



# 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
- Bishop Election Update
- Youth & Preschool News

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Letter from Pastor Halom 1
- Prayers 2
- Calendar, Church News 3,5
- Council Meeting Minutes 4,5
- Bishop Election Update 5
- Youth & Family News 6
- Preschool News 7
- Preschool Job Posting 8

#### THE WHOLENESS WHEEL Vocational Health

The resource that I've been utilizing to reference our complete health says the following with regard to our vocation:

We all have a calling - a vocation - to follow Christ's example by living a life of meaning, purpose, and service to our neighbor. Our vocations make up our life's work and passions - they are the everyday roles through which God calls us to help make this world a better place. Those who are vocationally well are faithful stewards of their talents and abilities, and find opportunities to build and use them.

This helps provide the framework to a good understanding of vocation, something that too many people confuse with our jobs. From my own personal standpoint, I feel fortunate to have a career that I truly feel called to that utilizes my God-given gifts. But I also recognize that there are many people out there making a living for themselves or their families out of a necessity to provide, even though their occupation may not necessarily be what they'd consider a calling.

The above description opens the doors to new and better understandings. A stay at home parent may not be employed, but could be exactly where God is calling them to be. Someone who is at the retirement stage in life is not necessarily done with a certain vocation. God may be calling them to something else besides their former employment, such as grandparenting or volunteer work!

When's the last time you took a good look at yourself to identify the gifts that God has offered to you? Would you consider your place of employment a calling or a job? Are you utilizing God's gifts there? Are you volunteering in places that you are passionate about that make your gifts shine?

I raise these very questions as I've faced them head on over the last year or so. When I was initially asked to consider the position of Bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, I laughed because I had a much different picture in my own mind of what gifts a bishop needs. I've personally served with seven different bishops in my 25 years of ministry. They have all left a large congregation or the synod office prior to being elected as bishop. That was my picture. But as I reconsidered what gifts a bishop should have from my own perspective, I realized that I had gifts to offer (administration, problem solving, deep listening, innovative thinking to name a few). Yes, those gifts are also used as a pastor as well, but rather than closing the door to a new calling, Melinda and I agreed that I would consider this call and see what happens.

Are you currently leading a fulfilling life, serving your neighbor in a way that utilizes your God-given gifts? Is this a source of health in your life? If not, what is getting in the way? If change is scary, I understand, trust me. But it might be exactly what God is leading you toward!

*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 June 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](mailto:stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net)

## Prayers of Healing For Our Church Family

Family and friends of Mel Crisp; Kristi Swartz; Carolyn Bergh; Carson (family friend of Kristine Mickelson); LuAnn Larson (mother-in-law of Matt & Amanda Larson); Sarah Wittrock; Jessica Schwarzenberger; Julie Wittrock; Arne Windsor; Pat Prill; Art Klingenberg; Nancy Zogleman (Amanda Larson's grandmother); Wayne Zogleman (Amanda Larson's Grandfather); Renee Grambo; Arlene Christianson; Steve Trubshaw; Dohna Kerckhove (Pat Prill's daughter).

## Prayers For the Saints

Prayers for the week of June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bryan, Courtney, Gabriella, Tessa and Zachariah Lewis; Charlie Lewis; Daniel and Joann Lewis; Deanna Lewis; Debi, Eric and Taylor Lewis; Martha Libersky; Josh Lien.

Prayers for the week of June 9<sup>th</sup>: Amanda, Eric, Aaron and Evan Lierman; Brittany, Eric, Clayton, Coby and Cooper Ludwigson; Katherine Ludwigson; Bonnie and John Lueck, Lucille Martin; Rodney Martin.

Prayers for the week of June 16<sup>th</sup>: Doug and Susan Martin; Amy, Christopher, Calvin and Lucas Hassemer; Michael Marvin; Brian, Mary and Gabe Mawby; Erin, Shaun, Connor, Owen and Riley McCurdy.

Prayers for the week of June 23<sup>rd</sup>: McKenzie McInnis; Susan McInnis; Chrissy, Nick, Dominick and Rose Meisner; Justin, Kelly, Kaylee, Caleb and Leora Metcalf; Brian and Jill Meyer; Lanna and Raymond Michels; Bonnie and Robert Mickelson.

Prayers for the week of June 30<sup>th</sup>: Kristine, Tyler, Charlie and Lincoln Mickelson; Cody Miller; Mariah Miller; Masen Miller; Jeff and Teresa Miller; Garrett and Rebekah Misener; Kristin, Tim, Micah, Miles, Tatem and Tyler Mohr; Richard Mohr.

# JUNE 2024 CALENDAR

## Church News

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00am Worship Service 	27 Memorial Day - Office Closed	28 11:00am Funeral - Melvyn Crisp	29	30	31	1
2 9:00am Worship Service- <b>Baptism William North, First Communion Halverson</b>	3 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Preschool Committee Meeting	4	5 10:30am Bloomer Clergy Association Mtg 2:00pm Bible Study	6	7 Synod Assembly at UW-EC	8 Synod Assembly at UW-EC
9 9:00am Worship Service 	10 8:00am Bible Study	11	12 <b>Bloodmobile at Moose Lodge 11:30-5:30</b> 2:00pm Bible Study 	13 9:30am Pastor's Conference	14	15
16 Happy Father's Day 9:00am Worship Service	17 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	18 1:00pm - 4:00pm Quilting Group 	19 9:30am St. John's Foundation Meeting 2:00pm Bible Study	20	21	22
23 9:00am Worship Service	24 8:00am Bible Study	25 <b>Deadline for July Newsletter</b>	26 2:00pm Bible Study	27	28	29
30 9:00am Worship Service	1 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Staff Meeting	2	3 10:30am Bloomer Clergy Association Mtg 2:00pm Bible Study	4	5	6

**Quilting Group**  
Will be meeting on **June 18th**  
at 1:00-4:00 p.m.

**SEW CUTE!**  
*Everyone is welcome!!*



If you are interested in making communion bread for the communion on the first Sunday of the month, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex and recipes in the altar guild room.



**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](mailto:SueNehring@bloomer.net)



**We are creating a schedule for July's Meals On Wheels**

If you are available for one or more weeks in July to drive and/or deliver meals, sign up in the narthex, or please contact **Janice Naset** at 568-5615 -or- **Martha Libersky** at 568-4653.

Thank you for helping with this community project!!



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



**WEDNESDAY MEALS**

Thanks to Rose Marie Powell and her weekly volunteers for providing affordable and healthy meals this year! Wednesday meals will take a break until the fall.



# Church Council Meeting Minutes

## May 19, 2024

**Call to Order** - meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Dorene Turner, Council President.

**Opening Devotion** – Dwelling in the word, 2 Kings 2:1-18. What words or phrases did you notice? What stood out to you? What does this passage make you wonder about? What is God calling us to do in this passage?

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

**Approval of last Council Minutes** - A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to approve the minutes from the April 15th, 2024 meeting; seconded by Aubrie Bohl. Motion carried.

**Financial Report -**

	Year to Date (Jan-Apr 2024)
Income	\$ 84,531.14
Expenses	\$ 86,406.37
Difference	<b>-\$ 1,852.48</b>

**Transfers:** End of April – \$3000 transfer from council funds to cover bills, payroll and Portico. 5/17 – money from designated preschool account used for teacher bonuses, grant will be received by the preschool to cover cost 5/17 - \$2800 transfer from council funds to cover insurance, supplies, elevator, gas bills.

CD's	\$100,000	\$200,000
Location	Security Financial Bank	Security Financial Bank
% APR	5.25	5.25
Timeframe	12 months	12 months
Expires	8-8-24	8-3-24

All money is insured through FDIC

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

**Old Business-**

**Appreciation acknowledgements –**

- February: Food Service
- April: Administration Secretary Day – gift card given
- May: Teachers - coordinated by preschool committee
- Upcoming: October: Pastor
- November: Musician

Volunteers- Appreciation meal approximately 50-60 people, several people have expressed their thanks.

**Piano-** not an urgent need to fix the current piano, worship committee will be looking at potential cost for new electronic piano and fundraising ideas

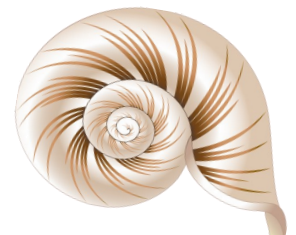
**New Business –**

**Property use policy:**

- A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to accept the property use policy. Seconded by Janelle Yeakey. Motion carried.

- Potential call process – information was shared on next steps in the event that Pastor is elected as Bishop.

*(Council minutes continued on page 5)*



# Bishop Election Update

## (Church Council Minutes Continued)

### BISHOP ELECTION UPDATE

A On Saturday, June 8, voting members from nearly 200 churches in our synod will elect a new bishop for our synod following the pending retirement of Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson. Please offer your prayers for our voting members (Tyler and Kristine Mickelson along with myself) as we listen for the Spirit's guidance and discern which direction our votes should go. I also ask for your prayers for the seven candidates who have allowed their names to reach this point in the process:

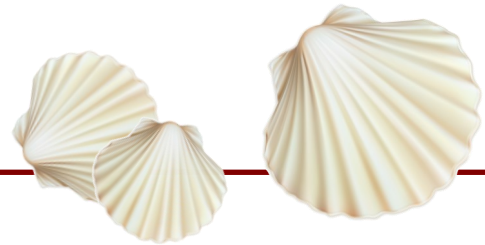
- Chad Anderson, Calvary Lutheran in Neillsville, WI
- Karen Behling, Our Saviour's Lutheran in Chippewa Falls, WI
- Elizabeth Bier, Our Savior's Lutheran in Greenwood, WI
- Martin Halom, St. John's Lutheran in Bloomer, WI
- Diane House, Director for Evangelical Mission for the Northwest Synod of WI
- Judy Kincaid, New Hope and Little Elk Creek in Menomonie, WI
- Kristina Weber, Trinity Lutheran in Jamestown, North Dakota

If you'd like to find further information about the election process, please visit <https://nswi.org/synod-assembly-2024>.

Out of respect for the other candidates and the process, I do not plan on posting any information on Facebook at the conclusion of each ballot (up to five total), but you may be able to find others who will. Regardless of the results, I do plan on making an announcement during worship on Sunday, June 9. Sure makes for some interesting times!

Peace,

*Pastor Martin*



*(council meeting minutes continued)*

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **Appreciation Days**

**Pastor's Report** - A motion was made by Alicia Bonczyk to transfer membership of Merv Marquardt to the church triumphant. Seconded by Aubrie Bohl. Motion carried.

**Discipleship** – needs to be started again, looking for 4-6 people

**Fellowship Minutes** –

**Preschool Minutes** –

**Social Ministry Minutes** –

**Property Minutes** –

**Worship & Music Minutes** –

**Youth Minutes** –

#### **Additional Items and Announcements**

**Next Meeting:** June 17th at 6 pm

**Adjournment** - a motion was made at 7:28 pm by Janelle Yeakey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alicia Bonczyk. Motion carried.

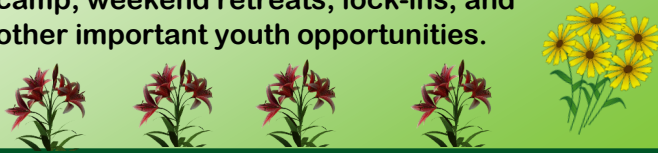
**Members Present:** Pastor Martin, Janelle Yeakey, Dorene Turner, Kay Anderson, Alicia Bonczyk, Kyle Prill, Jamie Keller, Aubrie Bohl, Sarah Wittrock, Jason Graski. **Others Present:** NA **Members Absent:** Jeff Cole

Minutes submitted by Janelle Yeakey, Secretary

# Youth & Family News

## Flower Fundraiser

Thank you to all who participated in our floral fundraiser with Down to Earth Garden Center right before Mother's Day. With your contributions, we made a profit of **\$818** for our youth ministry students. As usual, the proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit our kids who attend summer bible camp, weekend retreats, lock-ins, and other important youth opportunities.



## Subs Needed for JAM Fall '24

We are still in need of people who would be interested in substituting 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.

## 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.

## Celebrate Children's Day

Our final day of Faith Formation for the 2023-24 academic year took place on Wednesday, May 8th, 2024. The children had fun enjoying various activities from ga-ga ball, basketball, chalk, a craft activity, and the preschool playground space. After Faith Formation wrapped up for the evening, some of our students and their families stayed for worship that evening. JAM and confirmation students sang a variety of songs they had learned during Faith Formation or from camp for the congregation as well. It was truly a special evening as we celebrated our youth.

## 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 or Pastor Martin. We can forward you a link to a Google Drive. Otherwise, photos can get emailed to:

[stjohnslutheran.bloomer@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslutheran.bloomer@gmail.com)

## Senior Recognition

Senior recognition took place on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> as the final Wednesday night service for the 2023-24 academic year. Senior blankets were distributed at the end of service with a reception that followed. If you senior was unable to attend the service but would be interested in receiving a blanket, please reach out to Amanda Ritchie or Pastor Martin. Once again, congratulations to our 2024 graduates!

*"Your life is your story, and the adventure ahead of you is the journey to fulfill your own purpose and potential."* – Kerry Washington

## VBS – SPLASH! Jumping in with Jesus

VBS planning is in full motion and off to a great start. It is with great excitement that we will be cohosting VBS with Our Saviors this summer once again! Although we are in the planning process of VBS, we do have dates for you all to save before your summer calendars fill up too fast. This year's VBS will take place July 28-31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7PM. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks to come.



## Luther Park Registration Now Open

Summer camp registration for Luther Park is open! This year's theme is "Created to Be: Psalm 139:14." If your child is interested in attending or you have questions about camp, please go to their website ([lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org)) and/or contact Pastor Martin or Amanda Larson. Early bird rates end on March 1st and final camper payments are due on June 1st. \*Reminder: if your child participated in two of the fundraisers, our church will reimburse 50% of the camp costs (does not include registration or canteen). Please contact Amanda Larson or Pastor Martin if you have any additional questions regarding reimbursement.

# NEWS FROM PRESCHOOL STAFF!

## Amanda

### Sneak Peak Into the Program

Mrs. Larson packed so much into the final few weeks of the program. The children celebrated their final weeks working on Mother's Day projects, graduation activities, and the theme "Here Comes the Sun" focusing on the fun of summertime. As always, it's bittersweet that another year has come and gone. .

### Graduation

We celebrated our students as many of them continue their educational journey into 4K and Kindergarten on Friday, May 17th. We had a wonderful turnout as family and friends joined together to support this year's graduating class. A huge thank you to our preschool committee for coming together to make this event a success.

### Giving Tree

We have a giving tree set up in the preschool shared space if anyone is interested in supporting the preschool program with some additional supplies we could benefit from. Please reach out to Amanda Larson if you have any questions about this opportunity. As always, we appreciate your continued support!

### Pre-Registration for 2024-25

Pre-registration is open for the 2024-25 academic year. If anyone has any questions, please contact Amanda Larson - mobile (715)279-6962 or email [amanda\\_stjohnspreschool@aol.com](mailto:amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com). We are excited to welcome new students to our program, and we hope to see some familiar faces returning as well.

### Penny War

Our final fundraiser for the 2023-24 academic year was our penny war- preschool staff vs Pastor Martin. With everyone's contributions. After the jars were taken to the bank and recounted, we are happy to report that Pastor Martin's jar had \$552.92 and the Preschool had \$673.47, for a grand total of \$1,226.39! Thank you all again for your support. We truly appreciate the congregation's involvement, alongside our preschool families and staff.



### A Special Thank You

A huge thank you to all of our students and families for making this year a success. Mrs. Brianna, Mr. Nicholas and I had so much fun working together and with all our families this school year! I am excited to see some familiar faces along with other new ones this Fall. Also, a huge thank you to our preschool committee and the congregations support this year. Without your support, we would not have had the success we did this year. Have a wonderful Summer! – Mrs. Larson





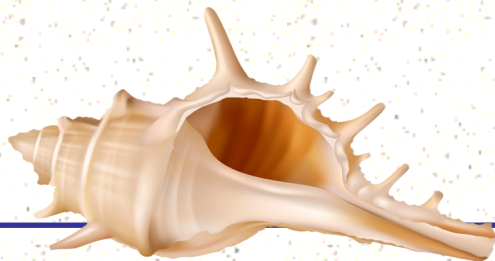
**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1403 Newman Street  
Bloomer, WI 54724

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

715-568-5446  
Email: [stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net](mailto:stjohnsl-secretary@bloomer.net)

**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)



### **We are hiring!**

St John's Lutheran Preschool is looking to fill a variety of positions to join our caring and motivated team: Teacher Assistant, Lead Teacher, and Director.

Here at St. John's Lutheran Preschool, we prepare children for their future educational journey through experience to grow cognitive, social and emotional skills. If you are 18+ years old, responsible, hard-working, compassionate, and interested in working with children and helping them grow in a classroom setting, you are perfect for this opportunity!

 The hours we are looking to fill for these positions are M-F 7:45-11:45AM.

Pay will be based on experience, duties and responsibilities, ranging from \$11-16/hour.

If you are interested in this position please email your resume and cover letter to [amanda\\_stjohnspreschool@aol.com](mailto:amanda_stjohnspreschool@aol.com)

To find additional information including a full job description, please visit our website: <https://www.stjohns-bloomer.org/preschool.html>

To see some of the fun things we've been up to visit our FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/preschool.stjohns.bloomer?mibextid=ZbWKwL>