



# 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 Statement

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### DO WE TREAT THE CHURCH LIKE A SHOW?

I've realized over the past few years that I needed to change a mindset that I've carried for years. I used to think that using my money to buy stuff was a good choice because the stuff I bought would last a long time and therefore was a better deal based on its long term value. But now, as my family prepares to participate in the city wide garage sales, I've realized how much of my stuff has simply taken up space and without being utilized well. Anyone else out there know what I'm talking about?

Now I've come to the conclusion that my money is much better spent on experiences over stuff! So I have a newfound appreciation for places like the Pablo Center, the Heyde Center for the Arts, movie theaters, athletic venues, and other places that allow me to enjoy life through food, music, competition, and laughter. It's so refreshing to come home from those experiences and not have to store any more stuff! So as you can see, taking time to enjoy life is still a blessing from God for which I am grateful.

Segue alert - here's the part where things shift, where I want to be transparent. This article is the first of a two part series about financial giving to the church. I trust that you will continue to read this as well as the second article that'll come out next month. I trust that you will open your hearts because this is important.

Here's my bold statement: *THE CHURCH IS NOT A SHOW. When I go out to eat, I pay for a meal, for a service, for an experience. When I attend a comedy routine, again I pay for a service and an experience that I believe will enhance my life. When I go to a concert, I pay for a seat where I can listen to amazing musicians play beautiful music that will bring joy to my heart. That's how the price of admission works. We show up, we pay for the experience, and we consume what we paid for.*

But that's not how the church operates. During the pandemic, we had discussions about placing the offering plate in front of the baptism font so that people could make their offering just before receiving communion. We were following the advice to avoid passing the offering plates. It would have been a convenient, yet safe alternative. That was something that I could not support because it makes it all too easy to think that we're paying for a service - that we're making the sacrament of Holy Communion into a transaction that we buy. It takes away from the image that Holy Communion is a gift from God and not for sale.

*(Continued on page 4)*

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 June 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 Margueritte Werner; Arlene Christianson; Julie Chojnacki; Chloe Schulze; Maggie Olson; Austin Summerfield (nephew of Jenn Larson); Bob Kerckhove; Ilene Pingel; Shelli Rogge; Renee Grambo; Richard Rihn; 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 June 5<sup>th</sup>: Marsha Callstrom; Kyle, Stephanie and Karter Chevrier; Arlene and Harley Christianson; Josh, Malia, Colt and Huck Clements[ Jeffrey Cole; Barbara, Mel and Duane Crisp.

Prayers for the week of June 12<sup>th</sup>: Thomas and Kylie Culver; Kelly, Laken and Tavyn Custer; Jacqueline, Jay, Payton and Preston Dachel; Pamela, Russ, Jason and Josh Dachel; Keenan, Samantha, Ivy and Jennings Dahl.

Prayers for the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>: Steven Durch; Judy and Teena Ellison; Crystal, Michael, Chase, Christian, Melanie and Michael Erickson; Adam, Tracia, Connor and Mason Ewings; Jackie and Thomas Ewings.

Prayers for the week of June 26<sup>th</sup>: Daniel and Kathleen Faschingbauer; Evelyn Ferstenou; Jackie, Monty, Addison and Brycen Fetting; Edith Fleming; Carlene Fox; TamarLynn and Gracelyn Reetz; Travis Gasper; Sara, Connor, Gavin Gehrig.

# JUNE 2022 CALENDAR

## June's Faith Statement

JUNE 2022

| Sunday   | Monday                              | Tuesday                              | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--------|---|
| 29<br>9:00am Worship Service   | 30<br>Memorial Day-Office Closed    | 31<br>11:15am Staff Meeting          | 1<br>Last Day of School<br>9:30am Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor<br>6:45pm Worship Service | 2  | 3      | 4   |
| 5<br>9:00am Worship Service-Baptism Luca Robert Kramschuster                   | 6                                   | 7                                    | 8<br>6:45pm Worship Service  | 9<br>10:00am Pastor's Conference<br>1:00pm Library Board Meeting | 10     | 11  |
| 12<br>9:00am Worship Service   | 13<br>5:30pm Church Council Meeting | 14<br>11:15am Staff Meeting          | 15<br>6:45pm Worship Service   | 16   | 17     | 18  |
| 19<br>Happy Father's Day!<br>9:00am Worship Service-Baptism Blakely Sue Hilger | 20                                  | 21<br>1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group | 22<br>6:45pm Worship Service   | 23   | 24     | 25<br>11:00am Funeral Marguerite Werner (visitation 10am) |
| 26<br>9:00am Worship Service   | 27                                  | 28<br>11:15am Staff Meeting          | 29<br>6:45pm Worship Service   | 30   | 1      | 2   |

### FAITH STATEMENT

**Faith.** Faith has helped me in many ways. Maybe not directly but it's nice to have. Whenever something might not be going right, there's always that bit of something that gives me a small push. Take for example, my drawings. I may not be the best, but without having faith in myself that, "hey, I can make this better," wouldn't happen and I'd still be stuck drawing stick figures with noodle hair. Sometimes, faith is from other people. Everyone that came here has faith in me. Faith that I could do this. Even more so, faith has pushed me through rough times, that things will get better. That things may eventually be normal again. Anything really.

Faith may help me in the future as well. Faith that I'll get my dream job. Faith that I won't be lonely forever. Faith that maybe someday, all my little hopes and dreams will come true. Faith always comes in the weirdest ways. Random people on the internet that compliment my artwork, they might have faith in me. My friends, they have faith in me. My family, they have faith in me. Everyone that's pushed me to be where I am now and going forward, they have faith in me. And all that, even in little ways, has helped me. Maybe this isn't perfect, or what was asked of me. But I tried, even when I doubted I could do this. Faith was there. Always. Even when you can't see it.

**Verse: Philippians 4:6-7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

# Church News

*(Letter from Pastor Halom, continued from page 1)*

Over the past few years, we have tried to introduce electronic giving as a means to contribute financially to our ministry. We can give online at <https://www.stjohns-bloomer.org/>. We can set up automatic payments through Tithely or Paypal in addition to your bank account through automatic withdrawals. Each week when I post our worship services online, I attach a link to make it readily available for our convenience. Clearly we will continue to receive offerings in person using the offering plates as well. But the beauty of setting up consistent, automatic gifts to the church is that your attendance does not determine your contribution.

Friends, please consider regular financial contributions, especially during these summer months when our attendance tends to be irregular. You can continue to support our ministry, even when you're not physically present. And yet our influence and ability to reach out as eager disciples in our community will be able to continue because of your generosity. Thank you in advance for your faithfulness. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel!

*Pastor Halom*

## 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!

### St. John's is setting up July's Meals On Wheels

Please contact **Janice Naset** at 568-5615 -or- **Martha Libersky** at 568-4653  
If you are able to drive and/or deliver meals.  
**Thank you!!**



|                      | Month of<br>APR 2022    | Year to Date<br>JAN -APR  | Financial<br>Update                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| INCOME               | \$ 17,649               | \$64,139                  |                                      |
| EXPENSES             | \$16,224                | \$73,005                  |                                      |
| Difference<br>(loss) | \$1,425                 | (\$8,866)                 | Current Balance<br>on Line of Credit |
| Line of<br>Credit    | Princ Paid Apr<br>\$164 | Princ Paid YTD<br>\$1,290 | \$23,287                             |

### **WANTED!! Funeral Custodian**

- \*Job description entails cleaning bathrooms, sanctuary, narthex, dining hall (as needed), and library setup.
- \*Please contact Pastor Martin if you are willing to serve as the custodian for upcoming funerals. \$50/funeral. Normal year has 8-10 funerals/year.
- \*Can be accomplished individually or with partners!

### Deadline for July 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 **June 24th.**  
*Thank You!!*

# Church Council Minutes

## May 9, 2022

**Call to Order** - meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Adam Anderson, Council 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 Janelle Yeakey to approve the agenda , seconded by Alicia Bonczyk Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** – a **motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the minutes from the April 11th, 2022 meeting, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

**Financial Report** – Victoria was present to answer questions for the council. Monthly bills have been paid, however it was a close this month. Discussion was had on the heating bills for this year compared to previous. Council looked at weekly giving yearly from 2018-21. Currently 95 household giving units this year compared to previous: 2018 (178 households), 2019 (177 households), 2020 (156 households), 2021 (132 households).

|                            | Year to Date( Jan 2022—Apr 2022  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Income                     | \$64,118.36                      |
| Expenses                   | \$73,005.04                      |
| Difference                 | \$-8,886.68                      |
| Current SFB Line of Credit | \$23,387.26 decrease of \$164.18 |

A **motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to spend \$50 for a parting gift for Katie from the youth designated funds. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

### **Old Business** –

**Good Friday** – positive reviews of Silent Messengers with cards of thanks from nonmembers. Silent Messengers also offers a Christmas performance.

**Meals** – Several meals have now been served and were successful.

**Charcoal Chicken** – Made approximately \$700. Notes were made for the future such as tasks to perform and when, prices may need to be increased, avoid 1<sup>st</sup> communion Sunday at Catholic Church.

Laura Ramlow – approximately 30-40 people attend the event

**New Business** Katie’s Exit Interview & Youth Director Position– Pastor Martin, Melissa Sarauer, Beth Halverson, and Janelle Yeakey conducted an exit interview. Concerns that were brought up were compensatory time and out of pocket expenses for events such as mission trips, lock ins, quakes, etc. A special will be held to discuss position.

Rainbow Kids – Discussion had about offering space to Rainbow Kids to house after school care.

(Note: After the meeting it was determined that Rainbow Kids had found a location)

# Church Council Minutes *(continued)* Special Council Meeting May 19

Job Fair – Chamber is hosting an outdoor job fair at Shadicks. Information will be shared with the Preschool and Youth Committees.

## Reports –

Pastor Report – A **motion was made** by Terri Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah Wittrock to approve membership of Dylan Zwiefelhofer through confirmation. Motion carried.

## Additional items and Announcements

Next regular meeting: June 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

Adjournment – a **motion was made** by Kaitlyn Bohl to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

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

Nonmembers Present: Victoria Prince-Silvas

Members Absent: NA

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

## Special Meeting, May 19, 2022

Call to Order – meeting was called to order at 6:39 pm by Adam Anderson, Council President

Opening Prayer – Pastor led the council in an opening prayer

Approval of Agenda – a **motion was made** by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the agenda, seconded by Jeff Cole, motion carried.

Elevator company evaluation overview – the apartment foundation is looking at new service contracts for the elevators.

## Youth and Family Ministry Director compensation package discussion –

Discussion was had about the youth director position and what the church can afford at this time. Council felt it was important to continue with the position to keep the youth program strong and thriving.

A **motion was made** by Jamie Keller, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terri Smith to approve a 20 hour a week Youth Director Position with negotiable \$15 per hour wage. Motion passed – unanimous.

Next Steps

- 1) Youth Committee will create an ad and timeline for hiring process.
- 2) Current plan is for the position to be posted by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Adjournment – a **motion was made** by Jamie Keller to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried, adjourned at 8:45pm.

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

Nonmembers Present: Melissa Sarauer

Members Absent: Marcy Trubshaw, Pat Prill

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

# Youth & Family Ministry Announcements

## *Vacation Bible School*

Our youth committee has been working with Luther Park Bible Camp to return back to utilizing their camp staff and leadership for our VBS once again. Unfortunately, due to a lack of staffing, Luther Park will be unable to provide the necessary staffing to send a group to lead us.

In order for us to offer this annual tradition once again, we'll need a team of leaders to make plans for what this could look like. If you would be willing to play a role on the planning team, please contact Pastor Martin so that we can determine what VBS might look like this year. Initially we were planning for VBS to be during the afternoon hours of June 27-30 as that is when Luther Park was available. The dates can now shift, along with the daily time frame, in order for us to be prepared to offer something spectacular for the children of our Bloomer community! Let's work together so that we can in turn play together!

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY DIRECTOR PLAN

The church council and youth committee recently met to discuss how to fill the void left when Katie O'Connell accepted a new position at Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. At this time, we will focus on finding a part-time staff position to make sure that our church can manage the salary package.

If you know anyone that you feel would be a good fit for this position, please have them reach out to Pastor Martin so that they can be considered for the position.

Our youth ministry continues to be a source of strength for our church family and vital to our mission. The church leadership values your prayers and suggestions along the way to see what God might have in store for our future. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Martin.

## SENIOR RECOGNITION

**Who:** 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**When:** June 1

Calling all high school SENIORS!!! Join us to recognize YOU and all that you have accomplished in high school. A date is TBA, but plan on us celebrating you soon.



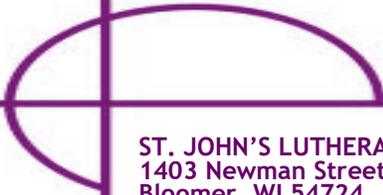
## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Finished K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**There is still plenty of time to register for summer camp! Luther Park offers programs for all ages and all interests! Check them out at**

[www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org)

**for more information or to register.**



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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

715-568-5446  
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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](mailto:pastormartin@bloomer.net)