



# 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

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from Pastor Halom	1
Prayers	2
Church News	3
Finance Update	3
Calendar	4
Council Minutes	5
Youth & Family Ministry Minutes	6
Youth News	7

## WHERE CHURCH IS MORE THAN WORSHIP

Last week I was involved in a two-day retreat for my missional leadership cohort. One of the greatest values I appreciate about retreats is that it invites me to think beyond my normal day to day routine. The twelve of us who participated as pastors were invited to introduce our contexts to each other. It was fun sharing the story of St. John's and how it fits within the community of Bloomer. But by the end of the retreat, something dawned on me.

I've been here for well over eight years now. Some of you have shared your life with me in very deep ways. Others of you I know more nominally. Some of you have shown your heart by getting involved in things that you feel passionate about (quilting for others, working with youth, praying for the saints of St. John's...). But what occurred to me is that when it comes to your passions for justice or advocacy work, I now realize I know very little.

At our most recent synod assembly, the first time our synod has gathered online for an assembly, we passed five resolutions dealing with justice issues:

Gender equality  
Racial justice  
Care of creation

LGBTQUA+  
Hunger

Our social ministry committee will take the lead with regard to our work with these issues. Our first task will be to determine which issue to tackle first. To be honest, I really don't know which issue would garner the most support and that's why I need your help. I want to know which issues are important to you. I want to know who wants to learn more about these issues. I want to know how many of you would like to not only learn more, but in turn form an action plan to do something about these injustices.

The prophet Amos writes, "...let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." The church is about regular worship without a doubt. But the church is also about standing up for the outcast, crying out about injustices in our communities, and advocating for those without a voice. Jesus did all of these throughout his ministry. The biblical precedent is there.

What will our next steps look like? If you elect to get involved, your voice will help shape that answer. Join the social ministry committee and help us determine how best to care for our community. And when I get to attend my next missional leadership cohort retreat, I can't wait to share what we've accomplished as well as have a greater view of this great church family. A view that includes your passions for justice!

*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 May, 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

Kelly Custer; Terry, brother-in-law of Jean Latour; Carolyn Bergh; Maggie Olson; Tom Buchner; Arlene Christianson; Ilene Pingel; Merv Marquardt; Rod Martin; Donna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Steve Trubshaw; Margueritte Werner; Chojnacki Family; Russ Dachel.

### Prayers for our Active Military

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

### Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lydia, Steven, Chase and Reagan Blaha; Annie and Bill Bleskacek; Brian, Laura, Jake, John, Jonah and Leah Bleskacek; Joselyn, Nathan, Lauren and Ryan Bleskacek.

Prayers for the week of May 9<sup>th</sup>: Joselyn, Nathan, Lauren and Ryan Bleskacek; Alice Boese; Annie, Larry and Nicole Boese; Bryan, Mary, Blake and Tenley Boese; Herman and Patricia Boettcher.

Prayers for the week of May 16<sup>th</sup>: Terri, Zach, Aubrie and Kaitlyn Bohl; Alicia, Andrew, Alexis, Colton and Kiley Bonczyk; Dalton, Joselyn and Katie Bowe; Jay, Kari, Cody and Kiley Braun.

Prayers for the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Tom Buchner; Joe, Kelly, Kendall and Kolten Burgess; Janelle, Raymond, Brianna and Ryan Buske; Brian, Cathy, Mitch and Tylor Calkins.

Prayers for the week of May 30<sup>th</sup>: Marsha Callstrom; Kyle, Stephanie, Karter and Larissa Chevrier; Paul, Sarah, Gregorie and Julie Chojnacki; Arlene and Harley Christianson.

# Letter from Pastor Martin Church News

## From the Quilting Group

Thank you to the person who dropped off a box of material for quilting.

It is very much appreciated!

## Summer Reading Book Drive

Bethel Lutheran Church in New Auburn is collecting new and used books for preschool to high school aged children. We will be giving the books away from 1pm to 4pm on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to any preschool to high school age students that stop by Bethel. If you have books that you would like to donate, there will be a drop box at Bethel or you can contact Debbie Poirier to pick them up.



**715-568-5775**

## Welcome to our new staff member!

### Stephanie Kohls - Custodian

Recently I moved to Bloomer in August of last year with my two beautiful daughters Kaylee, age 10 and Avery, age 4. The Bloomer community has been exactly what we are looking for and enjoy living here! We have so many fun adventures and there is always something Bloomer has to offer! I'm excited to be on this journey and I look forward to seeing and meeting everyone!



## SUMMER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER! HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR CAMP YET?

With the summer fast approaching, camp is just around the corner! Plans are well underway for another great summer at Luther Park and Luther Woods, and we want you to be a part of the fun. The programs this summer have something for everyone – outrageous games, creative worship, pool activities, new friends, cookouts, campfires, and conversations that will help you discover what God has done and is doing in your life. For the more adventurous camper, Luther Park offers several programs that emphasize having fun in the outdoors. Adventure camps this summer include Adventure at the Woods, Boundary Water Canoe Trip, Namekagon Canoe Trip, and Trading Spaces. Many camps fill early so register today! Camp brochures can be found outside of Katie's office or online at [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org). You can also contact Luther Park at [info@lutherpark.org](mailto:info@lutherpark.org) or (715) 859-2215 for additional information.

## Quilting Group

Will be meeting on  
May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 25<sup>th</sup>  
at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

*Everyone is welcome!!*



### Deadline for June Newsletter

If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please make sure to get it to the church secretary no later than **May 25th.**  
*Thank You!!*

## FINANCE UPDATE

Year-To-Date as of Apr. 27, 2021

Year-To-Date:	
Weekly Contributions	\$ 68,874.83
Other Raised Funds	<u>15,701.13</u>
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$ 84,575.96</b>
- Expenses	<u>\$ -65,660.05</u>
<b>Total remaining after expenses</b>	<b>\$ 18,907.10</b>

**MAY 2021**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols) <b>11:00 AM</b> Funeral - Karen Klingenberg (11-1 visitation, 1pm funeral) <b>5:30 PM</b> Youth In Action	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Quilting Group	<b>28</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Faith Formation - Grp B <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>29</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Synod Assembly Re-Cap <b>1:00 PM</b> Library Committee Meeting <b>5:30 PM</b> Preschool Committee Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting (zoom)	<b>5</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor <b>5:30 PM</b> Faith Formation - Grp A & B <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service-First Communion	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> MOTHER'S DAY <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service - First Communion <b>5:30 PM</b> Youth In Action	<b>10</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Committee Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Quilting Group <b>5:30 PM</b> Church Council Meeting	<b>12</b> <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Conference	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting (zoom)	<b>19</b> <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Quilting Group	<b>26</b> <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>31</b> Memorial Day	<b>1</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting (zoom)	<b>2</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor <b>6:45 PM</b> Worship Service (In person with safety protocols)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

# Church Council Minutes (via Zoom)

## April 13, 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 Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Melissa Sarauer, to approve the agenda, with flexibility. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2021:** Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Melissa Sarauer, to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

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

**Committee Reports:**

**Youth and Family Ministry:**

- Getting ready for mission trip to Colorado.
- Approximately \$2,000 raised from charcoal chicken dinners; \$1,000 in cake roll sales; \$700 in raffle baskets.

**Preschool:**

- Getting rooms ready for preschool in the fall.
- Will begin the hiring phase soon.
- Council to review personnel policy to be included in staff handbook.

**Pastor's Report:**

- Working on Fed and Forgiven First Communion experience.
- Scheduling Rite of Confirmation for 2021.
- Coordinating Senior High recognition ceremony.
- Working on preschool licensing and next steps toward opening.

**Membership update:**

- Baptisms: Ava Sundberg
- Transfer to Church Triumphant: Willard Rogge

Motion made by Terri Smith, seconded by Melissa Sarauer, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- COVID Update: Task force will be formed with primary objective of recommending when to return to normal worship, including praying the Lord's Prayer, singing, when masks are no longer necessary. Announcement will be made in church and emails will be sent to members seeking volunteers.

**New Business:**

- Reviewed preschool position descriptions. Wording will be added for preschool representative to attend council meetings. Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Adam Anderson, to approve job descriptions. Motion carried.
- Council will conduct staff review of Pastor Martin at June meeting.

**Additional Items and Announcements:**

- Discussed changing council meeting time. Tabled until next meeting.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made at 6:15 p.m. by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried.

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

Next regular council meeting will be May 11, 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, Melissa Sarauer, Pat Prill, Terri Smith. Absent: Marcy Trubshaw.

# Youth & Family Ministry Committee Meeting Minutes—April 19, 2021

Present: Pastor Martin, Katie O'Connell, Melissa Sarauer, Kathy Tozer, Lisa Prill.

## **JAM Update:**

Curriculum is big hit.

Hoping to do something outdoors for end of year (May 2nd & 5th) Will ask Skaar's for Gaga Pit.

## **Confirmation Update:**

Covered the Lord's Prayer this year.

## **Youth in Action Update:**

April dates: 11th & 25th. Activities have included playing Clue, hanging out, chatting.

Will make plans for 8th grade kidnapping at next meeting.

Working on schedule for meeting in the summer.

## **Mission Trip Update:**

Flight has been booked with Sun Country, flying out of MPLS.

Price for flight is \$204.80 which includes a checked bag.

Deposit of \$60/person + \$50 contract fee has been paid. Remainder due May 11th .

Will work on booking hotels this week and look for church for worship.

A meeting to go over final details will be planned.

## **Fundraisers Update:**

Cake Roll Fundraiser brought in \$1085.

Raffle Fundraiser brought in \$748.

Charcoal Chicken brought in \$2034.78. Shadick's bill was \$584.28-\$250 Thrivent Grant. Profit for Mission Trip Group is \$1700.50.

## **First Communion:**

Will take place during Worship on Wednesday, May 5th and Sunday, May 9th.

About ten youth will receive their First Communion at this time.

Families will have assigned seating to help with social distancing.

Youth will receive communion with their family group. Will get input from Worship Committee.

Pictures of youth receiving First Communion will be shown on screen during communion.

Possibly have youth in receiving line after worship. No reception with food due to COVID.

Katie will see if anyone is interested in making communion bread.

## **Confirmation:**

10-12 youth will receive Rite of Confirmation.

Will meet with families to decide date, type of service (private or at worship), if there is interest in hiring a professional photographer, if flowers are desired.

Katie will oversee the Prayer Jar project. Completed jars will be left in the narthex where congregation can leave a prayer or bible verse for confirmands. Kathy will provide jars.

Katie will prepare prompt/questions for writing Faith Statement.

Photo of youth need to be submitted to be shown on Powerpoint.

Youth need to choose bible verse. Katie will read the verse during the ceremony.

Framed bible verses are displayed in the hall near the library and given to students at Senior Recognition. Frames will be reused.

## **Senior Recognition:**

Date to be decided. Graduation is Friday, May 28. 8-10 seniors will attend recognition.

Last year was held at North Park. Went well. Served cupcakes and ice cream cups.

Seniors should submit photo and plans for after graduation.

Katie will check with Wendy LaGessee about blankets for seniors.

Bible verse from Confirmation will be returned to seniors.

**Next meeting: Monday, May 10, 2021 at 5:00 PM.**

# Youth Announcements

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Join us on Wednesday, May 5th as we have some fun for the last time until the fall! This night will be for ALL confirmation students.



### FIRST COMMUNION

Join us Wednesday, May 5th & Sunday, May 9th as we celebrate our youth who will be receiving their first communion!

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!!!

A massive THANK YOU to all of our volunteers over the last year!! We could not have been as successful as we were if not for all that you've done. We'd especially like to thank our JAM and confirmation leaders this year:

- Jan Helgeson
- Liz Bohl
- Wendy LaGessee
- Dylan Baker
- Brodie Baker
- Carrie Anderson
- Kathy Tozer
- Janelle Yeakey
- Brittany Beyer
- Greg Baker
- Al Nimtz

Please see "CHURCH NEWS" on page 3 for Summer Camp Registration Information.

### YOUTH IN ACTION



**Who:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth  
**When:** Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 @ 5:30-7:30pm  
**Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church  
 Join us for a time of fellowship, games, and most importantly...FOOD!! Each week will be a different game or activity.

### JAM SCHEDULE

As we wind down the faith formation year, we want to thank everyone who has participated in and supported JAM! We've had a fun year, both online and in person, and we can't wait to be back next fall.

- 5/2: Pre-K last day celebration
- 5/5: K—5 last day celebration



### FUNRAISER EARNINGS

THANK YOU doesn't even begin to tell you all how much we have appreciated your support over the past few months! We even had several fundraisers going on at the same time and you still supported each one of them!! Here's a breakdown of our youth's earnings:

- Cake Rolls: \$1,085
- Raffle Baskets: \$728
- Charcoal Chicken: \$1,700.50
- Grand Total: \$3,513.50



**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)