



St. John's Lutheran Church

Mission Statement:

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

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Church News - Calendar

Letter from Pastor Halom

NW Synod Announcement

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from Pastor	1
Prayers	2
Calendar, Faith Statement	3
Church News & Preschool News	4
Financial Update	4
Council Minutes	5-6
Youth & Family News	7
NW Synod Announcement	7

AND AWAY WE GO AGAIN!

Last spring, when I attended my final retreat with other pastors who were also involved in a missional leadership cohort, we concluded our learning with something that continues to bounce around my mind. Having discussed a great deal about how important new innovations, new experiments, and new ideas are needed for the future church following Covid-19, there are some parts of church life that simply won't go away, nor should they. We concluded our conversation at the retreat by discussing people's needs for community.

Many people who contracted Covid-19 were isolated in quarantine, something I myself experienced in June. Others were isolated because they worked from home, which may or may not have been their choice. Still others were impacted because people with whom they normally hung out with elected to avoid the public in order to minimize their risk of getting sick. All of these experiences contribute to that internal need for community.

Ever since that retreat, I've been excited to see what happens this fall - to truly see if that need for community manifests itself. Now that the more recent strands of Covid are less likely to result in hospitalization, will people return for church activities? As we make preparations to return to faith formation what will the class sizes look like? As we return to weekly meals (starting on Rally Day, Sept. 14), what will our dining hall sound like? As we kick start our Fellowship Committee to offer opportunities to gather, who will come together to feed that need for community?

Yes, we are about as close to coming back to normalcy since before the pandemic. Away we go again! What does the future hold for our gathered community? Will you be a part of it? As Jesus said to his disciples, "Come and see!" (John 1:39)

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 September 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

Connor Larson; Esther Sykora (sister of Al Nimtz); Arlene Christianson; Kyle Ruffedt; Renee Grambo; Julie Chojnacki; Chloe Schulze; Maggie Olson; Austin Summerfield (nephew of Jenn Larson); Bob Kerckhove; Shelli Rogge; Kelly Custer; Dohna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter); Steve Trubshaw.

Prayers for our Active Military

Dalton Grambo, Danielle Shipman,
Kelsey Leavens, Trenton Beaudette

Prayers for the Saints

Prayers for the week of September 4th: David and Dawn LaGesse; Deborah LaGesse; Samuel and Wendy LaGesse; Dave, Michelle and Brennan Lane; Edward, Lori, Joe, Nicole and Sam Lanzer; Kathleen, Ross and Madie Larson.

Prayers for the week of September 11th: Bob and Jean LaTour; Bryan, Courtney, Gabriella, Tessa and Zachariah Lewis; Daniel and Joann Lewis; Deanna, Robin and Timothy Lewis; Debi, Eric, Charlie and Taylor Lewis.



Prayers for the week of September 18th: Martha Libersky; Josh Lien; Amanda, Eric, Aaron and Evan Lierman; Timothy Loew; Brittany, Eric, Clayton, Coby and Cooper Ludwigson; Katherine Ludwigson; Kelli, Tye, Bronson and Cole Ludwigson.

Prayers for the week of August 28th: Bonnie and John Lueck; Dick and Jean Marquardt; Mervin Marquardt; Lucille Martin; Rodney Martin; Doug, Susan and Andrew Martin; Amy, and Lucas Martin and Christopher and Calvin Hassemer.

SEPTEMBER 2022 CALENDAR

Faith Statement

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00am Worship Service- Installation Service Pre- school Staff	29 First Day of Preschool 	30 1:00pm Staff Meeting	31 5:30pm - 6:30pm Confir- mation Orientation 6:45pm Worship Service	1 5:00pm Youth Com- mittee Meeting	2	3
4 9:00am Worship Service	5 Preschool and office closed for Labor Day	6	7 9:30am Bloomer Clergy Assoc. Mtg-Pastor 5:30pm - 6:30pm Leader Orientation for Faith Formation, dinner provid- ed 6:45pm Worship Service	8 9:30am Pastor's Conference 4:30pm Preschool Committee Meeting	9	10
11 9:00am Worship Service 5:30pm Youth In Action (At Pastor Martin's house)	12 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Church Council Meeting	13	14 RALLY DAY 4:45pm - 5:30pm Dinner (Rally Day) 5:30pm - 6:30pm Family FUN Activities 6:45pm Worship Service	15	16 7:00pm - 11:59pm Pseudo Lock-In Grades 6-12	17
18 9:00am Worship Service	19	20  1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group	21 6:45pm Worship Service	22	23	24
25 Fall Leadership Retreat 9:00am Worship Service 5:30pm Youth In Action	26	27	28 6:45pm Worship Service	29	30	1

FAITH STATEMENT

My faith began to grow when I was by myself in the woods because my cousin went to the house. When I was by myself a small tree fell on me and I was stuck for 30 minutes or more. But I felt lonely for a little bit but then I felt like I was being watched over. My faith has continued to grow by learning more about Jesus. If I had to describe Jesus to a friend i would say no friend you have is more caring, more truthful, more faithful than Jesus. Having a relationship with God is very good because he watches over you and forgives all your sins and makes all of your mistakes lessons. When I think about Jesus and faith think of how Jesus sacrificed his life for all of us.

Bible Verse

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

-Proverbs 3:5-6

Church News

HELP WANTED!

So much to celebrate! Our preschool is back in session! Faith formation is off and running again! Wednesday meals have returned! These are all positive signs of hope in the life of our church family and all are to be celebrated. But that also means that messes will be made and clean up efforts are in need.

Please visit our website or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E48A5A629A7FE3-stjohns> to view the various ways to keep our facility clean and safe for the gathered people. Thank you for being a part of the team!

NEWS FROM PRESCHOOL STAFF!



Amanda



Sneak Peek into the Program

Amanda and Jamie have a fun month planned as they kick off the 2022-2023 academic year. We are looking forward to spending time getting to know the children enrolled, establishing our daily routines/classroom structures, and possibly going on a fieldtrip (TBD).

Various themes that will be explored in September are: All About Me; Back to School; ABCs and 123s; Autumn; and Apples/Orchards.

Special Dates

Our preschool will be closed on Monday, September 5th for Labor Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, September 6th.

Jamie



Welcome back!

The first day of the 2022-2023 academic year was Monday, August 29th for MWF classes and Tuesday, August 30th for TTH classes. Amanda Ritchie and Jamie Nelson have been working hard to prepare their classrooms for a successful year at St John's Lutheran Preschool.

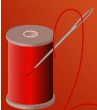
Our families from past years may note some changes that have been made to the program. We now allow families to do an early drop-off and later pick-up within our program hours. Children enrolled may be dropped off as early as 7:15 am, with instruction beginning at 8:00 am. Pick-up will run from 11:30 am until 12:00 pm.

If a child is dropped off between 7:15 am and 7:45 am parents will need to supply a nutritional breakfast for their child. Examples were provided in the welcome packets at Open House to satisfy such nutritional needs.

Quilting Group

Will be meeting on
September 20th
at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!!



	Month of	Year to Date
	JUL 2022	JAN -JUL
INCOME	\$106,747 <i>(Incl gift of \$82K)</i>	\$201,867 <i>(Incl gift of \$82K)</i>
EXPENSES	\$17,012	\$117,887
Difference	\$ 89,735	\$83,979
Line of Credit	Princ Paid Jun \$140	Princ Paid YTD \$23,998

Financial Update

Current Balance on Line of Credit
\$345

Deadline for October 2022 Newsletter

If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please make sure to get it to the church secretary no later than **September 26th.**
Thank You!!

Church Council Minutes

August 15, 2022

Call to Order – meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Adam Anderson, Council President

Opening Devotion – Pastor accepted prayer concerns from the council and then led the council in prayer.

Approval of Agenda – a motion was made by Janelle Yeakey to approve the agenda with additions, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – a motion was made by Marcy Trubshaw to approve the minutes from the July 18th, 2022 meeting, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

Financial Report– The church is current on bills. Pat will talk with the financial secretary about the negative which is appearing under the payroll liabilities. Table below shows through end of July:

	Year to Date(Jan 2022—July 2022
Income	\$201,867.07 (incl. \$82,000 gift)
Expenses	\$117,887.42
Difference	\$83,979.65
Current SFB Line of Credit	\$22,619.08 decrease of \$140.99

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

Old Business

1. Youth Director - Amanda Ritchie has started her role as Youth Director. Pastor will be meeting weekly with Amanda to plan the upcoming year.
2. Giving Opportunity - Marcy Trubshaw presented a Request for Funds form that she prepared to help streamline when the council is asked for donations/fundraisers outside of the current committee structure. The council looked over the form and made minor changes. Janelle Yeakey will make changes and create an electronic version. Council will consider approval at next meeting. Pastor will reach out to those who have requested donations to let them know where the council is at in the process.

New Business

1. Gift/Donation- discussion was had about ways to utilize the gift of \$82,000. All council members gave suggestions. The following possibilities were discussed:\
2. Pay down line of credit (all council members suggested)
3. Pay Benevolences
4. Property Repairs (front steps & door, parking lot wall, exterminate of critter, carpets, vines on building, resurfacing parking lot, projectors in sanctuary)
5. Use money to match future fundraisers
6. Tithe – give away 10% (\$8,200)
7. Pay building loan to foundation

A motion was made by Jamie Keller to make a payment from the council fund to the line of credit but leave the minimum amount needed to keep the credit line open. Seconded by Jeff Cole. Motion passed unanimously.

Church Council Minutes *(continued)*

Council Special Meeting Minutes - Aug. 2, 2022

A motion was made by Marcy Trubshaw to pay the benevolences in the budget for 2022 from the council fund. This includes \$450 to Luther Park, \$450 to Lutheran Social Services, and \$950 to NW Synod of WI. Seconded by Pat Prill. Motion passed unanimously.

Preschool Sandbox –

A motion was made by Alicia Bonzyk to approve the building of the sandbox per the preschool request. Seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried

Pastor's Review – Council began the discussion on reviewing Pastor Martin and the Church Council. The following document from the synod was used as the evaluation tool. The council completed the first two items (understanding of ministry, caring for the needs of the congregation). The other three areas (Taking Christ's mission into the world, Mutual Ministry, Overall Ratings) were tabled for the September meeting.

Reports

Pastor's Report

A motion was made by Terri Smith to approve the membership in of Amanda Ritchie, Matt and Emmett Larson as well as membership in by baptism of Luca Kramschuster. Seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried

Additional Items and Announcements - none

Next regular meeting: September 12th at 5:30 pm

Adjournment - a motion was made at 8:06 by Katelyn Bohl to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Members Present: Janelle Yeakey, Sarah Wittrock, Pastor Martin Halom, , Pat Prill, Terri Smith, Katelyn Bohl, Adam Anderson, Jamie Keller, Alicia Bonczyk, Jeff Cole, Marcy Trubshaw

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2022

Call to Order - meeting was called to order at 8 pm by Adam Anderson, Council President

Youth Director Position – a motion was made by Katelyn Bohl to offer the Youth Director position to Amanda Ritchie. Motion was seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried unanimously.

Note: The hours and pay will be re-evaluated during the 2023 budget process for the church.

Adjournment – a motion was made at 8:31 by Terri Smith to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sarah Wittrock. Motion carried.

Members Present: Janelle Yeakey, Sarah Wittrock, Pastor Martin Halom, , Pat Prill, Terri Smith, Katelyn Bohl, Adam Anderson, Jamie Keller

Members Absent: Alicia Bonczyk, Jeff Cole, Marcy Trubshaw

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

Youth & Family Announcements

Synod September Announcement

Youth in Action

High School students, Youth in Action is returning! Our first YIA evening will be Sunday, Sept. 11th at Pastor Martin's house [2114 Horseshoe Ct., Bloomer], followed by September 25th at the church. YIA begins at 5:30PM.

Pseudo Lock-In

Our first Pseudo Lock-In of the 2022-2023 academic year will be on Friday, September 16th from 7pm until midnight. Students in grades 6-12 are welcome, along with friends.

Rally Day

Rally Day will take place on Wednesday, September 14th! We are looking to kick off the 2022-2023 strong with dinner, family fun activities, and worship to follow. Dinner 4:45 – 5:30PM Family Fun Activities 5:30 – 6:30PM Worship 6:45-7:30PM

JAM Orientation

Orientation for JAM (K-5th grade) will be

Wednesday, September 7th at 5:30PM.

There will be a dinner provided prior to the meeting, beginning at 4:45pm.

From the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Mission Endowment Committee

Strengthening Ministry - Today, Tomorrow, Together

Matthew 13:32 : “It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

This passage beautifully illustrates an image of something so small growing into a vibrant network and support system. This, in many ways is symbolic of your Synod Endowment Fund. Since its planting in 2001, the Fund has continued to sprout new branches and has supported dozens of ministries by:

Encouraging whole life stewardship

Strengthening and resourcing the ministry of the synod and

Enhancing the ministry of the synod in addition to, and apart from, its yearly operating budget, with emphasis on, but not limited to:

Strengthening congregational vitality

Developing ministry for the next generation and

Equipping and supporting new leaders through seminary debt assistance, training, and lay leader development

Since inception, the fund has grown to almost a half million dollars and has gifted over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. In the last five years, the Endowment Fund has made gifts to ministries totaling over \$200,000 with \$81,000 of that total given toward Seminary debt assistance.

This year alone, the Endowment Fund gifted over \$47,000 to various congregations and ministries with almost \$20,000 of that total going to Seminary debt assistance. As you can see, the Endowment Fund has been actively supporting ministries throughout the church by not only speaking of God's Love but putting that Love into action.

At this year's April Synod Assembly, the Endowment Fund launched a two-year campaign to raise awareness of the Endowment Fund and to grow the Fund so that the work of the church and its ministries can continue to be supported and enriched.

The theme for this campaign is: “**Strengthening Ministry – Today, Tomorrow, Together**” with an emphasis on:

equipping and supporting leaders (seminary debt assistance and training lay leaders)

strengthening congregational vitality

developing ministry for the next generation

The goal over the next two years is to increase the endowment fund by \$125,000 and to generate future commitments of an additional \$150,000. The Endowment Fund is committed today and into the future to assist and support churches, ministries, and seminarians with their ministry journeys. **Therefore, the Endowment Fund is asking for your partnership through a gift to help ministries of the church in their journey.** Gifts may be cash or an optional future financial commitment. Whether you have much to give or a small amount to share, leaving a gift through the **Today, Tomorrow, Together** campaign will have long lasting impact. Together we are responding to the story of God's generosity in the world. The Endowment Fund is only able to do all this great work because of people just like you who chose to make a gift to the Synod Endowment Fund. Because of your generosity, incredible stories are unfolding, and lives are being touched. It is truly God's Work, Our Hands.

For more information or to make a gift, please contact the Synod Office or visit the Synod Website at:

<http://nswi.org/giving>

The image in Matthew 13:32 gives us a promise of new growth, strength, and support. We know that the church in ten years will look far different than it does today. We know that we need to do more to support those changes within ministries and prepare church leaders for the future. Because of your generosity, the smallest of seeds can become the strongest of trees. Thank you for your continued support of the Northwest Synod Mission Endowment Fund.



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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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