



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



Letter from Pastor Martin	1
Prayers	2
Calendar	3
Church News	4
Financial	4
Council Minutes	5,6
Youth & Family Announcements	7
Youth Committee Meeting Minutes	7

THE ART OF THE BUNT

As I write this article, the World Series between the Astros and Braves has begun. As an avid sports fan, I love connecting the world of competition with that of real life, which is why I want to focus this article on bunting. Yes, bunting!

In recent years, bunting has become increasingly rare as analytics teach that swinging for the fence and going for home runs is a much more efficient way of scoring runs. Normally I love hearing how analytics are reshaping the game, but this time I'm going to go old school. Bunting is not only good for baseball, but it's a great image for life as well.

In order to execute a proper bunt, the batter has to readjust their hands on the bat, determine where they want the ball to go, and be willing to sacrifice their at bat for the sake of a teammate who's already on base. That way if one's teammate can get to second or third base, they are more likely to score on a single. That's why I appreciate the rules that do not even count the bunter's out in the box score. It's the same as a walk – no official at bat. Just a player trying to help the team through what's literally called a sacrifice.

When we think about life, our faith life in particular, the term sacrifice is important. We see Jesus model what sacrifice is all of the time, most notably his sacrifice on the cross. He understands the importance of the sacrifice. *"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."* (John 15:12-13) As friends go, Jesus reveals to his followers his dedication to their lives by laying down his life. He'll do whatever it takes to express his undying love for his friends which drives him to sacrifice for them.

Beloved children of God, this is a time where sacrifice is needed. This is a time to practice our discipleship and sacrifice for each other. Your financial sacrifices are imperative to our shared ministry. Some of us will be able to pick up those whose financial resources are more limited for whatever reason. But what's important to remember is that we are in this together, as a team, as a family. No one member is more important than another.

Please consider an increase in your offering. Here are some suggestions to consider:

- Become a regular giver (weekly, monthly) if you give occasionally at this time.
- Intentionally increase your offering by a certain percentage (like 5% or more!)
- Add another contribution that you weren't planning on. If you're a monthly giver, consider a 13th offering for the year!

What I love about baseball players who are willing to bunt is that they are willing to give up their own personal glory in order to set up their teammates for success. What I love about faithful and consistent givers is that they are willing to put others' needs as a priority. They understand that giving back to God by loving their neighbor is an important part of discipleship, an important part of this family of faith.

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



Please Join Our Church Family In Prayer



As we enter the month of November 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

Diane Halom; Sue Zwiefelhofer; Arlene Christianson; Rod Martin; Donna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Ilene Pingel; Maggie Olson; Margueritte Werner; Carolyn Bergh; Kelly Custer; Steve Trubshaw; Merv Marquardt; Clyde Shipman, Doris Mashak (Tyler Halverson's grandmother).

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 November 7th: Nick, Chrissy, Dominick & Rose Meisner; Justin, Kelly, Kaylee, Caleb & Leora Metcalf; Brian & Jill Meyer; Denise, Noah, Anders, Cole & Dane Michaelson.

Prayers for the week of November 14th: Lanna & Raymond Michels; Bonnie, Robert, Benjamin & Misty Mickelson; Kristine, Tyler, Charlie & Lincoln Mickelson; Jeff, Teresa, Mariah & Masen Miller; Garrett & Rebekah Misener.

Prayers for the week of November 21st: Arlene & Richard Mohr; Kristin, Tim, Micah, Miles, Tatem & Tyler Mohr; Robert & Wendy Mooney; Heidi, Steve & Alex Morning; Iylah Morning; Tina & Travis Myers.

Prayers for the week of November 28th: Janice & Lee Naset; Butch, Sue, David, James Nehring; Eva & Kenneth Newton; Al, Judy, Heidi & Ryan Nimtz; Deborah Nissen; Jennifer, Philip, Evan, Neveah Nitek.

NOVEMBER 2021 CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M.	1	2 ELECTION DAY 11:15 AM Staff Meeting	3 9:30 AM Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor, At First Congregational UCC 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship Service	4 6:00 PM Preschool Committee Meeting	5 7:00 PM Pseudo Lock-In (7-midnight)	6 Daylight Savings on Nov. 7-Set clocks back 1 HR TONIGHT
7 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M.	8 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting	9	10 Butterbraid Sales Begin 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship	11 10:00 AM Pastor's Conference	12	13 9:00 AM Fed & Forgiveness 1st Communion Retreat (Luther Park?)
14 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Worship Committee Meeting 10:15 AM J.A.M. 5:30 PM Youth In Action	15	16 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Quilting Group	17 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship Service	18	19	20
21 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M. 6:30 PM Hosting Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Led by Fr.	22	23	24	25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM J.A.M. 5:30 PM Youth In Action	29 No Preschool (?)	30 11:15 AM Staff Meeting	1 9:30 AM Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Faith Formation PreK-8th 6:45 PM Worship Service	2	3	4

Church News

BUTTERBRAID ORDERS BEGIN THIS MONTH!!



Who: EVERYONE!!!

When: Nov. 10 - Dec. 1

We will be selling Butter Braids again this year starting on November 10th! If you're interested in selling, please keep an eye out for an email with more information.



Caregiver Conference

Being a caretaker is equal parts tough and rewarding. Whether you're taking care of a loved one or professional caring for others, you deserve to be recognized. Renew, refresh, and recharge yourself at this year's hybrid Caregiver Conference! Join us in person on November 1, from 2-7 p.m., at the CVTC Business Education Center to hear from expert speakers, chat with local vendors, and enjoy food sampling and activities. Then, join us Mondays and Wednesdays throughout November for virtual sessions related to legal topics, caregiver wellness, and senior care.

This year's sessions include: -Understanding Healthcare Power of Attorney -Understanding VA Benefits -Managing Stress for Caregivers -Tech Talk for Caregivers -The Power of Food -Dementia Live - A Virtual Simulation Experience - Continuum of Care Panel -And more!

Visit our website to view the full conference schedule and to complete your registration: <https://www.cvtc.edu/events/caregiver-conference>

Neighbor To Neighbor



A new ministry of the Northwest Synod of WI

Details can be found on bulletin boards at both church entrances.

Deadline for December Newsletter

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

Nov. 25th.

Thank You!

Quilting Group

Will be meeting on November 16th at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!!



FINANCE UPDATE

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

Year-To-Date:

Weekly Contributions \$160,484.11

Other Raised Funds 19,942.40

Total Received \$180,426.51

- Expenses \$-181,086.24

Total remaining after expenses \$ -659.73

Other raised funds includes youth fundraising and preschool tuition payments. Year to date we have needed to borrow \$25,000 from our line of credit to cover operating expenses.



Church Council Minutes

October 11, 2021

Opening Devotion: Prayer by Pastor Martin, with Council members sharing stories of God's presence in their lives.

Approval of Agenda: Under New Business, addition of (b) Custodian. Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Pat Prill, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – September 13, 2021: Motion made by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Line of credit with Security Financial Bank is maxed out. Pastor Martin will prepare letter to congregation detailing financial situation. Separate mailing and email will be done. Motion made by Terri Smith, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee:

- New ceiling fans are in.

Social Ministry:

- Zoom meeting October 12 to discuss Care for Creation ministry.

Worship/Music Committee:

- Songs to be used during coming week's service will be on our own YouTube channel. The link is on St. John's Facebook page.

Youth and Family Ministry:

- Card game night will be October 30. There will be a costume contest with prizes.
- Trunk or Treat downtown is October 30. St. John's youth will be present.
- Youth will be playing instruments at October 31 service.

Preschool:

- Discussing fundraising options.
- Discussed days off for staff due to Covid. Motion made by Alicia Bonczyk to adopt Chippewa County Public Health Department's guidelines regarding staffing protocol. Days missed due to quarantine are eligible for PTO, if eligible, and remaining days are unpaid. Seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- Attended Missional Leadership meeting and Fall Leadership retreat.

Membership Update:

- Baptisms: Michael and Matthew Korn.
- Transfer to Church Triumphant: Judy Weissinger. Motion made by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Terri Smith, to approve the membership update. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Nominating Committee has not met yet.
- Budget Committee is meeting October 12, 2021.
- Pat Prill has raffle license forms and will send them in.
- Motion made by Janelle Yeakey, seconded by Terri Smith, to offer position of church musician to Jenn Larson to play the second Wednesday of the month. Motion carried.

New Business:

- Youth donated \$1300 and congregation member donated \$500 for Luther Park fundraising campaign. This is in addition to St. John's benevolence of \$750 for the year, which is still unpaid.
- Stephanie Kohls has resigned as custodian. Pastor Martin and Adam Anderson will conduct interviews for replacement.



Church Council Minutes *(continued)* Council Special Meeting Minutes –10/13/21

Additional Items and Announcements:

- AED will be checked to see if any maintenance is needed.

Motion to adjourn at 6:52 p.m. by Alicia Bonczyk, seconded by Pat Prill. Motion carried.

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

Next regular council meeting will be November 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

Terri Smith, Secretary

Special Meeting: October 13, 2021

Church Council special meeting was held via Zoom on October 13, 2021, to discuss health insurance options for Pastor Martin and Katie O'Connell for 2022. Meeting was called to order by Acting Adam Anderson at 7:45 p.m.

Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Terri Smith, to go into closed session at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Motion made by Terri Smith, seconded by Janelle Yeakey, to go back into open session at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Motion made by Melissa Sarauer, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk, to use the Portico Silver+ C health insurance plan for Pastor Martin and Katie O'Connell for 2022. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. made by Terri Smith, seconded by Tom Ewings. Motion carried.

Terri Smith, Secretary

Present via Zoom: Pastor Martin, Adam Anderson, Alicia Bonczyk, Janelle Yeakey, Jeff Cole, Kaitlyn Bohl, Melissa Sarauer, Pat Prill, Terri Smith, Tom Ewings.

Absent: Marcy Trubshaw.



Youth Announcements

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

JESUS & ME (JAM)

Who: Pre-K – 5th Grade
When: Sunday @ 10:15am & Wednesday @ 5:30pm

Join us in the sanctuary on either Sunday or Wednesday for Jesus & Me (aka JAM)! Your kids will learn about a new Bible story each week, play some fun games, and grow in their faith with their peers.

Note: *There will be NO JAM on the 24th due to Thanksgiving.*

PSEUDO LOCK-IN

Who: 6th-12th Grade
When: Friday, November 5th @ 7pm-12am

Calling ALL 6th-8th graders! Come to St. John's for a night of games, snacks, and a whole lot of shenanigans! While this isn't a full-night lock-in, it's sure to be a good time nonetheless.

Please bring a snack to share if you're able.

YOUTH IN ACTION



Who: 9th-12th Grade Youth
When: November 14th & 28th @ 5:30pm

Join us for some fun, fellowship, and FOOD!!
 All are welcome (yes, even friends)!

CONFIRMATION

Who: 6th-8th Grade
When: Wednesday @ 5:30pm

This year our confirmation students are learning about the 10 Commandments. Join us as we grow with our peers to explore our faith, ask great questions, and have a lot of fun together!

FED & FORGIVEN RETREAT

Who: Anyone interested in their First Communion

When: Saturday, November 13th

Join us for our Fed & Forgiveness first communion retreat! We will meet at St. John's at 8:30am to carpool to Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek.

We are asking for \$10/person to help cover some of the cost. St. John's will cover the rest.

Youth Committee Meeting – Oct. 26, 2021

Christmas Program

- *Date(s)? *Find costumes and count how many we have by Nov. 5 *What is our max capacity for the program?
- *Bring to council *Survey parents
- Can you be here on Wed. December 22? -Can you get kids here by 5pm?
- Do you have any kids that would be interested in being a musician during the holiday season?

Fundraisers

- *Pumpkin selling is a no-go *Still plan on *Butter Braids *Cake Rolls *Charcoal Chicken *Others?
- *Pizza fundraiser: -Little Caesars, Fatboys, Start with Jay to see what's possible – what will our profit be?
- *Brat stand: -Schedule and pull if necessary, Call Shadick's to confirm June 3rd or 4th

Colorado Trip

- *How to show & tell the story *Had some goers share their story during worship *Slideshow *Other ways?
- *Interview for Facebook/YouTube *"Bio" style story for Facebook/announcements
- *Put pictures in announcements – continue pics of JAM/Confirmation/other youth events throughout the year

Fed & Forgiveness

Pay for it out of designated funds? Yes



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446
Email: 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