



St. John's Lutheran Church

Mission Statement:

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

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Church News-Calendar
- Council Meeting Minutes
- Letter from Pastor Gary Hedding
- Youth & Preschool News

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Let Me Introduce Myself!

I am Pastor Gary Hedding and I want to thank you for the warm welcome that I have received as part of the Interim Ministry Team for St. John's Lutheran Church. The roles of the Ministry Team are to help the congregation continue the important ministries within the congregation and to the communities beyond our walls to which God has called us and to prepare you to call a new pastor.

By way of introduction, I want to tell you about ministries I have served prior to my retirement in July of 2018. My first call was to Prince of Peace in Coloma, a village in central Wisconsin of about 350 people which worshipped 80-90 people each Sunday. It was where a suburban boy learned about farming and being a volunteer fire fighter. I served there for six and a half years.

My next call was to Faith Lutheran in Marshfield, WI; first as associate pastor for five years and then as lead pastor for twelve years. Thanks to a good staff and eager volunteers, we grew our worship to an average of 450 worshippers in two services. We also grew a culture of generosity as part of our lives of faith.

I was called to be an assistant to the bishop in 2001 with key responsibilities for about two thirds of the call processes, assistance in congregational conflicts, and renewing a culture of generosity in about sixty of the congregations within the synod.

My last call was to Bethlehem Lutheran in Cedar Falls, IA, a community with the University of Northern Iowa and the place where the really big John Deere agricultural machines are built. I served that congregation for eleven years. The congregation became a strong supporter of the campus ministry at UNI and another ELCA pastor and I assumed the responsibilities of the campus pastor with excellent lay ministers. That congregation also became a very friendly congregation for people with developmental disabilities, chronic brain disorders, and their families.

I am grateful that congregations which I served encouraged me to work with synod youth organizations and as a program committee member for several Lutheran Bible camps. It was fun to hear some familiar camp songs on my first Wednesday evening worship.

My roles on the Interim Ministry Team include general pastoral oversight of the ministries at St. John's, working with the congregation council and it's committees, sharing preaching with Deacon Martha Libersky, and providing leadership in the transitions associated with the election of Bishop Halom and the preparations to call a new settled pastor.

Despite being part-time with the others on the team, I look forward to meeting more of you over time, learning more about St. John's and joining you in following and witnessing to Jesus, the Savior of the world.

Pastor Gary Hedding
Interim Pastor

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 October 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

Kari Skaar; Betty Enyeart; Deanna Stuckert; Rebecca Alman; Jason Rihn; Wayne and Nancy Zogleman (Amanda's grandparents); Stella; Edith Fleming; Kristi Swartz; Carson (family friend of Kristine Mickelson); Sarah Wittrock; Pat Prill; Julie Wittrock; Art Klingenberg; Arlene Christianson; Arne Windsor; Steve Trubshaw; Dohna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Renee Grambo; All those impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Prayers For the Saints

Prayers for the week of Oct. 6th: Claire, Matt, Georgia, Graham and Henry Tiller; Bert and Kathy Tozer; Brent, Ilona, Izibel and Trent Tozer; Marcy and Steve Trubshaw; Dorene, Jeff, Alicyn and Morgyn Turner; Janice Turner.

Prayers for the week of Oct. 13th: Melissa and Kianna Turner; Randal Turner; Jessica, Ross, Avery and Madelyn Waldofski; Jennifer, Luke, Morgan and Kayden Walta; Jessica and Dehija Walters; Bob, Cathy and Nathan Weber; Carol, John Weideman.








Prayers for the week of Oct. 20th: Marie Weideman; Lon and Pat Wilson; Arnold and Marlene Windsor; Sharon Winfield; Sarah, Gregorie (Chojnacki) and Julie Wittrock; Brent, Janelle, Blaine, Camryn and Kelly Yeakey; Randy and Tami Yeakey.

Prayers for the week of Oct. 27th: Pete, Stacie, Paige and Kendall Zeman; Amanda, Jeremy, DeLaney, Dyllon Zwiefelhofer; Garret, Kari, Trey and Skylar Zwiefelhofer; Suzette Zwiefelhofer; Adam, Liz(Bohl), Emmitt, Henry, Lucy Ander.son



OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR

Church News

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00am Worship Service	30 8:30am Bible Study	1 6:00pm Preschool Committee Meeting	2 Butterbraided Fundraiser Begins- Youth Ministry 2:00pm Bible Study 4:45pm Wednesday Meals 5:15pm - 6:15pm Faith Formation 6:30pm Worship Service	3 8:30am - 11:00am Preschool Field Trip -Apple Orchard	4	5
6 9:00am Worship Service	7 8:30am Bible Study	8	9  11:30am - 5:30pm BLOODMOBILE AT WHITE PINE PAVILION 2:00pm Bible Study 4:45pm Wednesday Meals 5:15pm - 6:15pm Faith Formation 6:30pm Worship Service	10	11 Aspire Womens Event- Cedarbook Church, Menomonie	12
13 9:00am Worship Service- Baptism Westley Misener 7:30pm Youth In Action	14 Preschool Calendar Pre-Orders begin 8:30am Bible Study 11:30am - 2:15pm Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00pm - 6:30pm Parent Teacher Conferences 5:30pm Youth Committee	15  11:30am - 2:00pm Parent Teacher Conferences 1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group 4:00pm - 6:30pm Parent Teacher Conferences	16 Final Day for Butterbraided orders 2:00pm Bible Study 4:45pm Wednesday Meals 5:15pm - 6:15pm Faith Formation 6:30pm Worship Service 	17 No Preschool	18 No Preschool 8:00am - 4:00pm All Day Lock-In (8a-4p) Middle/H.S. Students 	19 9:00am Fall Cleaning Day 
20 9:00am Worship Service	21 8:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	22	23 2:00pm Bible Study 4:45pm Wednesday Meals 5:15pm - 6:15pm Faith Formation 6:30pm Worship Service	24	25	26
27  10:00am Worship Service SPECIAL TIME 11:00am Chili Cook-Off	28 8:30am Bible Study	29	30  Preschool Halloween Party 2:00pm Bible Study 4:45pm Wednesday Meals 5:15pm - 6:15pm Faith Formation 6:30pm Worship Service	31 Preschool Halloween Party	1	2



Chili Cook-Off

Date: Sunday October 27th
Time: After 10 am worship service
Sign ups located at back of church



Quilting Group
 Will be meeting on **Oct. 15th**
 at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

SEW CUTE!
Everyone is welcome!!



The Altar Guild is looking for members who might be interested in serving St. John's on the **Altar Guild Committee**. Duties consist of setting up and cleaning up for communion and decorating the church for holidays. If you are interested, please contact Sue Nehring. Cell: 715-933-0181 Email: SueNehring@bloomer.net

Church Council Meeting Minutes September 16, 2024

Call to Order - Meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by Dorene Turner, Council President.

Opening Devotion – Led by Dorene Turner.

Approval of the Agenda -A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to approve the agenda with flexibility; seconded by Alicia Bonczyk . Motion carried.

Approval of last Council Minutes - A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the minutes from the August 19th, 2024 meeting; seconded by Kay Anderson. Motion carried.

Financial Report -

	Year to Date (Jan-Aug 2024)
Income	\$ 160,446.07
Expenses	\$ 153,589.42
Difference	\$ 7,004.82

8/9 - \$2000 transferred from council fund to cover payroll and operating expenses.

CD's	\$76,000	\$200,000
Location	Security Financial Bank	Security Financial Bank
% APR	5.0	5.25
Timeframe	12 months	15 months
Expires	8-8-25	11-6-25

All money is insured through FDIC

Note: Prior to August, Portico (benefit) payments were behind. Previous payments are now caught up. Portico payments will be resumed when a new pastor is put in place.

A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to accept the financial report. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Old Business-

Town Hall - Sept 15th & 18th: *Sunday Sept 15th* – 12 congregation members plus 5 council members (Dorene, Janelle, Alicia, Kay, and Jeff). A document will be created with questions and comments and emailed out to the congregation. *Wednesday Sept 18th* – Dorene

Fall Cleaning day – October 19th; 9 am – Property Committee will organize

Increasing cost of Wednesday night meals- \$7 for an individual and \$20 for a family

Appreciation acknowledgement: November 13th = Musician

Change of service time for Chili Cook off: start time 10 AM – discussion about where to donate proceeds will happen at October meeting.

New Business –

Confirmation update: A motion was made via email on 9/11 by Jason Graski to hire Debbie Poirier to cover confirmation classes. Seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sarah Wittrock to pay confirmation coverage \$35 per hour for both prep and instruction time. Seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

Minutes continued on page 5

Sept. 16th Church Council Minutes *(Continued)*

MORE CHURCH NEWS

(council meeting minutes continued)

New Business Continued

Wednesday Night Service Update – continuing to create a schedule on coverage, note that there may be weeks with no Wednesday service at this time.

Bulletin Suggestion - Congregation member suggested adding order of worship to bulletin. A sample from another church was shared. We will begin to include a short layout in the bulletin.

Town Hall outcome – see old business above.

October Meeting – will need to discuss creating budget and nominating committees for the annual meeting in January

Committee Reports

- Appreciation Days
- Pastor's Report - Pastor Gary shared the next steps; starting with just working together as a church for a few months, then creating a mission site profile.
- Discipleship – needs to be started again, looking for 4-6 people
- Fellowship Minutes
- Preschool—discussion about current staffing situation, update was given about grant funding from last year. A motion was made by Janelle Yeakey that employees of St. John's Lutheran Church will have the preschool registration fee waved as part of their compensation package. Seconded by Dorene Turner. Motion carried. A motion was made via email on 9/18 by Janelle Yeakey to accept the resignation of Jenna Prince from the preschool effective on 9/17/24. Seconded by Jeff Cole. Motion carried.
- Social Ministry Minutes –
- Property Minutes – working on updating the signs for worship times .
- Worship & Music Minutes –
- Youth Minutes –

Additional Items and Announcements

Next Meeting: Monday October 21st at 6 pm

Adjournment - a motion was made at 8:19 pm by Sarah Wittrock to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kay Anderson . Motion carried.

Members Present: Janelle Yeakey, Dorene Turner, Kay Anderson, Jamie Keller, Jeff Cole, Alicia Bonczyk, Sarah Wittrock, Kyle Prill. **Others Present:** Gary Heading. **Members Absent:** Aubrie Bohl, Jason Graski.

Do you enjoy baking
treats?

Volunteer to supply
homemade treats to eat on
Sunday mornings with the
coffee. Weekly sign up
located in coffee area!

Join us to make the
church sparkle and
shine

Fall Cleaning Day

Saturday October 19th
at 9 am



Church, Youth & Family News

Save the Date: YOUTH IN ACTION

With the school year now here, our first official Youth in Action gathering will take place Sunday, October 13th, from 5:30 to 7:30PM. We will begin at the church for dinner and then head out to do a corn maze and the Candy Salad TikTok trend. If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Larson (715-279-6962 mobile or email: amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com).

Substitutes Needed for JAM Fall '24

We are still looking for people who would be interested in substituting or teaching on Wednesday nights. Please contact Amanda Larson for more information so we can get you on a list. Also, if there is a specific age group you want to work with or would not like to work with, please let us know that information as well.

Youth Ministry Pictures

We are looking for pictures that anyone may have taken this year. If you have any pictures that you're able to share, whether it's from JAM, confirmation, lock-in, or a youth trip, please contact Amanda Larson. We can forward you a link to a Google Drive. Otherwise, photos can get emailed to: stjohnslutheran.bloomer@gmail.com

Pizza Coupons

Coupons from our pizza fundraiser are still available for purchase. Although the fundraiser is over, you can contact Amanda Larson if you are interested in purchasing any pizzas from Fat Boys, Valley Tavern, or Harm's Way.

BUTTERBRAID FUNDRAISER

Our Butter Braid fundraiser has officially kicked off! This youth fundraiser will last until Wed., **Oct. 16**. Pick-up will be **Nov. 5th at 6pm**

Contact Amanda for order forms or find one in the narthex.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



All DAY LOCK-IN

Friday, Oct. 18th - 8am to 4pm;

Grades 6 to 12 since there is NO SCHOOL for parent/teacher conferences.

Come enjoy some fun games & activities, Halloween movies, baking and more! The Youth Committee will provide lunch. **FRIENDS ARE WELCOME and encouraged to attend!**

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Amanda Larson at amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com or call the church at 568-5446.

Quake

Middle and high school students, save the following dates. This year's Quake event will be held in Wisconsin Dells from **February 14 to 16**. We are excited about this opportunity for our youth, as it has been a success before. Early Bird rates go through November 14th, so contact Amanda Larson for more information today!

The YOUTH are running a Hygiene Drive for the Hawks Corner.

A full list of needs can be found at the donation box in the narthex and includes items *such as:*

- Soap
- Deodorant
- Brushes
- Chapstick

If you have any further questions, please contact Amanda Larson at 715-568-5446 amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com, or Jean Rihn (715-933-4161).



NEWS FROM PRESCHOOL STAFF!

Amanda



Registration for 2024-25

Enrollment for the 2024-25 academic year is still open. There are 5 spaces open in our Monday/Wednesday/Friday class. Our enrollment is at capacity for our Tuesday/Thursday class. Please consider getting on our waitlist if you want your child to become a part of our program.

It has already been a fantastic start to the school year!

If you want a high-quality preschool program, please consider enrolling your child with us this Fall. Students can register for our morning program if they are between the ages of 3 and 5. This program is a great option if your child is not old enough to enroll in 4K, but you want them to work on certain skills, if they will be attending 4K in the afternoon, or if you are waiting for them to go to school until kindergarten. For more information, you can message us on Facebook, call us at 715-568-5446 ext. 14, or email: amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com

Classroom Wishlist

We have an Amazon Wishlist set up if anyone is interested in supporting the preschool program with some additional supplies we could benefit from. Our link is: <https://a.co/7G4BmXD> - Please reach out to Amanda Larson if you have any questions about this opportunity. As always, we appreciate your continued support.

Staff Changes

We I am writing to inform you that Jenna Prince, a valued member of our team, is no longer with our program. We wish her the best in her future endeavors and greatly appreciate the time and effort she has provided to the program. We want to reassure you that despite the change in our team, the program will continue to operate with the same dedication and care. The program's integrity will remain our top priority, ensuring the best for our families and community. We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to a wonderful rest of the year!

Field Trip - G E Bleskacek Public Memorial Library

Our first field trip of the year was scheduled for Wednesday, September 25th, and Thursday, September 26th, at the Bloomer Public Library. Our students could sign up for their library cards and the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program before taking our field trip to the library. Excitingly, we had over half of our students sign up for their very own library cards! The library read our students a cute book about pumpkins and apples, provided us with a tour, and even gave them a free book and treat to take with them. We are incredibly grateful for the library's generosity and time spent sharing their resources with us.

Sneak Peek into the Program

Mrs. Larson has a lot packed into the month of October. During this spooktacular month, our various themes that will be explored are Apples and Orchards, All Things Autumn, and Pumpkin Patch. The children follow weekly focus walls that teach them letters, shapes, colors, and numbers. As their teacher, I try to integrate these subject areas into the curriculum plans and daily activities the children can choose from. It's going to be a busy and festive month! Follow our Facebook page to see what our students are up to.

Field Trip - Family Roots Orchard

On Thursday, October 3rd, we will be taking our students to Family Roots Orchard in Chippewa Falls to enjoy some fall festivities at their apple orchard. Although this is our second field trip, this will be our "big" field trip of the year, where our students will have the opportunity to ride a big school bus. It will be a super fun (and hopefully warm-weathered) day.

Goal Setting Day / Teacher-Parent Conferences

Instead of our "scheduled" teacher-parent conferences, we will be hosting a goal-setting/check-in day on October 14th and 15th. Please check out our sign-up forms on our counter or contact Amanda Larson for more information.

Important Dates to Save

We will be closed Thursday, October 17th, through Friday, October 18th. We hope that our students enjoy the day with their families, and we look forward to having them back in class on the 21st and 22nd.

Halloween Class Parties

We will be having our class Halloween parties on Wednesday, October 30th, and Thursday, October 31st. It should be a couple of festive days for the children to enjoy. Parents can bring in a fun treat if desired, and costumes are encouraged but not required.

Calendar Fundraiser

Calendar pre-orders will begin on Monday, October 14th. If you would like to purchase a calendar created by our students to support our preschool program, please contact Amanda Larson or fill out the order form located on the preschool's counter or on the table in the narthex.



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

715-568-5446
 Email: stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net

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: Deacon Martha Libersky
 Church # 715-568-5446, extension 11
 Home # 715-568-4653
 Cell # 715-829-4653
 Email: fmlibers@bloomer.net

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE DRIVE
 WILL BE AT THE WHITE PINE PAVILION
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

There is still a CRITICAL NEED for blood products. Please contact **Beth Ashley to set an appointment for your life-saving gift.**

715-568-5891

Thank you!




Refer a student reap the REWARDS

SHARE our program with people who have children 3-5 years old.

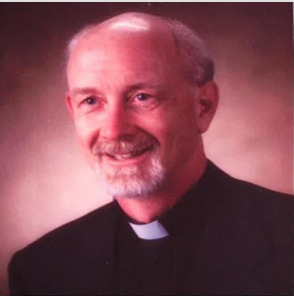
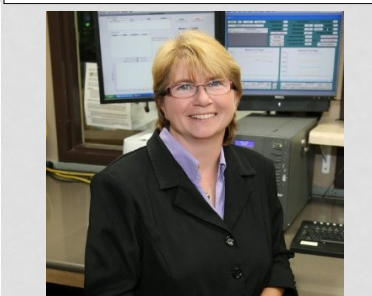
REFER. When a child registers, have them write down your name as their referral

REGISTER. Once the child's paperwork and registration fee are submitted, you will receive \$25 off your child's tuition for that month or be entered to win a chamber gift certificate.

Contact Amanda or visit the preschool link on the St. John's website for more information.



A warm and grateful welcome to new pastoral staff in addition to our cherished Deacon Martha Libersky

<p>Pastor Gary Hedding: Interim Pastor</p>	<p>Debbie Poirier, SAM: Confirmation Minister & Wed. Night Service Leader</p>
	

FAMILIES LIKE YOU ARE AMAZIN'



IF YOU WISH TO DONATE TO OUR CLASSROOM PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE! THANK YOU SO MUCH!




The Altar Guild is looking for members who might be interested in serving St. John's on the **Altar Guild Committee.** Duties consist of setting up and cleaning up for communion and decorating the church for holidays. If you are interested, please contact Sue Nehring. Cell: 715-933-0181 Email: SueNehring@bloomer.net

Do you enjoy planning social events for all ages?
 Do you enjoy brainstorming fun events?
Fellowship Committee Needs You!
 Meetings approximately every other month for 45 min

Interested or have questions? Contact Pastor Martin or Janelle Yeakey

