



# St. John's Lutheran Church

## Mission Statement:

"Growing disciples who eagerly share Christ's Love!"

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Church News - Calendar

News from Pastor Halom

Youth & Family Announcements

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### INNOVATION ROOTED IN TRADITION

January 31, 2021: the day we returned to in person worship. It was the first time since October 4, 2020. The 17 weeks in between those two Sundays challenged our church and most definitely challenged me, especially my "normal" routines. Since then, I've had many conversations with fellow pastors and rostered leaders to see how they were "doing church" while their doors were closed. It was their thoughts that helped my creativity while leading during a pandemic.

Remember the Ecumenical Christmas Pageant? Remember the Jesse Tree Advent daily devotions? Remember the recorded version of Holden Evening Prayer that included the unprompted delightful noise of children? Those were all new innovations that were inspired by others. The practices of each are not exactly new ideas, but the ways in which to execute the plan most definitely were. I call that innovation rooted in tradition. Even conducting an annual meeting online could be considered innovation rooted in tradition!

That's why I'm blessed to serve St. John's. You have weathered the storm and adapted to many new methods of doing things. Without that adaptable nature, our ministry could have suffered a great deal. That's why I'm excited to announce some more good news.

A few months ago, I was approached by our synod leadership to apply for a spot on a new ministry development team. It's called the Wisconsin Synod Missional Cohort. Luther Seminary, has been working with the six ELCA synods located in our beloved state as well as the Siebert Foundation. The Siebert Foundation has long helped fund Lutheran pastors across the state for leadership development, including this new venture. When I applied to be a part of this twelve person group, I knew that my odds were not great. But on Feb. 10, I was notified that I was one of the twelve to make it! I am joined by three other pastors from the Northwest Synod of WI. Interestingly enough, I am one of four male pastors in the group...

This yearlong venture will help me read more from church innovators, develop other new strategies for this church in adapting to a changing culture, consult with local leaders outside of St. John's, and check in regularly with a small group and coach to hold me accountable. I am so excited about this new venture to see what it might bring!

A word of warning, however: this means that our current ways of "doing church" will likely shift. Over the past few years, our Faithful Innovations Network (FIN) team has already begun this work. It's the work of helping us realize that doing church is more than how we worship. It's the work of listening to the community of Bloomer to see how St. John's can be a significant resource. It's the work of listening to God's still voice to see what God is up to.

If you are inspired by this work, please talk to me and ask me about our FIN team. That will be the primary group that will help me with this work. Trust me – this work will deepen your faith life. This work will keep St. John's relevant in today's changing world. This work will still uphold our traditions, just in a more innovative way!

*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](http://www.Stjohns-bloomer.org)

## Please Join Our Church Family In Prayer



As we enter the month of March, 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:



### Prayers of Healing for our Church Family

Friends and Family of Gloria Lambert, Friends and Family of Dona Stanford; Terry, brother-in-law of Jean Latour; Carolyn Bergh, Maggie Olson, Tom Buchner, Arlene Christianson, Ilene Pingel, Merv Marquardt, Willard Rogge, Rod Martin, Donna Kerckhove & Rene Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughters), Steve Trubshaw, Margueritte Werner.

### Prayers for our Active Military

Dalton Grambo, Jacob Dachel, Jacob Johnson, Danielle Shipman, Kelsey Leavens, Trenton Beaudette, Ryan Heiss

### Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>: Melissa and Kianna Turner; Ross, Jessica, Avery Waldofski, Madelyn Hole; Luke, Jennifer, Morgan and Kayden Walta; Jessica and Dehija Walters.

Prayers for the week of March 14<sup>th</sup>: Bob, Cathy and Nathan Weber; Tom and Carol Webster; John and Carol Weideman; Marie Weideman; Judy Weissinger; Margueritte Werner; Lon, Pat and Eric Wilson.

Prayers for the week of March 21<sup>st</sup>: Arnold and Marlene Windsor; Sharon Winfield; Jeanette Wolf; Brent, Janelle, Blaine, Camryn and Kelly Yeakey; Randy and Tami Yeakey; Steve, Sindy, Nic, Driah and Zayah Zakrzewicz.

Prayers for the week of March 28<sup>th</sup> : Pete, Stacie, Paige and Kendall Zeman; Alice Zinsmaster; Jeremy, Amanda, DeLaney and Dyllon Zwiefelhofer; Garret, Kari, Skylar and Trey Zwiefelhofer; Sue Zwiefelhofer.

# Church News

## Special Council Meeting (zoom) Feb. 21, 2021

Church Council special meeting was held via Zoom on February 21, 2021, commencing at 10:01 a.m. to accept Beth Halverson's resignation as custodian and review the current job description. After discussion, the job description will be modified as follows:

Under Maintenance of the Church Interior, #1 shall add language to include Holy Week and Christmas services; #5, Replace sanctuary candle weekly, shall be removed; #6, Water plants as necessary, shall be removed; #7, Laundry of kitchen towels and accessories, shall be removed; #9, Paint walls as needed, shall be removed. It was felt these duties can be done by other committees/volunteers.

Under Maintenance of the Church Exterior, #2, language that custodian must supply own lawn mowing equipment will be removed.

Under Working Conditions, language will be added for direct communication with supervisor with regard to special needs or unforeseen needs.

Pastor Martin will update the job description. A 3-person hiring committee will consist of Pastor Martin, Tyler Halverson, and Adam Anderson.

Tyler Halverson graciously volunteered to do lawn care in the event the custodian position is not filled by this summer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Terri Smith, Secretary

Present via Zoom: Pastor Martin, Tyler Halverson, Adam Anderson, Alicia Bonczyk, Janelle Yeakey, Marcy Trubshaw, Pat Prill, Terri Smith.

Also present via Zoom: Tom Ewings, Beth Halverson. Absent: Kaitlyn Bohl, Lydia Blaha, Melissa Sarauer.

## CARE PACKAGES for 2020 GRADUATES

St. John's is working on putting together care packages for the 2020 graduates and we're asking for your help!

### Ways you can help:

Donate goods (all kinds of prepackaged food, travels games such as decks of cards and dice, stationary, gift cards, or anything else you think young adults in college, the military, or the workforce may need or want!)

Donate money for us to get goods  
Pray for those receiving the packages.

Help assemble the packages on **March 28<sup>th</sup>**

For any other questions, please contact Katie O'Connell. [Stjohnsl-katie@bloomer.net](mailto:Stjohnsl-katie@bloomer.net)

## FINANCE UPDATE

Year-To-Date as of Feb. 26, 2021

|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Year-To-Date:                         |                      |
| Weekly Contributions                  | \$ 39,774.15         |
| Other Raised Funds                    | <u>27.69</u>         |
| <b>Total Received</b>                 | <b>\$ 39,780.84</b>  |
| - Expenses                            | <u>\$ -32,993.09</u> |
| <b>Total remaining after expenses</b> | <b>\$ 6,808.75</b>   |

### Deadline for April Newsletter

If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please make sure to get it to the church secretary no later than

**March 25th.**

*Thank You!!*

## March 2021

| Sunday   | Monday                            | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday                                  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>28</b><br>Katie - Out Of Office<br>9:00 AM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)  | <b>1</b><br>Katie - Out Of Office | <b>2</b><br>Katie - Out Of Office  | <b>3</b><br>11:00 AM Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg- Pastor<br>5:30 PM Faith Formation - Grp A<br>6:45 PM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)              | <b>4</b>                                  | <b>5</b><br>Resumes Due for Custodian Position | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>7</b><br>9:00 AM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)<br>10:00 AM Worship Committee Meeting<br>5:30 PM Youth In Action | <b>8</b><br>Custodian Interviews  | <b>9</b><br>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Quilting Group<br>3:30 PM Staff Meeting (zoom)<br>5:30 PM Church Council Meeting | <b>10</b><br>5:30 PM Faith Formation - Grp B<br>6:45 PM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)   | <b>11</b><br>10:00 AM Pastor's Conference | <b>12</b>                                      | <b>13</b><br>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME - SPRING AHEAD!! |
| <b>14</b><br>9:00 AM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)<br>5:30 PM Youth In Action                                      | <b>15</b>                         | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b><br>Final Day Cake Roll Orders<br>Happy St. Patrick's Day!<br>5:30 PM Faith Formation - Grp A<br>6:45 PM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols) | <b>18</b>                                 | <b>19</b>                                      | <b>20</b>   |
| <b>21</b><br>9:00 AM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)   | <b>22</b>                         | <b>23</b><br>3:30 PM Staff Meeting (zoom)  | <b>24</b><br>5:30 PM Faith Formation - Grp B<br>6:45 PM Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)   | <b>25</b>                                 | <b>26</b>                                      | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>28</b><br>9:00 AM PALM SUNDAY Worship Service<br>5:30 PM Assemble Care Packages - Youth<br>5:30 PM Youth In Action                  | <b>29</b>                         | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b>   | <b>1</b>                                  | <b>2</b>                                       | <b>3</b>  |

# Church Council Minutes (via Zoom)

## February 9, 2021

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Tyler Halverson.

**Opening Devotion:** Prayer by Pastor Martin.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Marcy Trubshaw, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to approve the agenda, with flexibility. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting, January 17, 2021:** Motion made by Lydia Blaha, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

### **Financial Report:**

- Victoria Prince-Silvas present via Zoom. Overview of profit & loss statement and balance sheet given for new council members.

- Discussed outstanding balance on line of credit.

Motion made by Lydia Blaha, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to approve the financial report. Motion carried. Victoria excused from remainder of meeting.

**Committee Referrals:** None at this time.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Worship/Music Committee:**

- Planning for Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and in-person worship.

#### **Youth and Family Ministry:**

- Returning to in-person learning on Sunday, January 31, 2021, and Wednesday, February 3, 2021, with safety protocols in place.

- Pre-K will meet Sunday mornings from 10:00-10:30 a.m.

- Planning 2021 Mission Trip to Colorado July 18-23 as Plan A. Plan B is a local mission trip.

- VBS is scheduled for August 1-5.

- Katie O'Connell will contact Amanda Prill about doing a basket raffle.

#### **Council President's Report:**

- Reminder to have agenda items and action items from committees submitted by noon on Wednesday preceding meeting.

#### **Pastor's Report:**

- Working on Lenten preparations.

- Working with Preschool with plans to open safely in the fall.

- Attended workshop on LGBTQIA+ concerns and issues.

#### **Membership update:**

- Transfer in: Katie O'Connell.

- Transfer out: Eric, Katie, Genevieve, Vince and Scarlett Telschow

- Transfer to Church Triumphant: Darlene Hass.

Motion made by Marcy Trubshaw, seconded by Adam Anderson, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.

# Church Council Minutes (continued) Special Council Meeting via email Feb. 17

**Old Business:**

- **COVID Update:** Returned to in-person services on Sundays and Wednesdays.
- Communion distribution being brought to people in the pews.
- Online services will continue.
- Every third pew will be blocked off to expand distance between parishoners.

**Treasurer Position:** Position is currently vacant. Tabled until next month.

Motion made by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to grant temporary authorization for Melissa Sarauer and Lydia Blaha to sign checks until new paperwork at the bank is processed. Motion carried.

**Preschool Transition:** Open enrollment starting March 1, 2021.

- In the process of getting re-licensed.
- Planning to have 2 teachers, who would also serve as administrator and director; if needed because of higher enrollment, could get an assistant.
- Prior employees of preschool would have to reapply for their position.
- Tyler Halverson will assist with transitioning.

**New Business:** None at this time.

**Additional Items and Announcements:**

- Committee members will be listed on bulletin board, "About Us" on the church's website, and Power Point during church services.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made at 6:53 p.m. by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Marcy Trubshaw. Motion carried.

**Closing Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Martin.

Next regular council meeting will be March 9, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Terri Smith, Secretary

Present via Zoom: Pastor Martin, Tyler Halverson, Adam Anderson, Alicia Bonczyk, Janelle Yeakey, Kaitlyn Bohl, Lydia Blaha, Marcy Trubshaw, Terri Smith. Absent: Melissa Sarauer, Pat Prill.

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## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES (via Email) February 17, 2021

Church Council special meeting was held via email on February 17, 2021. A motion was made by Melissa Sarauer to accept Pat Prill's nomination as treasurer.

The motion was seconded by Adam Anderson. "Yes" votes were made by Tyler Halverson, Melissa Sarauer, Adam Anderson, Janelle Yeakey, Alicia Bonczyk, and Terri Smith. Having a majority "yes" vote, President Tyler Halverson declared the motion as having passed.

Terri Smith, Secretary

# Youth Announcements

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Confirmation students, please join us in the Dining Hall at St. John's for Confirmation! We will still be alternating weeks, so please see the schedule below.

- 3/3: Group A
- 3/10: Group B
- 3/17: Group A
- 2/24: Group B
- 3/31: No Faith Formation



### YOUTH IN ACTION



**Who:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth  
**When:** Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>  
 @ 5:30-7:30pm  
**Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church  
 Join us for a time of fellowship, games, and most importantly...FOOD!! We are FINALLY able to be together in person again!

## Cake Rolls Fundraiser

We are selling cake rolls! Please contact a St. John's youth, Katie O'Connell at the church, or visit the narthex before or after worship to order.

**Orders are due March 17th.**

Cost: \$14/each  
 Flavors: Chocolate Crème, Lemon Crème, Pumpkin Cake, Carrot Cake, Red Velvet Cake and Strawberry Cheesecake.



Earnings will go towards summer camp, mission trips, and other youth activities.

Please see "CHURCH NEWS" on page 3 for details on Care Packages for 2020 Graduates

### JAM SCHEDULE

Starting February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we began holding JAM in person! Pre-K meets Sundays @ 10-10:30 AM.

Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> Grade meets alternating Wednesdays at 5:30-6:30 PM. Please see schedule below.

- 3/3: Kindergarten-2nd Grade
- 3/10: 3rd—5th Grade
- 3/17: Kindergarten—2nd grade
- 3/24: 3rd—5th Grade
- 3/31: No Faith Formation



### BASKET RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Help get our youth to Loveland, CO this summer!! From now until Easter, we will be selling raffle tickets. Purchase tickets before or after worship in the narthex, anytime during the week, or you can call Katie and send a check in the mail!

Cost: \$5/ticket or \$20/5 tickets  
 Come see the baskets in person, or visit the St. John's Facebook for pictures.



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446  
Email: [stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-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](mailto:pastormartin@bloomer.net)