host families provide a bed, three meals a day, and a caring home environment.

These students act as ambassadors for their countries and build mutual understanding between people. Here is a video of a Tanzanian girl who was in the U.S. last year as an exchange student. While the students benefit tremendously from an exchange year, this video shows the impact that they have on their host family and students in local schools here.

https://youtu.be/s_IV9Hpv0KU

Since you got a chance to meet Omar and Shujaat last year, you might also enjoy the promotional video that was filmed in New Auburn featuring them. Actually Art and Karen ended up being the main focus in this video. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/9S4CLJJAdc0>

Feel free to share this email and use any of the information in your bulletin or elsewhere. Let me know if I can provide more info or answer questions. Have you ever considered hosting an exchange student yourself?

While I am looking for families in Bloomer and New Auburn, I work in an area of northern WI from Rice Lake south to Eau Claire and as far west as River Falls so any connections you have or ideas for host families in other communities are also appreciated.

Thank you for your time and interest in the exchange students. I also attached the profile for a Muslim girl from Kuwait that I am looking for a host family for.

People can read more about the State Department scholarship exchange programs and what is involved in hosting at: inbound.americancouncils.org

If you are interested in hosting a foreign exchange student, please contact Dixie at 715-642-1589.

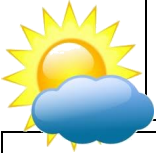


SUMMER CAMP AT LUTHER PARK

OFF TO CAMP WE GO!

Programs available for Kindergarten through Sr. High Youth as well as Family Camp. Weeks are filling up quickly. Visit www.lutherpark.org for more info.

To register your child, contact Marla @ stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net for St. John's code and instructions to register online.



WEATHER ALERT!

Summer fun in the sun can be harmful to your health. Stay hydrated and don't forget the sun-screen.

SR. HIGH MENTORS

Needed for middle school summer stretch small groups



Time: 4:45-6:45pm

Dates: June 10, 17, 24 & July 1, 8, &15

Call 715-568-5446 ext. 12 or email

stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net for more info.

7 Keys To Life

1. God First
2. Love One Another
3. Never Hate
4. Give Generously
5. Live Simply
6. Forgive Quickly
7. Be Kind Always

6th -8th Grade

SUMMER STRETCH



Food, Fellowship, & Conversation
(Friends Welcome)

Time: 4:45-6:45pm

Dates: June 10, 17, 24 & July 1, 8, &15

Call 715-568-5446 ext. 12 or email

stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net for more

info.

The Parables of Jesus



VBS JUNE 22-25

Adult, Sr. High & Middle School Volunteers Needed In Areas Listed

Counselor housing Sunday-Thursday, 3-4 counselors estimated

- ◆ Counselor Lunches
- ◆ Prepare & serve Snacks
- ◆ Staff Registration Table
- ◆ Teacher Assistants

FOR MORE INFO OR TO VOLUNTEER: Call 715-568-5446 ext., 12 or email stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net.

FAITH MAKES THINGS POSSIBLE

NOT EASY