



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:

- Commitment and Requirement
- Council Minutes
- Calendar
- Financial Report
- Girls of Grace
- Youth and Family
- Preschool News

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMITMENT AND REQUIREMENT

Last month, I highlighted the importance of church and its role in the midst of suffering. I talked about how it is God working through the church that helps us deal with our suffering, our challenges, our trials. We, the church, can accompany (or walk along side of) our fellow brothers and sisters so that they do not feel alone. That is where healing comes from – God working through people of faith.

This month, I want to continue this line of thought and help us understand *our* roles in bracing for the challenges that life will drag us through. First of all, we are a people of faith. That is what God has called us to be – first and foremost. We are a people of faith because God has gifted us with faith. But much like a muscle, a vibrant faith needs to be exercised. The more we exercise our faith, the stronger it becomes. The more we practice our faith, the deeper it becomes. Our faith tends to be exercised in several ways, including learning and experiencing.

Each fall, I get amped up when I start to determine how to teach our confirmation students about faith. The hard part is that most of them are not at an age when they can embrace the concept that faith can help them grapple with turbulent times. Nonetheless, if they can experience how powerful acts of faith can impact their lives, I am more convinced that down the road they will better (not fully, but better) understand how they can lean on their faith and on their church when life hits them between the eyes. That is why we are offering a different approach this year.

At our orientation on Sept. 10, most families will be wondering about the requirements in order to be confirmed. This year, there will not be any. This year, we will not be discussing requirements, but instead *commitments*. Think about it. Whenever we address requirements, all too often will we simply try to fulfill just that – the bare minimum. If I was to work out at the gym and my trainer asked me to do 10 pushups, I'd work hard until I achieved those ten pushups.

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Pastor's News

article continued from front page....

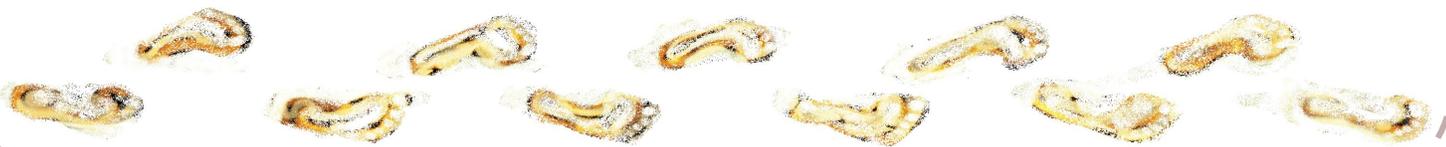
But if I was **committed** to strengthening my arms as a means to a long term goal, I'd push as hard as I could to do as many pushups as my body would allow. That is why we are raising the bar for our confirmation students because we don't want them to just get by in their lives of faith. We want them to excel!

My prayer for St. John's is that some of you will be moved from a mindset of minimalist thinking to a mindset of abundant thinking. If we are asking our young people to strengthen their faith life through as many opportunities and experiences as we can offer, doesn't it seem logical that we would challenge all of us to do the same? Our church constitution declares that active members "during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation." That is minimalist thinking. Going to church once each year and donating a dollar is hardly a life of discipleship. That's minimalist thinking. Abundance thinking moves us from what is required to what we are willing to commit to – whole-hearted commitment. After all, is that not what Jesus modeled for us?

Philippians 2:5-8 *Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.*

St. John's is a church with great potential that can be realized once we shift our thinking and practice. Who's all in?!

Pastor Martin



How much do you know about St. John's Lutheran Church worship?

August 3

The primary color for the season of Pentecost is green. What other liturgical colors can you name?

- A. Blue (Advent)
- B. White (Christmas, Easter, All Saint's Day, etc.)
- C. Red (Pentecost, Reformation)
- D. Purple (Lent)
- E. Scarlet (Passion/Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday)
- F. Black (Ash Wednesday, Good Friday)

August 10

What area of the church do the front doors off of Newman Street lead into?

- A. Narthex
- B. Nave
- C. Chancel
- D. Sacristy

The primary function of the narthex is a place to gather and deepen relationships before and after worship. It is frequently used as a place to communicate using print materials on the bulletin board for sign-up sheets and upcoming events.

August 17

Each week our altar guild prepares the altar for communion. What is the name of the room where they make preparations?

- A. Nave
- B. Chancel
- C. Sacristy
- D. Sanctuary

The sacredness of the sacristy is superior to the superfluous self-righteousness of the Saducees!

August 24

What area of the church are you most likely to see Christmas trees?

- A. Nave
- B. Chancel
- C. Sanctuary
- D. Up on the housetop

The chancel area is everything above the stairs in the front of the church.

August 31

Which area is larger, the nave or the sanctuary?

- A. Nave
- B. Sanctuary

The term nave comes from the Latin word for ship. If you turned the church upside down, you'd see that the design is similar to a boat as our roof line is much like the bottom of a boat! Technically, the sanctuary is merely a small part of the chancel area behind the communion rail.

Council Meeting

August 12, 2014

Committees

WORSHIP

-Janice Naset
Chair/Liaison
-Lisa Goettl
-Janet Helgeson
-Kathy Geissler
-Janelle Yeakey

FELLOWSHIP

-Lyn Pank
-Pauline Stertz
Liaison
-Sue Zwiefelhofer
-Sue Seibel
-Nylah Gust
-Heidi Morning

SOCIAL

-Art Klingenberg
Chair
-Pauline Stertz and
Jordyn Keller
Liaisons
-Heidi Keller
-Jeff Cole
-Gregg Anderson

YOUTH &

EDUCATION

-Adam Ewings
Liaison
-Michelle Ruffedt
-Kelly Custer
-Marla Paulson

DISCIPLESHIP

-Kathy Faschingauer
and Alice Zinsmaster
Liaisons
-Michelle Gasper
-Alice Zinsmaster
-Sue Nehring
-Carrie Anderson
-Terri Bohl

PROPERTY

MANAGEMENT

-Tom Buchner
Liaison
-David Lane
-Stub Naset
-Pete Zeman
-Val Rubenzer
-Dennis Rubenzer
-Nadine Bresina
-Rod Schmidt
-Shelly Lane

President Pat Boettcher called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Alice Zinsmaster opened the meeting with prayer.

- ◆ **Motion made by Shelly Lane and seconded by Rod Johnson to approve agenda.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Lynette Pank and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to approve the e-mailed July meeting minutes.** Motion carried.

Council Comments: None

Congregational Comment: Member wondering about having more contemporary music for worship.

Committee Reports:

- ◆ Youth & Education-Met 7/21/14. Discussed fund raising ideas & confirmation commitment requirements.
- ◆ Discipleship-None
- ◆ Worship & Music-None
- ◆ Fellowship-Working on details for Rally Sunday, 9/7/14.
- ◆ Social Action-St. John's to serve at Agnes Table Tuesday, 9/2/14.
- ◆ Property Management-Confirmation pictures to be put in binders until displays are purchased. Window in west entryway has been replaced. Bell tower louvers fixed.

Chair Report: Pat Boettcher recruited Laura Bleskacek to chair the Youth & Education Committee.

Pastor's Report: (submitted)

- ◆ **Motion made by Shelly Lane and seconded by Lynette Pank to accept transfer to the Church Triumphant for Bernice Marek.** Motion carried.
- ◆ God's Work-Our Hands-waiting for feed back from task force candidates.

Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Janice Naset to set the Annual Meeting date for January 25, 2015. Motion carried.

Audit Report: None

Financial Report:

- ◆ **Motion made by Janice Naset and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to accept Financial Report.** Motion carried.

Old Business:

Update on Bequest-None

Membership letter/List Update-None

New Business:

- ◆ **Motion made by Alice Zinsmaster and seconded by Adam Ewings to go into closed session to discuss pastor evaluation.** Motion carried.
- ◆ **Motion made by Lynette Pank and seconded by Tom Buchner to come out of closed session.** Motion carried.

Council Meeting

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- Carrie Anderson
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- Tom Buchner
Liaison
- David Lane
- Stub Naset
- Pete Zeman
- Val Rubenzer
- Dennis Rubenzer
- Nadine Bresina
- Rod Schmidt
- Shelly Lane

Motion made by Shelly Lane and seconded by Alice Zinsmaster to adjourn at 7.50 P.M.. Motion carried.

Council meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Shelly M. Lane, secretary

Meeting attended by Pat Boettcher, Adam Ewings, Janice Naset, Tom Buchner, Alice Zinsmaster, Pauline Stertz, Rod Johnson, Adam Ewings and Shelly Lane.

Council Updates

A message from the Social Committee:

St John's hosting Agnes Table September 2nd. Volunteers needed to help prepare and serve meal and/or to make cupcakes to serve with the meal.

Signup sheet in the Narthex or contact Art Klingenberg at 715-237-2498 or Pauline Stertz at 715-568-3416.

Pauline Stertz
Social Committee Liaison

A message from the Fellowship Committee:

Rally Sunday September 7th, Service in the North Park at 10:00 followed by Charcoal chicken and potluck dinner.

Bring your favorite dish to share. Plates/utensils/coffee/lemonade provided.

Pauline Stertz
Fellowship Committee Liaison

A message from the Worship and Music Committee:

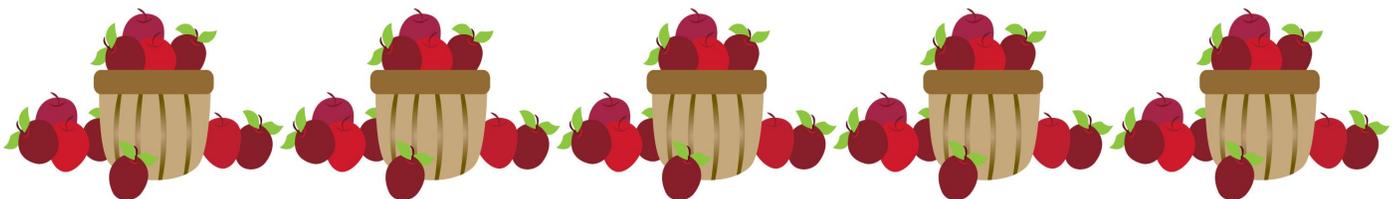
Come to worship in the park on 9th Avenue, September 7. *Please note that worship will start at 10:00 a.m. rather than 9:00 a.m.*

Worship this day is in conjunction with Rally Sunday and Gods Work Our Hands. Potluck will follow worship along with activities

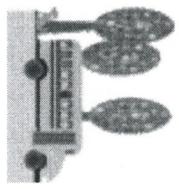
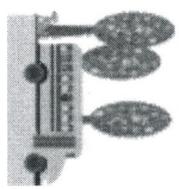
Our committee picked hymns scattering some contemporary song within. Do you play a musical instrument? Would you like to volunteer to play in worship? This is for young or old members! Do you have a favorite song you would like to sing? Contact any committee members if you would like to volunteer to play in worship or sing a favorite song.

Last call for the old hymnals, stop in the music room and pick one up. Green hymnals not selected will be available to make hymnal angels. See display on the welcome center. If you are interested in this project, sign up on the sheet next the the display. Any questions you may contact Martha Libersky or Janice Naset.

Committee Members: Kathy Geissler, Lisa Goettl, Jan Helgeson, Janelle Yeaky, and Janice Naset/ Chairperson/Council Liaison



SEPTEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 9:00 AM Worship Service and Baptism of Alexandriah Marie Zakrzewicz 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)</p>	<p>1  Church office will be closed Labor Day</p>	<p>2  First day of School and Preschool (Tues & Thurs) 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>3  First day of Preschool for (Mon, Wed, Fri) group 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>4 1:30 PM Friendship Circle 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting</p>		<p>6 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pastor is attending a Stewardship Conf. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Quilting</p>
<p>7 10:00 AM Worship in the Park (Rally Day) and Gods Work Our Hands 11:00 AM Potluck</p>	<p>8 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Teacher Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 5:00 PM Confirmation Orientation and Meal 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>11 1:30 PM WELCA 6:00 PM Teacher Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 2:00 PM Mohr/Boesse Wedding</p>
<p>14 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF) 10:15 AM Prek-3rd Parent Orientation & Registration (and Breakfast)</p>	<p>15 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>16 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>17 5:40 PM Prek-8th Gr. Parent Orientation & Registration 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>18 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Riversource Family Center Gathering</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Girls of Grace Conf. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pastor is attending a Stewardship Conf.</p>
<p>21 Pastor is attending a Retreat 9:00 AM Worship Service and Distribution of 4th Gr Bibles 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF) 10:00 AM Learning begins</p>	<p>22 Pastor is attending a Retreat 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>23  First Day of Autumn Pastor is attending a Retreat</p>	<p>24 5:40 PM 4th & 5th Grade Parent Orientation 7:00 PM Worship Service and Distribution of 4th Gr Bibles</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Faith Formation with Friends (FFF)</p>	<p>29 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>30 11:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>1 7:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>

Financial Report - August 2014

	2013	2014	Budget 2014
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1 st	\$23,002.00	\$7,513.00	
Income – August	\$130,384.00	\$145,260.00	\$164,407.00
Expenses -August	\$144,934.00	\$151,366.27	\$164,407.00
Balance	\$8,452.00	\$1,406.73	
Loan – Security Financial Bank	\$97,455.00	\$ 85,747.00	

GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS

ELCA SPONSORED COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY/SUNDAY, 9/7/14

St. Johns would like to participate in this nation-wide activity again this year!! Toward that end we have developed several volunteer opportunities that we hope will allow you to help the church be a part.

- 1) Bloomer Community Picnic...need volunteers on Sat., 9/6 in 2 1/2 hour stints from 4 until as late as 10PM. Up to 20 people
- 2) Bloomer School District...needs volunteers on Sunday, 9/7 starting in the early afternoon. Trash pick up and weeding so fairly physical work. Number of volunteers is open ended.
- 3) Bloomer Clothes Closet...needs volunteers on Saturday and or Sunday, 9/6 or 9/7 for organizing items and preparation for the move to the new location. 6 or 8 people are needed here and the times are yet to be determined.
- 4) Bloomer North Park...needs volunteers on Sunday, 9/7 to paint the picnic table tops in the park. 6 or 8 people are needed for this and the time is of our choosing.

IF YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS A GREAT SHOWING FOR THE ELCA IN OUR COMMUNITY ON EITHER DAY WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!!! CONTACT: ART K.715-237-2498, GREGG A.715-589-3328 OR LOOK FOR A SIGN UP SHEET!! THANK YOU.

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AMANDA NOELLE



CHRIS WHEELER



ANNIE DOWNS

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2014



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GROUP TICKETS AVAILABLE
MORE INFO: 1-888-483-0018 | INFO@GIRLSOFGRACE.COM



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NEW RELEASE
TUESDAY.COM

Founded by Point of Grace in 2002 Girls of Grace teaches teen girls (6th-12th grade) their moms and leaders how to live freely, love fiercely and lead fearlessly as a Girl of Grace.

For Group tickets, Questions, or Information contact

info@girlsofgrace.com

women^{OF}faith™

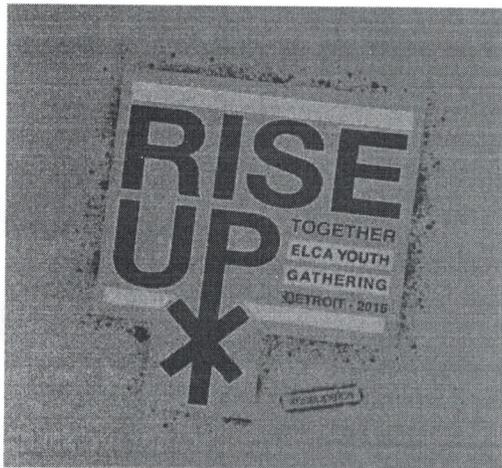
FROM SURVIVAL TO REVIVAL 2014

OCT. 17-18, 2014 X-CEL ENERGY CENTER, ST. PAUL, MN.

**SPEAKERS: SHELIA WALSH, LISA HARPER, LYSA TERKEURST, ANITA RENFROE, KAY WARREN, PETE WILSON,
RUSS STEARNS**

MUSIC: NATALIE GRANT, MATTHEW WEST, GATEWAY WORSHIP BAND

Check out the website www.womenoffaith.com for conference info and speaker bios. To purchase tickets contact Marla @715-568-5446 Laurie @ 715-403-3108 Ethne @ 715-403-1126



**ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING
DETROIT MICHIGAN**

JULY 12-15, 2015

7TH -12TH GRADE

Multicultural Youth Leadership Event

Registration October 2014

More info coming soon

SAVE THE DATE

**YOUTH ENCOUNTER CAPTIVE FREE WEST
LAKES TEAM**

COMING TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED

ROAD TRIP LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP

RECHARGE REGISTRATIONS AVAILABLE

GRADES 3-12

**OCTOBER 3-4: Music & worship with Youth
Encounter**

October 17-18: Music by Luther Park House Band

January 9-10: Music with 513Free

March 6-7: Music with Luther Park House Band



FAITH, FAMILY, & FRIENDS

QUALIFICATIONS: Hearts filled with faith & love for children & youth

BENEFITS: Hugs, smiles, new friends & more.

FRIENDS IN FAITH (teachers) to share time with a group listed in FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULES. Contact Marla at 715-568-5446 ext. 12 or email stjohnsl-marla@bloomer.net.

**TEACHER'S MEETING
SEPT. 8 OR SEPT. 11 @ 6PM**



MEET & GREET TEACHER, CHILDREN & PARENT ORIENTATION CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP AREA

Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 10:15 am

Wednesday, Sept. 17 @ 5:40 pm, Preschool-3rd Grade

Wednesday, Sept. 24 @ 5:40 pm. 4th & 5th Grade

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

6th, 7th, & 8th GRADE PARENTS & YOUTH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Meal: 5 pm

Conversation Begins: 5:30 pm



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.



4th GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Sun. Sept. 21 @ 9 am Worship

Wed. Sept. 24 @ 7 pm Worship

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULES

Sunday: 10:15am-11:25am

Preschool: Ages 3, 4, & sometimes 5

Rotation Workshop: Kindergarten through 3rd Grade

Wednesday: 5:40pm-6:50pm

Preschool: Ages 3, 4, & sometimes 5 Rotation Workshop: Kindergarten through 3rd Grade

4th & 5th Grade "Bible 101"

Confirmation: 6th, 7th & 8th Grade

Sr. High Youth: To be announced

**RALLY DAY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

10:00 am WORSHIP @North Park

POT LUCK MEAL

(Bring your favorite dish to share)



ACTIVITIES



GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

SERVING OTHERS





Parents of Preschoolers: *You're Invited!*

*Want to connect with other local parents?
Interested in parent resources and support in Chippewa County?
Have questions about parenting?
Need a fun night out for you and your children?*

What: Informal get-together with other parents raising preschoolers. We'll provide snacks, activities for the kids, and tips to make parenting easier

When: Thursday, **September 18, 2014**, from **6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

Where: St. John's Preschool, 1403 Newman Street, Bloomer

Who's Facilitating: Denise Kervin from the River Source Family Center in Chippewa Falls

For more information, please contact Denise at River Source Family Center:

RIVER SOURCE FAMILY CENTER

403 High Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715-720-1841

riversource@fsccf.org
www.riversourcefamilycenter.com



Sept. 2nd finds us welcoming a new group of students and families to the preschool - 40 of them, to be exact! We're looking forward to getting to know everyone better, and also to the next nine months of learning and fun. Some of you may have seen our float in the Bloomer parade this summer. We decorated it with trees and flowers loaned to the preschool by Down To Earth Garden Center. The plants symbolized our 'growing through the generations' theme. Believe it or not - we are entering our 20th year providing classes for three and four year old children. It's fun to think back on how the program was brought to life. The Chippewa Valley YMCA operated a satellite program at our church for many years prior. Then in 1995, our congregation voted to start our own preschool program. Karen Klingenberg and Nylah Gust were diligent in completing everything that was required to start a state licensed program. Michelle Gasper was hired as the director and continues in that capacity, along with teaching two of the classes each year. Many teachers and assistants have been part of St. John's Preschool's continuing story. And of course, many children - close to 800 of them started their learning years right here, with us. We are blessed, and would like to thank everyone who has supported us in any way throughout the years. Here's to a new school year and many more wonderful memories!

2014



Parade

