

Sunday Services of Worship

- Spencer at 9am
- Riplinger at 11am

Church Office

210167 State Hwy 13
Spencer, WI 54479
715-659-5158
Email: sjlcoffice@frontier.com

Website

www.stjohnsspencer.com

Facebook

Spencer
www.facebook.com/sjlcSpencer/
Riplinger
www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/

Interim Pastor

Lowell Bolstad
Email: interimpastor1953@gmail.com
Cell: 715-226-0163

Minister of Faith Formation

Jenny Nieman
Email: jennyfaith659@gmail.com
Cell: 715-613-3636

Parish Secretary

Amanda Schjoneman
sjlcoffice@frontier.com

Deadlines

- Weekly email
Tuesdays 9am
- Sunday bulletin announcements
Thursdays 9am
- Monthly newsletter
20th of each month

Thank you for your participation in and support of the life and mission of this parish.

Invite others to services of worship and pray that those who do not know Jesus may come to know him. The risen Christ commands his followers to share the good news.



Connect March 2022

Ash Wednesday on March 2—Service at Spencer at 6:30pm and at Riplinger at 8pm. On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance.

Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of justice and mercy in the world.

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First Sunday in Lent on March 6—These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God’s grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God’s love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

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God’s Pattern for Life: The Ten Commandments

Plan to attend mid-week Lenten services at Spencer 6:30pm to focus on how God provides a pattern for life in the ten commandments. Riplinger at a special Congregation Meeting on February 20 decided to offer services of worship on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. Members are encouraged to attend the other Lenten suppers and services at Spencer.

March 2 No Other Gods
March 9 What’s In a Name?
March 16 Remember the Sabbath
March 23 Living in Relationship
March 30 Safeguard Life and Property
April 6 Enough is Enough

Lenten Soup Supper at 5pm at Spencer. Sign ups now available on Sign Up Genius.

Commemoration of Patrick, Missionary to Ireland, on March 13—St. Patrick’s Day is known for secular celebrations. Come to a service of worship and hear about his lesser known work as missionary to Ireland. Some of his writings will be included in the service of worship, and songs will be sung to Irish tunes. No matter your ethnic background, you can commemorate this missionary to Ireland.

Daylight Saving Time Begins March 13—The clocks spring ahead one hour.



Humanitarian Assistance - Lutheran World Relief

LWR responds to natural disasters and complex crises, helping people recover, rebuild, and reduce their vulnerabilities to future shocks.

When a disaster hits — whether it's a drought, tsunami or civil war — Lutheran World Relief works over months and years to help people recover and adjust to new realities.

Natural disasters and conflict-driven emergencies ravage the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people each year. While emergencies affect people at all societal and economic levels, the world's poorest suffer the most because they have the fewest resources to prepare for a crisis and the fewest resources to rebuild afterward.

We work hand in hand with vulnerable communities to help rebuild after disaster strikes as well as avoid or prepare for future disasters.

In the days and weeks after a disaster, we are on the ground helping to meet people's immediate needs. And in the months and years following, we are dedicated to working with them to ensure that they can rebuild better and stronger than before.

<https://lwr.org/humanitarian-assistance>

Our Work in Philippines

Lutheran World Relief has been working in the Philippines since the 1960s, reaching poor, rural communities with programs in agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, and emergency response. LWR supports communities in Mindanao, the southernmost major island in the Philippines - where chronic armed conflict and limited opportunities for economic improvement have led to high levels of poverty - and the Visayas and Palawan Province, areas severely affected by the Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. The wholistic approach addresses gender-based constraints at the household, community, and institutional level.

Emergency Operations

Lutheran World Relief's presence in the Philippines allows LWR to deliver immediate aid to families affected by emergencies and crises, and promote sustainable recovery to that communities are prepared to withstand the next unexpected challenge. LWR has responded to several major emergencies in the Philippines, including Tropical Storm Washi, Typhoon Bopha, Super Typhoon Haiyan, and conflict in Marawi.

Agriculture and Food Security

Lutheran World Relief is an internationally recognized leader in transforming poor rural communities. In the Philippines, the experienced staff and partners develop and implement programs that create linkages along value chains - including abaca, cacao, coconut, coffee, vegetables, and livestock - that benefit smallholder farming families. LSS works alongside communities to help farmers adopt climate-smart sustainable solutions so they can maximize their food production, protect their land, and strengthen their resiliency to natural disasters.

<https://lwr.org/where-we-work/philippines>



Faith Formation



Ready for a Summer Adventure You'll Never Forget?

Grades 1-3 June 20-23 (\$97) Throughout their week at day camp, children will have an opportunity to explore camp in a small group, led by Forest Springs trained, mission-driven staff. Exciting activities like archery, crafts and trips to the mini-farm will ensure that each day is fun filled! First Adventure day campers will also enjoy Bible Discovery Time with John & Diane Windle, along with the hilarious hi-jinx of Hairy and Company. Free Time and Lunch provide the chance for your child to build friendships with other campers and their counselor. Be excited for your child to grow and learn through First Adventure Day Camp. We certainly are!

Kid's Quest (2nd-5th gr) June 15-18 (\$216) Junior Camp (3rd-6th gr) June 19-25 OR July 3-9 (\$463) Kid's Quest and Junior Camp campers will enjoy Bible teaching from Forest Springs' favorites John & Diane Windle, complimented by the hilarious hi-jinx of Hairy and Company. During program instruction, campers will learn new skills like archery. Campers can take advantage of dozens of fun-filled programs areas during their free time. Throughout their time at camp, Kid's Quest and Junior Camp campers will have an opportunity to explore camp independently and as a cabin group. Each cabin group is led by a counselor, who completed two weeks of specialized training prior to youth camps beginning.

Take 7 (Grades 6-8*) - Speaker: Runks Runkles - June 26 - July 2, 2022 • \$463

Junior High (Grades 7-9*) - Speaker: Jarrod Strichter - July 3-9, 2022 • \$463

Super High (Grades 9-12*) - Speaker: Collin Collinsworth - July 10-16, 2022 \$463

Throughout their time at camp, teen campers will have an opportunity to explore camp independently and as a cabin group. Each cabin group is led by a counselor, who completed two weeks of specialized training prior to youth camps beginning.

Looking to enjoy some down time? Forest Springs has plenty of areas to relax, enjoy a snack or coffee drink, play a game or just catch up with friends. Teen campers will be equipped and challenged through Bible teaching during sessions held twice a day. Forest Springs' favorites Dan Hartke & Matt Hoffland will lead times of worship. Campers can take advantage of dozens of fun-filled programs areas during their free time like paintball or our high-ropes course.

Registering for Camp:

Register online: <https://events.circuitree.com/forestsprings/Registration/EventSelection/1/>

Call: 715-427-5241

Once you register your youth, contact Jenny so that Scholarship money can be sent to Forest Springs.

St. John's will pay 1/3 of the cost of summer camp. St. John's will pay Forest Springs directly. **If the cost of Bible Camp presents a financial hardship for families, please contact Jenny, there may be additional funds available.** St. John's does not want the cost of Bible Camp to be the reason that youth cannot attend.



Faith Formation Continued



Preschoolers thru 5th graders continue to meet on Sunday mornings at 10 am-11 am for Sunday school. If your family hasn't attended yet this school year, it's not too late. Come join us!



During Lent, Cross Training students and their small group leaders will attend Wednesday Lent worship services and then, following worship, they will meet in their small groups using the same theme as worship – The Ten Commandments.



2022 Mission Trip to Sheboygan, WI June 26-July 2, 2022.

Currently the registered participants are: Ema Schultz, Dani Soback, Rachel Nieman, Jo Schultz, and Jenny Nieman. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to prepare for this summer's trip.

Mission Trip Upcoming Fundraisers



The Basket Raffle begins March 2. The baskets are displayed in the fellowship hall, there's something for everyone. You may purchase tickets before or after Sunday or Wednesday worship services. Thank you for helping to support the trip.



April 21 & 22 will be the Mission Trip Rummage Sale. We will not be accepting donations until early April.



Club 52 provides donors with an easy, flexible way to support youth ministry at St. John's. As its name implies, Club 52 members are asked to contribute \$1 per week for one year or whatever amount the donor chooses. Club 52 members will be invited to a special VIP brunch hosted by the students to recognize each member's contribution. Club 52 donation forms are on the bulletin board if you would like to contribute.



RightNow Media

Lent is often the time that we look for ways to grow spiritually. We've purchased access to over 14,000 Bible Study videos for adults and tons of kid's videos and it's all available to you for FREE. It's called RightNow Media. There's a couple of ways for you to gain access to this resource: you can text Rightnow SJLCS to 41411, and you will automatically be prompted to create your FREE login or you find it on our website:

www.stjohnsspencer.com/right-now-media



Notes From Our Council

Hello St. John's,

At the March council meeting, we will be setting congregational goals for the upcoming year. We need your help. Please take a few minutes to chat with Pam Hardrath, Rudy Nieman, Cindy Weiler, Travis Hardrath, Jenny Nieman, Teri Schorer, Heather Vogel, Joan Bruss, and Bruce Luepke about what you want to see us doing within our church building and beyond. How can we live our mission statement?

Praising God, building relationships and sharing the love of God. Together!

How can we reflect our guiding principles?

We believe it is our purpose as children of God:

- To gather together in worship to praise our God for all the blessings we have been given, especially God's grace made visible in Jesus.*
- To build relationships that encourage us, build us up and keep us accountable in our walk with Christ.*
- To share the love of God with all people through our words and deeds.*

CAN YOU HELP OUT

WORSHIP HELP NEEDED

On May 8, if our congregation votes to leave the ELCA, we are going to be without a pastor. We have an area LCMC pastor who will perform weddings and funerals. Jenny Nieman will be able to provide baptisms. We need people who are willing to lead our 9am worship service on Sunday mornings. The worship service, prayers and sermon will be written for you. You can add your touch to the sermon or leave it as it is. We hope to have 4 or more people willing to do this & develop a rotating schedule. We would meet at the beginning of April to pick a worship series and develop a rotating schedule. If you are willing to help with this or have any questions, please contact Bruce Luepke at 715-613-5428 or b.luepke52@gmail.com

Thank-you!

Congregational Care

I would like to begin my service, as the Congregational Care Director, by extending an invitation to contact me if you, or a member you know, is in need of our support and care. I can only fulfill the duties of this position with your help. In other words, I need your help to notify me of illnesses, deaths, or struggles which may require prayer, encouragement, or other types of support and care. In addition, please let me know if you are a new member or know of someone that has been visiting and may be interested in becoming a member. I'd like to meet and find out if there is any way we may be of assistance in supporting you in your spiritual growth at St. John's. Please feel free to contact me by email (jmbruss@hotmail.com) or phone (715-383-4112).

*Thank you,
Joan Bruss*



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Mike Lehman | 8 | Wayne Hagen |
| | LeRoy Dommer | 9 | Bristol Engevold |
| 2 | Kristy Kieffer | | Doris Seefeld |
| | Brandon Kopp | 10 | Wylie Seefeldt |
| | Patricia Miller | | Kaylie Delis |
| 3 | Sylvia Buse | | Kyanna Weiler |
| | Keith Kettleborough | 14 | Lacey Berres |
| 4 | Bryan Kilty | | Olivia Schuette |
| | Nevin Michlig | 16 | Harleigh Hoefs |
| 6 | Bob Fellenz | | Addison Knecht |
| | Sookie Heeg | 18 | Tracey Ackman |
| | Jemma Jacobson | | Madilyn Miller |
| 7 | Trenton Knecht | | Veronica Miller |
| | | 21 | Jodi Pilsner |
| | | | Mary Seefeld |
| | | 22 | Austin Elsinger |
| | | 25 | Sean Parker |
| | | 26 | Kaitlyn Schmidt |
| | | 28 | Bruce Luepke |
| | | | Wayne Vaughan |
| | | | Jace Zahn |
| | | 29 | Shelbi Hoefs |
| | | 30 | Sarah Bychinski |
| | | | Courtney Fleischman |
| | | | Scott Parker |



- | | | |
|----|----------------------|----------|
| 10 | Bob & Glenda Fellenz | 44 years |
| 14 | Doug & Barb Seefeld | 52 years |
| 17 | Bryan & Tanya Kilty | 21 Years |
| 22 | Rich & Kelly Wilke | 26 years |

If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please contact the office so we can update our records.



Betty Soltow 2-1-2022



I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and support during my dad, Kevin Kaiser's, hospitalization. By the grace of God he is now home and on his way to a full recovery. God is Good!
~Danielle Schmidt



Those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities: Cyndi Ackerman, Dick Berger, Kathy Dietsche, Barb Dommer, Kevin Kaiser, Corrine Kettleborough, Roger Kilty, Grace Maines, Jean

Mellenthin, Jason Miller, Pat Miller, Dorothy Neuman, Dar Ponshock, Phyllis Premau, LaVilla Schilling, Elsie Schmutzler.

Those with ongoing health concerns: Lois Block, Kristy Fellenz, Todd Frahm, Audrey Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Michael Howe, Susan Howe, Paul Kilty, Jodi Krause, Scott Kollmansberger, Sandy Lemens, Dylan Maki, Linda Marchinek, Bill Martens, Adam Miller, Kris Ovans, Dylan Rottscheit, Tammi Schiferl, Doris

Seefeld, Joanne Seefeld, Jon Soderberg, Kimberly Tate, Darin Thompson, Michael Weigel, Lenore Williams.

Those with cancer: Judi Andrew, Linda Bauer, Keith Borchardt, Brenda Gardner, Sue Johnson, Mark Kilty, Parker Klimmer, Dennis Krause, Jeff Miller, Michelle Oelke, Kathy Pieper, Tom Steiner, Barb Wachsmuth, Francis Wash, Emily Weiler, Mark Zimmerman.

Those serving in the military: Tyler Klement

If you have any updates on these prayer requests or any additional prayer concerns, please contact the office. Pastor Bolstad is available for visits upon request. Contact the office or pastor.



MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10 AM Bible Camp Sunday 10 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack	28	1 1PM Women of the Church at Riplinger	2 9 AM Bible Study 5 :30 PM Soup Supper at Spencer 6:30 PM Lent Worship at Spencer 8 PM Lent Worship at Riplinger 	3	4 	5
6 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	7	8 6:30 PM Spencer Council	9 9 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Soup Supper at Spencer 6:30 PM Lent Worship at Spencer	10	11	12 
13 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack 	14	15 5:30 PM Worship Committee 6:30 PM Cub Scout	16 9 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Soup Supper at Spencer 6:30 PM Lent Worship at Spencer	17 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack 	18	19
20 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 	21	22 5 PM COME (Community Outreach Meal for Everyone)	23 9 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Soup Supper at Spencer 6:30 PM Lent Worship at Spencer	24	25	26
27 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack	28	29	30 9 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Soup Supper at Spencer 6:30 PM Lent Worship at Spencer	31	1	2

March Spencer Serving Schedule

	6th	13th	20th	27th
Technology	Teri Schorer	Tracey Ackman	Kyler Hardrath	Rachel Nieman
Sounds	Teri Schorer	Tracey Ackman	Ryan Hardrath	Rachel Nieman
Reader	Bill Martens	Mary Seefeld	Jim Christopherson	Milt Viergutz
Hospitality	Heather Vogel	Teri Schorer	Pam Hardrath	Lori Cook

Riplinger News

Attendance	March Readers
Jan. 30 17	March 6 - Sherry Schmutzler March 13 - Brenda Newman March 20 - Trish Porter March 27 - Dave Newman



Spencer Worship Attendance	
Jan. 30	54
Feb. 6	67
Feb. 13	46
Feb. 20	67



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead
March 12th before bed!!

SCRIP

Start Scripping Today!

Consider purchasing gift cards from our scrip program for all of your holiday needs! More news for Scrip! Families can pay for their orders using a credit card! In addition to linking a bank account (Presto Pay), families now have the option to pay for gift cards using a Visa or Mastercard. Best of all rebates are not impacted in any way.

Note: a 2.6% fee is added to your total order at check out. Gift cards are available for purchase in the church office, Monday through Thursday 9am to 1pm. If you know of a family or individual who could benefit from the aid of Scrip, please let Pam Hardrath know. Life faces us with many challenges, and we may need a helping hand financially. That is where Scrip can help! For more information on how this program works, please feel free to ask Pam Hardrath.



Treasurer's Report: January 2022

Treasurer's Report For General Operating Fund

INCOME	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Tithes & Offerings	\$4,252.44	\$4,252.44	\$75,000.00
Non-tithe General Fund	\$6,584.00	\$6,584.00	\$45,000.00
Riplinger Reimbursement Shared Exp.	\$531.63	\$531.63	\$8,000.00
Building Use	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$500.00
Total Income	\$11,393.07	\$11,393.07	\$128,500.00
EXPENSES			
<i>Supporting the Wider Mission</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Tithe (10% to NW Synod/ELCA)	\$580.00	\$580.00	\$7,500.00
Total	\$580.00	\$580.00	\$7,500.00
<i>Worship</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Copyrights	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Community Worship Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Pulpit Supply	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Instrument Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$196.00	\$196.00	\$1,500.00
Music/Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Total	\$196.00	\$196.00	\$5,300.00
<i>Faith Development</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Birth to 3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Children's Ministry	-\$65.00	-\$65.00	\$1,000.00
Middle School (shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
High School (shared)	\$15.62	\$15.62	\$1,000.00
Adult Faith Formation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Right Now Media	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,320.00
Library Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Total	-\$49.38	-\$49.38	\$5,120.00
<i>Fellowship & Care</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	\$48.26	\$48.26	\$500.00
Care Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total	\$48.26	\$48.26	\$600.00
<i>Office</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Office Supplies (shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Telephone & Internet (shared)	\$122.97	\$122.97	\$1,475.00
Postage (shared)	\$91.38	\$91.38	\$1,000.00
Copier Maintenance (shared)	\$288.45	\$288.45	\$1,100.00
Subscriptions, Software (shared)	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$2,100.00
Total	\$522.80	\$522.80	\$6,275.00
<i>Technology - all areas</i>			
	\$35.00	\$35.00	
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	\$92.34	\$92.34	\$1,200.00
Insurance & Workman's Compensation	\$334.12	\$334.12	\$4,500.00
Milage Reimbursement (shared)	\$61.04	\$61.04	\$700.00
Conference Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Leadership Study Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Synod Assembly Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total	\$522.50	\$522.50	\$6,900.00

Treasurer's Report: January 2022

<i>Building & Grounds</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Electricity	\$325.68	\$325.68	\$4,000.00
Natural Gas	\$456.07	\$456.07	\$1,500.00
Holding Tanks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Waste Disposal	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$1,125.00
Cleaning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Repairs & General Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,000.00
Lawn Mowing - Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Cemetery Assoc. Lawn Care	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total	\$2,080.75	\$2,080.75	\$13,125.00

<i>Staff</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Pastor Compensation	\$2,069.38	\$2,069.38	\$24,840.00
Housing Allowance	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$8,400.00
Books & Subscriptions (Pastor shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Continuing Education (Pastor Shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Medical Insurance & Pension (Pastor)	\$977.40	\$977.40	\$14,303.00
Social Security Allowance	\$211.86	\$211.86	\$2,542.00
Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor Shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
FICA	\$183.74	\$183.74	\$2,885.00
Organist Payroll	\$348.00	\$348.00	\$2,600.00
Treasurer Payroll	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$1,800.00
Secretary Payroll (Shared)	\$994.00	\$994.00	\$15,600.00
Staff Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	\$909.50	\$909.50	\$17,680.00
Total	\$6,543.88	\$6,543.88	\$92,650.00

Total Expenses	\$10,444.81	\$10,444.81	\$137,470.00
Difference	\$948.26	\$948.26	-\$8,970.00

January Spencer Council Minutes

St. John's Lutheran Church Leadership Minutes for January 11, 2022 (Approved)

Attending: Pastor Lowell Bolstad; Chair – Pam Hardrath; Secretary – Nadine Willett; Worship Director – Luanne Schwarze; Buildings & Grounds Director – Travis Hardrath; Congregation Care Director – Teri Schorer

Missing: Minister of Faith Formation – Jenny Nieman; Food, Fellowship & Fun Director – Heather Vogel; Treasurer – position vacant for this month; Beyond Our Doors Director – position vacant; Vice Chair – position vacant

Call to order: At 6:30 PM by Chair Pam Hardrath

Opening devotion and prayer was led by Pastor Bolstad with focus on spiritual gifts including faith, wisdom, thankfulness, healing, discernment, and other gifts.

New Business:

- **Planning for Congregational Meetings:**

- The ballot for 2022 St. John's Spencer council elections was reviewed and finalized in preparation for the annual congregational meeting on January 23, 2022.
- The agendas for both the annual congregational meeting and the special meeting were finalized.
- All reports prepared for the various focus areas of the council directors and positions are included in the annual report. Each council representative is prepared to present and field questions as needed at the upcoming annual meeting.
- For the end-of-year report to the ELCA, a few of the points were discussed and then Pam will finalize this for the year.

Old Business:

- None

January Spencer Council Minutes

Reports:

- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Lowell Bolstad
 - Pastoral Ministry: Worship and preaching, administration, faith formation, visitation, and wider church responsibilities continue to be accomplished.

Secretary Report: Nadine Willett

- Minutes from council meeting on December 14, 2021 were approved.

Treasurer Report: Prepared by Roxie Wetterau; Presented by Teri Schorer

- December Report: Income of \$12,906.86 was reported with disbursements of \$9,482.69 for a net difference of positive \$3,424.17 for the month. The General Fund balance is \$17,065.96.
- The final version of the budget for 2022 was reviewed and will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting.

Minister of Faith Formation Report: Jenny Nieman

- JAM (Jesus and Me): The Christmas program "O Christmas Tree, Reveal to Us the Savior" was shared on December 19th and went very well. JAM will resume on January 16, 2022. The Biblical content program of "Dig In" will be utilized for the first through third grade classes. A Christmas gifts "store" was made available for fun spending of earnings from attendance, memory work, etc.
- Cross training (6th to 8th Grade students): The groups attended a movie night at Faith Journey where the movie "The Star of Bethlehem" was enjoyed along with a meal and fellowship time. Ongoing planning and presenting continues with a special upcoming "Meltdown" event at Forest Springs on February 18-20. Butter Braids fundraiser will run from February 16 through March 2.
- LIVE: Jenny and two high school girls attended "Districts" youth event in Green Bay. Rich Wilke leads the youth group each week and Jenny teams up for the preparations.
- Mission Trip: The Sheboygan mission trip is scheduled for June 25 to July 2, 2022. Much planning and fundraising continues and includes a basket raffle beginning March 2.
- Other Faith Formation news: Communication in the form of annual reporting and newsletter continues. Information for the Community Days at Forest Springs on February 13 is being shared in multiple ways and plans are ramping up for summer Bible Camp options. Additionally quilt materials for eight 2022 high school graduates was purchased and is in the hands of our congregational quilters.

Worship Report: Luanne Schwarze

- Worship attendance levels: Sunday service attendance was reviewed.
- Upcoming worship plans were reviewed.
- All are thankful for the gift of special music at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services.
- Spencerama plans include Breaking Chains again this year.

Buildings and Grounds Report: Travis Hardrath

- Ongoing maintenance and repairs were discussed. The summary in the annual report will include some long-term planning projects.

Food, Fellowship, and Fun Report: Heather Vogel

- No updates.

Congregational Care Report: Teri Schorer

- No updates.

Beyond Our Doors Report: Director position is vacant for 2021.

- No updates.

Vice Chair Report: Position is vacant for last quarter of 2021.

- No updates.

Chairperson Report: Pam Hardrath

- Updates are included throughout meeting topics.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM. Council gathering time closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Nadine Willett, Council Secretary

