



# 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:

- Paradigm Shift
- Committee Announcements
- Financial Report
- Council Meeting
- Annual Report Minutes
- Youth and Family

## INSIDE THIS

Pastor's News	1
Bible Basics	2
Announcements	4
Financial	4
Council Minutes	5
Annual Minutes	7
Youth and Family	10

## A NEW PARADIGM SHIFT

Last month, I attended the annual winter theological conference where we learned from Bishop Hazelwood of the New England Synod. As I listened to his perspective, I gained some important insights as we look toward our future here at St. John's.

Many of the conferences that I've attended over the last couple of years has addressed the declining numbers within the ELCA as well as most other mainline denominations throughout the country. I've heard many speakers discuss the way each generation thinks, acts, and behaves, with particular attention to their attitudes toward church, faith, and God. What's important to realize is that church is one of the few places in our culture where so many "constituents" are gathered from so many age demographics. We are now a church that includes six different generations (sorted by year of birth):

- |                           |                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. 1912-1930 The Builders | 4. 1960-1980 Generation X             |
| 2. 1930-1945 The Quiets   | 5. 1981-2001 Millennials              |
| 3. 1946-1959 Baby Boom    | 6. 2001-present The Screen Generation |

Don't get too caught up in the dates, but what this shows is that we have several different perspectives and attitudes and behaviors to bring together into our family here at St. John's. And each generation probably has a different experience with regard to how a church functions and operates.

So at the conference we discussed a new strategy on how to share the gospel in our communities. Many years back, churches grew because its members had babies and got baptized! Then there came a time when friends were invited into the community and worship styles changed, especially the music. The focus was on getting people in the pews, drawing people into our church culture, helping them act like us. But now there is a new paradigm shift, which is what I want to share with you.

First, know that we are thankful for those of you who fill our pews. I am NOT challenging that behavior! But what would it look like if we went beyond our church walls?

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*“The Neighborhood - The primary way to know what God is up to in our world when the boundary markers seem to have been erased is by entering into the ordinary, everyday life of the neighborhoods and communities where we live.” (Bishop Hazelwood)*

My hope is that as we move forward as a church family, we can set our sights on not just those who are here, but for those who aren't as well. We are not defined as THE neighborhood, but rather we are PART of a neighborhood. That means reaching out to the neighborhood we call Bloomer and engage people where they are, especially those who are part of a generation that does not trust the church for whatever reason. They won't come to us, which makes it so much more important that we come to them! So let's enter this new age with courage and vigor!

Peace,

Pastor Martin



# Bible Basics



## February 1

In today's gospel lesson, Jesus casts out an unclean spirit. In the gospel of Mark, how many unclean spirits or demons does Jesus cast out?

- A. 4
- B. 10
- C. 12
- D. Cannot be determined

Mark's gospel has several reported stories, but we read in **Mark 1:32** "That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons."

## February 8

In today's gospel lesson, Jesus heals many people and casts out more demons as the entire town watched. What did Jesus do early the next morning?

- A. He comforted Peter's mother-in-law who had been sick
- B. He taught in the synagogue
- C. He went to a deserted place to pray
- D. He pulled out his shofar (a ram's horn) and played "Reveille"

## February 15

We celebrate the Transfiguration today, where the voice of God speaks directly to 4 of the disciples. What other story in Mark do we hear the voice of God in a similar way?

- A. Jesus calming the storm
- B. The baptism of Jesus
- C. The feeding of the 5,000
- D. Jesus walks on water

**Mark 1:11** And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**Mark 9:7** Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"

## February 22

When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, who led/drove him out there?

- A. God the Father
- B. Jesus himself
- C. The Holy Spirit
- D. Satan

# Committee Announcements

**THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE:**

We want to thank all of the people who helped deliver Meals on Wheels. We had 15 volunteers, aged 9 - upper 70's, help deliver the two routes. The 14 + people on each route look forward to seeing the volunteers every day. For some, this may be the only person they see that day. It is an important and rewarding service we can offer to the community.

Starting February 22 through Palm Sunday, we will be collecting hygiene products for World Relief. We need toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, combs, nail clippers, wash cloths and smaller towels. There will be boxes at church to collect them in. If you prefer, we can also use monetary donations for this project. There will be a box in the back of the church for this, also. These items that we take for granted can make a big difference in the life of someone who has nothing.



## Financial Report - Feb. 2015

	2014	2015	Budget 2015
<b>Beginning Balance – Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	\$7,513.00	\$3,150.00	
<b>Income –February</b>	\$17,791.00	\$26,060.00	\$28,827.00
<b>Expenses – February</b>	\$19,290.00	\$28,144.00	\$28,827.00
<b>Balance</b>	\$6,014.00	\$1,900.00	
<b>Loan – Security Financial Bank</b>	\$91,420.00	\$79,750.00	

## Council Meeting

February 1, 2015

**Meeting called to order:** by President Pat Boettcher at 6:30p.m.

**Opening devotion and prayer:** given by Pastor Martin

**Agenda Amendment:** N/A

**Agenda Approval:** Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster, seconded by Trey Baker to approve agenda. Motion carried.

**Annual Meeting Minutes Approval:** Motion made by Lynette Pank, seconded by Tom Buchner to approve January 25<sup>th</sup> St John's Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Election of Officers:** Elected officers are President, Rod Johnson. Vice-President-Adam Ewings. Treasurer-Lynette Pank. Secretary-Pauline Stertz.

**Committee assignments:** Worship & Music/Janice Naset. Discipleship/Pat Boettcher. Fellowship/Tom Buchner. Youth & Education/Adam Ewings and Trey Baker. Social Ministry/Ellyn Hudacek. Property Committee/Alice Zinsmaster.

**Council Member Comments:** None

**Congregational Comments:** concerns of current assets and expenditures.

### Committee Reports:

- ◆ **Youth & Family - Hunger Awareness Meal** –Ash Wednesday, 2/18/2015 at 5:30 P.M. Ticket sale dates February 1-15<sup>th</sup>. Winterfest held at Bloomer Golf Course was a big success. Lock-In scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above. National Youth Gathering will be in Detroit, July 15-19<sup>th</sup>. This is open to 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above. Vacation Bible School dates confirmed for June 22-27<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Butterbraid fund raiser profit \$1,250.
- ◆ **Discipleship-** Ministry Opportunities booklet is in print and assembly.
- ◆ **Worship & Music:** Drama series being added to Wednesday services.
- ◆ **Fellowship:** Planning a Bingo social on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Signup deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Reserving Park for Out Door Service on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- ◆ **Social Ministry:** Delivery of January Meals On Wheels a success.
- ◆ **Property:** Continuation of compiling data to make a well informed decision of update/remodel of bathrooms. Repair needed to power auto door opener and need to replace a cracked glass in one office window.

**Chair Report:** Parent's Night Out activity being part of Youth & Family Committee and Social Ministry Committee possible name change to Out Reach Ministry. Need to offer an anonymous opportunity to congregation to submit questions at annual meeting.

### Pastor's Report:

- ◆ **Membership Update:** Membership by baptism: Arianna Shadick. New member by Affirmation of Baptism: Rosie Reid. Transferred members to Church Triumphant: N/A Transfer of members: Chuck, Amanda and Grant Richardson. Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Tom Buchner to approve membership changes. Motion carried.
- ◆ **Wednesday Night Dinner:** Attendance is going well.
- ◆ **Parents Night Out:** Scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> at Bloomer Bowl
- ◆ **Pastor Visits:** Colfax Nursing Home, Maplewood, Hetzel's & Hospital.

## Council Meeting

**Financial Report:** Motion made by Rod Johnson and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to accept Financial report. Motion carried.

### Old Business:

**Dream Team/Long Range Planning:** No update

- ◆ **Staff Benefit Policy:** Committee(Janice Naset, Pat Boettcher, Ellyn Hudacek ) to review/study synod guidelines.
- ◆ **E-Blast use:** was used to find needed volunteers to help deliver Meals On Wheels....no responses received.
- ◆ **Faith Statements:** Pastor Martin will discuss with families to get their feedback on sharing Faith Statements with the congregation.

### New Business:

- ◆ Annual Meeting Report: Attendance count was 71.
- ◆ Bathroom discussion: Need to have a member/s of property committee to be present with Jim Bresina in regard to viewing the project on site and exactly what are the needs of St John's bathroom renovation and what the contractor thinks is needed /possible to fulfill those needs

**Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer:** Lead by Pastor Martin at 8:35p.m.

Pauline Stertz, Secretary

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

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting  
January 25, 2015**

President Pat Boettcher called the meeting to order at 9:55 A.M.

Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.

A quorum of 71 voting members was present.

- **Motion made by Art Klingenberg and seconded by Vicky Trinko to approve agenda.**  
Motion carried.
- **Motion made by Rod Schmidt, Sr. and seconded by Richard Mohr to accept the minutes from the January 26, 2014 Annual Meeting.** Motion carried.

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** None

**Reports:** Motion made by Nylah Gust and seconded by Mel Crisp to accept the reports as printed in the Annual Report, with the exception of the Budget report. Motion carried.

**Elections:** Introduction of Mel Crisp as Parliamentarian. Mel introduced and thanked the members of the Nomination Committee, Mel Crisp, Marie Weideman, Eva Newton and Shelly Lane with Pastor Martin as advisor.

- Council-Vicky Trinko and Don Geissler were appointed as election clerks.
- Pat Boettcher introduced current council members and thanked out-going members Jordyn Keller and Shelly Lane.
- Mel Crisp read the names of the council candidates. Written ballots distributed.
- New council members are Tom Buchner, Lynette Pank and Ellyn Hudacek. Trey Baker will be the youth representative. **Motion made by Mel Crisp and seconded by Monica Stuckert to accept results of vote.** Motion carried.
- **Motion made by Vicky Trinko and seconded by Nylah Gust to destroy the ballots.**  
Motion carried.
- Nominating Committee-President Pat Boettcher appointed Marge Melberg, Art Klingenberg and Sue Zwiefelhofer, alternate Lon Wilson to the nominating committee.
- Synod Assembly-to be held May 30-31, 2015. Tyler and Beth Halvorson to attend.

**Approval of Budget:**

- Darold Schuster said the congregation can be proud of the increase in giving by \$55,000.00 for the 2013-2014 year. He also said it may be optimistic to expect this giving to continue to increase to meet the proposed budget after a recent substantial increase.
- Lynette Pank communicated to the congregation the council's recent decision to recommend to the congregation use our operating loan (current interest rate is 3.3%) to remodel/repair the bathrooms along with funds in the Bathroom Fund and

Undesignated Memorials. Costs could be as high as \$50,000.00 depending on the extent of remodel/repairs that are done. Bids to be obtained.

- Herman Boettcher wants the congregation to be informed of opportunities to contribute to this fund. An appeal will be made to the congregation.
- Council also made a motion at a recent council meeting to apply any amount over \$500.00 to the Operating Loan from the Wednesday Night Dinner fund each June.
- **Motion made by Rita Bitney and seconded by Bonnie Lueck to accept the 2014 Financial Report.** Motion carried.
- **Motion made by Rod Schmidt, Sr. and seconded by Marge Melberg to approve the proposed budget for 2015.** Motion carried.

**Motion made by Nylah Gust and seconded by Mary Asplund to adjourn.** Motion carried.  
Pastor Martin closed the meeting with prayer at 10:28 A.M.

Shelly Lane, Secretary

MARCH 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism for Emmitt Michael Swarzenberger 10:15 AM Dream Team Meeting 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting	<b>2</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Youth Committee Meeting	<b>3</b> 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> 11:00 AM Pastor attending Bloomer Clergy Meeting 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Recharge Event 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	<b>7</b> Recharge Event
<b>8</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service led by Martha Libersky 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation	<b>9</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>10</b> 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	<b>14</b> 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM Middle School Synod Christ Jam in Rice Lake
<b>15</b> BINGO 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism for Jacob Edward Rihn 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting	<b>16</b> Maria at Conf. in Rice Lake 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>17</b> 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	<b>18</b> 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	<b>21</b> 5:00 PM Parents Nite Out
<b>22</b> 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Camp Registration 10:00 AM Youth Committee Meeting 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation	<b>23</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 6:45 PM Camp Registration 7:00 PM Worship	<b>26</b> 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting	<b>27</b> 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>  9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Egg Hunt 10:15 AM Youth Faith Formation 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Girl Scout Meeting	<b>30</b> 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study	<b>31</b> 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	<b>1</b> 11:00 AM Pastor attending Bloomer Clergy Meeting 5:45 PM Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study in Library	<b>4</b>

**PARENT'S NITE OUT**

**Saturday, March 21**

**Child care provided for children up to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Please call 715-568-5446 for more info or to sign up for a night out with adults.**



**LENTEN SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPERS**



Camp & Activities Fundraiser Sponsored by all families & children attending camp

**Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25**

Enjoy delicious soups, sandwiches, & desserts made by St. John's youth & parents. Meal served from 5-6 pm. Monetary donations of your choice will support camp & youth activities.

**INTERESTED IN A WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY?**

**Bring your lunch and join us in the library at noon each Friday.**

**Email, phone or stop by my office for more info.**

**Blessings, Marla**

**MARCH LEARNING**

Sunday, March 1, 18, 15, 22  
Preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, 10:15 AM

Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25  
Preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible 101

**WEATHER ALERT!**

Parents and youth, rule of thumb for St. John's Lutheran, when school is cancelled due to bad weather all learning events, scheduled (preschool, elementary, middle school, & Sr. high) are cancelled as well.

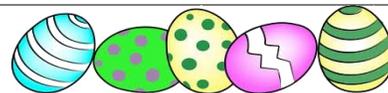


**HAVE A FAVORITE SOUP YOU'D LOVE TO SHARE?**

Soup donations on Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25 for the soup suppers would be greatly appreciated. Email Marla @ [stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net) or phone 715-568-5446 ext. 12 with date you are willing to share. Thank you in advance

**PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION & EGG HUNT SUNDAY, MARCH 29 @ 10:15 AM**

**ALL CHILDREN & YOUNG AT HEART INVITED**



**RETREATS & CAMPS**

March 6 & 7: Luther Park ReCharge Grades 3-12, go to [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org) to register

March 14: ELCA Northwest Synod of WI 6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade CHRIST JAM, 9am-4:30pm Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake, WI.

April 17-19: Youth Encounter Retreat, Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells, 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade-SR. High. Registration deadline Feb. 22

Luther Park Summer Camp: Kindergarten-Adult

Info & registration for Youth Encounter & Summer Camp scheduled in dining hall at 6:45 pm on Feb. 25, March 18 & April 15

