

## Services of Worship

- Spencer in-person 9am Sunday and Monday at 6:30pm
- Riplinger in-person 11am Sunday

## Church Office

210167 State Hwy 13  
Spencer, WI 54479  
715-659-5158  
Email: [sjlcoffice@frontier.com](mailto:sjlcoffice@frontier.com)

## Website

[www.stjohnsspencer.com](http://www.stjohnsspencer.com)

## Facebook

Spencer  
[www.facebook.com/sjlSpencer/](http://www.facebook.com/sjlSpencer/)  
Riplinger  
[www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/](http://www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/)

## Interim Pastor

Lowell Bolstad  
Email: [interimpastor1953@gmail.com](mailto:interimpastor1953@gmail.com)  
Cell: 715-226-0163

## Minister of Faith Formation

Jenny Nieman  
Email: [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com)  
Cell: 715-613-3636

## Parish Secretary

Amanda Schjoneman  
[sjlcoffice@frontier.com](mailto: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

# September 2021

## Faith in Daily Life to be theme on Labor Day Weekend

**September 5-6**—Labor Day weekend provides an opportunity to reflect on faith in daily life. People of faith are called to be “fellow workers in the Kingdom of God.” Services of worship on September 5-6 will be a time to explore our faith in daily life.

**Back to Church Sunday on September 12**—Petting zoo, games, a dunk tank, horse rides, and bingo similar to the event in the fall of 2019. Pass the word!

**Expanded Liturgy at Spencer on September 12**—The Worship Committee at its August 17 meeting decided to add the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise on the second Sunday of the month.

**Blessing of the Backpacks on September 19**—All who are students this year, from preschool to college, are invited to bring their backpacks to the 9am service of worship for a blessing as these students begin a new year of education.

**Presentation of Bibles on September 26**—This congregation seeks to place the holy scriptures in the hands of our children in order to encourage children, parents, and other caring adults to read and study the Bible on a regular basis.

**Service of Worship to be offered on Mondays at 6:30pm at Spencer**—Gone on the weekend? We offer a service of worship for you when you get back. Have trouble getting going in the morning.? Come to this evening service.

## From the Pastor

As another school year approaches, this parish seeks to pass on the inherited faith to the next generation. At the same time, growing in faith is intended to be life long. The following excerpt from an ELCA publication suggests a biblical grounding by focusing on Lydia in the book of Acts.

Biblical Grounding: In the book of Acts, Lydia engaged in a spiritual practice by regularly joining Paul’s Christian community at the river to pray. There by the water, Paul and Silas engaged with Lydia, a worshipper of God, in a mutually respectful relationship. With trust established, Lydia experienced the Good News of Jesus through Paul’s guided learning. She then decided that she and her household should be baptized in that very river. Immediately Lydia invited Paul and Silas back to her house for hospitality in faith-filled service to God’s ministry.  
<https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCAfaithformation.pdf>

Sincerely in Christ,  
Pastor Lowell Bolstad

## **Our Faith in Action - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin**

### **OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

We believe that it's our responsibility to help others.

### **WE REACH OUT TO OTHERS**

Everything we do together as disciples of Jesus has one purpose--to be God's instruments for good in the world. Our congregations serve as launching pads, equipping their members to be God's hands and feet in their homes, work places, and communities. We are intentional about taking the spark of faith that the Spirit has ignited within us and turning it into a light that shines outwardly to others.

### **MISSION SUPPORT**

Mission support is the portion of financial offerings from members of the ELCA that is shared for synodical and churchwide mission and ministries beyond the local congregation. Mission support helps to fund ministry partners both domestically and around the world including campus ministry, several social organizations, missionaries across the globe, colleges, universities and seminaries of our church, and outdoor camping ministries, just to name a few. These offerings provide over 80 percent of the resources that are used to fund ministries that we do together within the ELCA.

### **PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES**

Partnership ministries reveal the breadth and depth of our ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ.

### **LUTHERAN OFFICE FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin interprets the public policy positions and the advocacy priorities of the ELCA synods in Wisconsin to the state legislature and state agencies

### **LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE**

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

The ELCA partners with Lutheran World Relief to seek lasting solutions to poverty and injustice. One way many congregations get involved is by making and shipping quilts, school kits and health kits to those in need.

### **CHERISH OUR CHILDREN**

Cherish All Children is a congregation-based ministry of prayer, education, relationship-building, and action to implement the ELCA Message on Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

### **WORLD HUNGER**

Our synod is committed to helping others through the ELCA World Hunger program. It is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies to address the root causes of hunger and poverty—locally and around the world.

### **GLOBAL MISSION**

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) emphasizes God's call to us to share the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed. "Global mission" refers to the ways we respond to God's call to mission beyond our local congregations. We reach out to others through evangelism, witness, education, promotion of justice, service, relief and development across the globe.

<http://nswwi.org/about-us/what-we-believe>

<http://nswwi.org/about-us/our-faith-in-action>

**Pastor Bolstad to use allotted vacation September 21-27.** In matters of some urgency, contact Rev. Nancy Amacher at Faith Lutheran in Marshfield (715)223-5316 or [revnia10@gmail.com](mailto:revnia10@gmail.com). Minister of Faith Formation Jenny Nieman will lead Services of the Word on the 26th and 27th.

# Treasurer's Report: July 2021

## INCOME

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Tithes & Offerings	\$9,319.00	\$66,447.57	\$148,000.00
Riplinger Reimbursement Shared Exp.	\$504.18	\$2,621.46	\$8,000.00
Building Use	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,823.18</b>	<b>\$69,069.03</b>	<b>\$157,000.00</b>

## EXPENSES

<i>1. Supporting the Wider Mission</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Tithe (10% to NW Synod/ELCA)	\$850.00	\$7,042.00	\$14,800.00
Synod/Official Mtgs (pastor-shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Synod Assembly Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Conference Dues	\$0.00	\$38.00	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>	<b>\$7,080.00</b>	<b>\$15,600.00</b>

<i>2. Preparing For and Conducting Worship</i>			
	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Copyrights	\$0.00	\$631.00	\$700.00
Community Worship Services	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$850.00
Pulpit Supply	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Instrument Repair	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$0.00	\$377.93	\$2,500.00
Music/Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Organist Payroll	\$130.50	\$1,131.00	\$2,600.00
Pastor Compensation*	\$1,991.32	\$13,939.24	\$25,645.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,121.82</b>	<b>\$16,929.17</b>	<b>\$35,295.00</b>

### *3. Faith Formation Ministries for Our Children, Youth & Adults*

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Birth to 3	\$0.00	\$154.77	\$300.00
Children's Ministry	-\$37.00	-\$72.23	\$3,000.00
Middle School (shared)	\$0.00	-\$60.00	\$1,000.00
High School (shared)	\$0.00	\$226.71	\$2,300.00
Adult Faith Formation	\$0.00	\$76.60	\$600.00
Right Now Media	\$0.00	\$1,319.89	\$1,300.00
Library Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Pastor Compensation*	\$995.66	\$6,969.62	\$12,820.00
Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	\$1,258.00	\$5,975.50	\$17,680.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,216.66</b>	<b>\$14,590.86</b>	<b>\$39,200.00</b>

### *4. Caring For Our Church Family*

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Care Resources	\$0.00	\$14.24	\$150.00
Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	\$0.00	\$476.03	\$500.00
Office Supplies (shared)	\$0.00	\$331.30	\$600.00
Telephone & Internet (shared)	\$149.61	\$985.64	\$1,500.00
Postage (shared)	\$0.00	\$510.60	\$1,000.00
Copier Maintenance (shared)	\$232.30	\$618.04	\$1,100.00
Subscriptions, Software (shared)	\$151.86	\$1,625.55	\$2,100.00
Technology - all areas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$249.15	\$250.00
Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	\$101.73	\$764.62	\$1,500.00
Leadership Study Materials	\$0.00	\$71.60	\$100.00
Pastor Compensation*	\$995.66	\$6,969.62	\$12,820.00
Secretary Payroll (Shared)	\$1,582.00	\$5,945.50	\$15,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,213.16</b>	<b>\$18,561.89</b>	<b>\$38,420.00</b>

### *5. Reaching Out to Serve Our Community*

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Kitchen License/COME	\$0.00	\$560.00	\$500.00
Mission project expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$560.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>

# Treasurer's Report: July 2021

## 6. Equipping and Maintaining Our Platform for Mission

	<u>Period Activity</u>	<u>YTD Balance</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Electricity	\$350.11	\$2,240.27	\$4,500.00
Natural Gas	\$14.26	\$1,324.56	\$2,000.00
Holding Tanks	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$1,000.00
Waste Disposal	\$93.60	\$835.56	\$1,100.00
Cleaning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Supplies & Gen Maint	\$0.00	\$1,164.28	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$909.00	\$2,000.00
Lawn Mowing - church	\$0.00	\$451.96	\$500.00
Cemetary Assoc Lawn Care	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Staff Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Insurance & Workman's Comp	\$334.12	\$2,538.40	\$4,500.00
Mileage - Pastor (shared)	\$69.44	\$369.04	\$1,200.00
FICA (7.65% staff payroll)	\$238.73	\$1,078.85	\$2,885.00
Treasurer Payroll	\$150.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,250.26</b>	<b>\$12,261.92</b>	<b>\$27,685.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,651.90</b>	<b>\$69,983.84</b>	<b>\$157,000.00</b>
Difference	\$171.28	-\$914.81	\$0.00

### Paid by Riplinger

	<u>Period Activity</u>	<u>YTD Balance</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Pastor Expense Breakout*				
Pastor Compensation (Spencer)	\$2,069.38	\$14,485.66	\$24,840.00	\$10,643.00
Housing Allowance (Spencer)	\$700.00	\$4,900.00	\$8,400.00	\$3,600.00
Social Security Allowance (Spencer)	\$211.86	\$1,483.02	\$2,542.00	\$1,090.00
Health Insurance & Pension (Spencer)	\$1,001.40	\$7,009.80	\$14,303.00	\$6,456.00
Books & Subscriptions (shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
Continuing Education (shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	
Total Compensation**	\$3,982.64	\$27,878.48	\$51,285.00	

\*\* 50% Worship, 25% Faith Formation, 25% Church Family

### St. John's Lutheran Church Fund Balances Report: July 2021

	<u>Beg Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>End Balance</u>
General Fund (Checking Account)	\$14,662.37	\$9,823.18	\$9,651.90	\$0.00	\$14,833.65
Special Funds (Checking Account)					
ARK Balance	\$520.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$520.72
Fall Harvest Dinner	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Globe Money Balance	\$12.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.62
Technology Balance	\$572.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.00
Bible Camp Scholarships	\$4,478.27	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$4,283.27
Mission Trip Balance	\$4,190.28	\$514.00	\$3,005.00	\$0.00	\$1,699.28
Kitchen Equipment Balance	\$24.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.00
COME Balance	\$2,960.69	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,010.69
Seminary Balance	\$774.99	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$839.99
Memorial Gifts Balance	\$1,795.41	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,445.41
Building Fund	\$25,288.44	\$964.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$26,252.44
<i>Checking Account Balance</i>					<i>\$54,734.07</i>
Thrivent Choice (Savings Acct)	\$5,484.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,484.03
Sabbatical Fund (Forward Bank)	\$980.54	\$0.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$980.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,944.36</b>	<b>\$12,106.30</b>	<b>\$12,851.90</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$61,198.76</b>

# July Spencer Council Minutes

## St. John's Lutheran Church Leadership Minutes for July 13, 2021 (Approved)

Attending: Pastor Lowell Bolstad, Chair – Pam Hardrath; Vice Chair – Nick Wash; Secretary – Nadine Willett; Treasurer – Roxie Wetterau; Buildings & Grounds Director – Travis Hardrath; Food, Fellowship & Fun Director – Heather Vogel; Worship Director – Luanne Schwarze; Congregation Care Director – Teri Schorer

Missing: Beyond Our Doors Director – Position vacant; Minister of Faith Formation – Jenny Nieman (mission trip)

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

Opening prayer and devotion was led by Pastor Bolstad. As a part of the devotion, caring ministries were highlighted. Church exists for the people not there as well as for the people there; the outward focus is important in caring ministries. Needs for caring ministry and church need to be discovered with appreciation for immediate, intermediate, and long-term goals. Focus on a climate of peace and good will with caring ministry generates positive energy.

New Business:

- **Request for discussion and direction on curriculum from Jenny:** The council reviewed our financial status and budget planned for faith formation, including the GIFT unit, and agreed that it is appropriate to proceed in a normal mode for curriculum plans and purchases, knowing that Jenny and all are good stewards of resources and purchases.
- **Fall Back-to-Church Sunday:** A welcome back event was proposed with positive feedback from the group. This Back-to-Church Sunday will welcome the community. This will be similar to the event held in 2019 that was very successful with petting zoo, games, a dunk tank, horse rides, Bingo, etc. The cost factors and options for Thrivent funds will be reviewed at the next council meeting. This event will take place on September 12 with lead organizers being Teri, Pam, Heather, and Jenny.
- **Online worship changes:** With the intent to move forward when Internet, equipment, and people resources support live stream of the Sunday worship, it was decided to suspend the current pre-recorded approach to online worship. The pre-recorded approach to online worship has served us well for over a year during phases when we all tried to meet the needs to our congregation and community for worship options. We now have

two in-person worship services and should wisely re-group and prepare for a new era of online worship. As a part of the communication regarding the changes, a request for team members to be involved in the planning will be included. Options for video camera equipment and software will be investigated; the Worship Team had budgeted for changes to support live stream in the 2021 budget.

- **Council positions for 2022:** Pam requested council members prayerfully consider positions for the upcoming year for themselves and other possible candidates. The congregational vote for the 2022 council will take place in October of this year.

Old Business:

- **Pastor Call Committee:** Per Travis, there are no candidates available currently. The call committee group continues to be in prayer and in touch with the ELCA synod.
- **In-person Worship Attendance for June** was reviewed for Sunday morning and Monday evening.

Secretary Report: Nadine Willett

- Minutes from council meeting on June 8, 2021 were approved.

Treasurer Report: Roxie Wetterau

- **June Report:** Income of \$8,506.10 was reported with expenses of \$9,703.14 for a net difference of negative \$1,197.04 for the month. The General Fund balance is \$14,662.37. Report approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Lowell Bolstad

- **Pastoral Ministry:** Worship and preaching, administration, visitation, and wider church
- Guidance is ongoing regarding the call process and worship service needs.

Minister of Faith Formation Report: Jenny Nieman

- **Spencerama representation:** \$50 was raised for youth activities from dunk tank fun and funding. Fifteen people from St. John's walked in the Spencerama parade with the camp themed float handing out nearly 300 fruit snacks and flyers about VBS, summer fun nights, and worship times.
- **JAM (Jesus and Me):** Classes will resume on September 19.

# July Spencer Council Minutes Continued

## Minister of Faith Formation Report Continued

- Vacation Bible School: Jenny Nieman and Heather Vogel are leading the new VBS format. Three different VBS opportunities will be provided on the last Sunday of each month with the themes: June 27 will be 'Fired Up for Jesus', July 25 'Christmas in July', and August 29 'Jesus is My Superhero'.
- Bible Camp: As of July 7<sup>th</sup> one youth registered for Bible Camp; scholarship funds shared.
- Cross training (6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students):
- Summer fun nights have been going well with six to twelve middle schoolers attending.
- Cross training will resume September 15.
- A lock-out is planned for July 30.
- Affirmation of Baptism: Affirmation of Baptism will be held for eight people on August 1 and 9.
- 2021 Mission trip: The trip to Charleston, South Carolina is planned for July 10-17. The group will lead worship on July 18. The theme is a 'Week of Hope' with lots of community service planned.

## Worship Report: Luanne Schwarze

- Organ is repaired.
- Online worship discussion notes are included above in new business.

## Buildings and Grounds Report: Travis Hardrath

- It is time to start thinking about a new lawn

mower. Travis highlighted some possible options for a mower noting that the current machine would be kept for non-mowing tasks.

- Two other large projects to consider are a new roof in about five years as well as new carpet in the sanctuary and fellowship area.
- People continue to give to the building fund after the mortgage was paid off so these funds will be applied when the time comes for more specific cost and project plans.

## Food, Fellowship, and Fun Report: Heather Vogel

- VBS plans are progressing well.

## Congregational Care Report: Teri Schorer

- No updates.

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

- SCRIP orders are low.

## Vice Chair Report: Nick Wash

- No updates.

## Chairperson Report: Pam Hardrath

- Snapshot conversations with each employee of St. John's are taking place. Updates to the job description are accomplished to reflect the current responsibilities of the Ministry of Faith Formation.

Business meeting adjourned. Council gathering time closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Nadine Willett, Council Secretary

## Faith Formation



### Wednesday Night Kitchen Crew Wanted

We are looking for 2-3 folks to assist with preparing, serving and cleaning up the Wednesday night meals. No shopping, flexible scheduling! You pick the night that works for you, the food will be at church we just need cooks, servers, and a clean up crew. Sound like something you might be interested in? Contact Jenny.

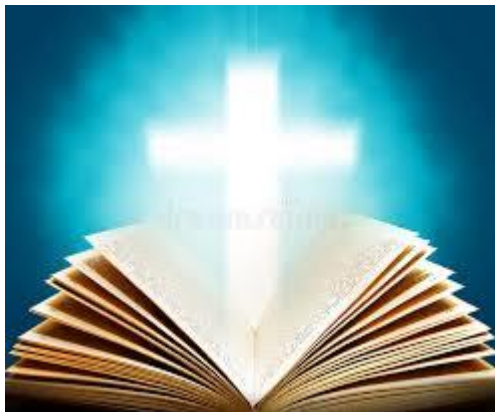


**5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Events** are short parties following football games for high schoolers. The first one will be September 17 following the Spencer varsity football home game. The party is open to all high schoolers and their friends. We'll have snacks, hot chocolate, bonfire, smores, hang out and maybe play some games. Don't miss out! The other dates are September 24, October 8, and October 15.

# Faith Formation



**Backpack Blessing Sunday** September 19, 9 am we will celebrate the beginning of the school year for all students returning to classes by having a special Blessing of the Backpacks in worship. Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks with them to worship and then come forward during worship for the blessing and a small gift to commemorate the occasion. The theme will be based on Romans 12:2 “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”



**Cross Training** is our Wednesday night Middle School time. During Cross Training, middle schoolers spend time digging deeper into faith topics, relating faith to their everyday life and forming relationships with a small group of peers and an adult. Cross Training kicks off September 15. You can register your youth online here’s the link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1V0100QAVtULIAAN3ROEhMzcaoscwSQiZnbO9C2wSExo/edit> paper copies will also be available on the bulletin board. We’ll be offering a meal each Wednesday night again beginning at 6 pm; Cross Training begins at 6:30 pm.



**JAM kicks off September 19, 10:15 am.** We’ll begin in the worship space with a couple of songs and then get kids to their respective classrooms. Parents are more than welcome to be a part of both of those activities. Concerning registration forms- NEW this year you can fill out the registration form online, here’s the link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1hwv8KPCFcETQPDIGXDQQOT16KOPQd4QtKkdZ9s1D4Fk/edit> paper copies will be on the bulletin board for anyone who needs one.

September 26, Preschoolers AND 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, their parents, families, and baptism sponsors are encouraged to be in worship at 9 am to celebrate with both the Preschoolers & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders as they each receive their Bibles.

**JAM Leaders Needed** we are looking for leaders for the preschool/ Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade AND a 5<sup>th</sup> grade. If you like to explore and wonder about faith with kids one of these positions may be for you. Kids at each of these phases need an adult who will dig into the Bible story for the day and be hands on with them as they use their imaginations to wonder who Jesus is. Interested? Want to know more? All materials are supplied, the curriculum is web-based, so you can access it and see how others are using the materials, you are not in this alone. Contact Jenny at [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com) or 715-613-3636.



**LIVE** is our Wednesday night youth time for High Schoolers to explore their faith deeper, ask questions and form relationships with their peers and a few adults. We kick the year off on September 15 at 6:30 pm. Supper is at 6 pm for anyone who would like to come eat.

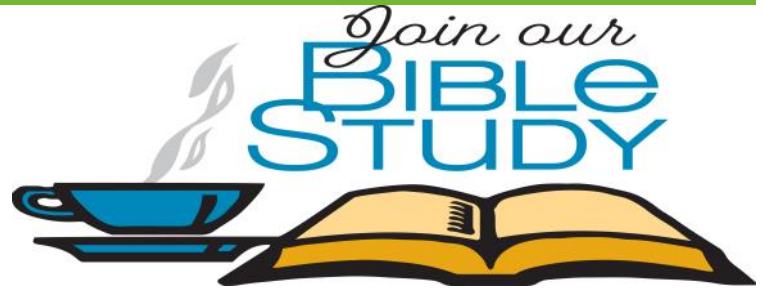
## Bible Study Opportunities

**Women's Bible Study**—Ecclesiastes in-depth bible study beginning September 15th, 6:30pm to 8pm. We will spend 1 hour on our study and socialize for 30 minutes. We will meet every other Wednesday until we complete the book.

Many of us have lives that are full! We have full bellies, full closets, full calendars, full trash cans, full inboxes, etc. But at the end of the day, we are empty. God made us all with a built in desire to find the meaning of life and to spend time on things that are meaningful.

We all long to live well and Ecclesiastes provides the wisdom we need to do just that. Join us on this journey as we identify the obstacles that stand in our way and draw near to God. The workbook can be purchased on Amazon for \$12.99 using this link Ecclesiastes: Wisdom For Living Well: An In-depth Bible Study <https://smile.amazon.com/dp/0692592121/>

[ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_apan\\_glt\\_fabc\\_G9TME9X80175N3ZH75F?encoding=UTF8&psc=1](https://smile.amazon.com/dp/0692592121/?ref=cm_sw_r_apan_glt_fabc_G9TME9X80175N3ZH75F?encoding=UTF8&psc=1) . Contact Pam Hardrath, if you have questions or to sign up, at 715-507-0549. [tpkrh4@gmail.com](mailto:tpkrh4@gmail.com)



**Weekly Wednesday Morning Bible Study on Gospel of Matthew**—Gail Jicinsky will be hosting a Wednesday morning Bible Study from 9-11am. There is no cost for this study just bring your Bible.



**Men's Bible Study and Fellowship**—Starting September 8 at 6:30pm, then every other Wednesday after that, there will be a Men's Bible Study at Travis Hardrath's residence at 213462 State Highway 13. If you have a Bible, bring it along. "Iron sharpens iron so a man sharpens his friend." Proverbs 27:17. Contact Travis Hardrath if you have questions. 715-507-0548.

## Help Wanted

- Chair for Harvest Dinner Needed. Please contact the office or Pastor Bolstad if you can chair the Harvest Dinner with Riplinger in October. If no one volunteers, we will be unable to hold the Harvest Dinner this year.
- We are in need of help with washing the windows and vacuuming the floors at church at Spencer. If you are able to help, please let the parish secretary know.
- We are looking for someone to create the monthly worship serving schedule. If you are interested, please contact the church office for more information. If you have other ideas on how we can do worship volunteering differently, please share them with a council member.
- Servers Needed: Help provide a warm, welcoming environment by serving hospitality following one of the worship services. During the school year, we are seeking one server for each Sunday worship service. You will need to provide about 4 dozen treats. These might be homemade or purchased bars, cookies, donut holes, fruit, trail mix or any other type of finger food. Make coffee and kool-aid (provided in the kitchen). You may choose to provide milk or juice as an alternative. If you can help serve hospitality, please let the church office know. Thank you!



Due to internet connectivity issues, we are revamping how our online worship service will happen. The last recorded sermon was July 18. We have a few options and hope to have online worship up and running by mid August. Please be patient with us. Feel free to contact Pam Hardrath 715-507-0549 with any suggestions, questions, comments. Just a reminder in person worship is happening Sundays at 9am and Mondays at 6:30pm. There is plenty of room to socially distance on Monday nights.





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|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Matthew Mertins    | 18 Brad Helsten      |
| 2 Adryan Schmidt     | Tahneya Anderson     |
| Ashley Stroetz       | 19 Dianne Vaughan    |
| Carmin Elsinger      | Janine Luepke        |
| Kathi Pozorski       | Reuben Hendrickson   |
| Mary Gaetz           | Tanya Griepentrog    |
| Raelene Schuette     | 20 Alan Seefeld      |
| 3 Shawn Kieffer      | Dawn Pagenkopf       |
| 4 Vietta Franseen    | 21 Amanda Gronski    |
| 5 Joan Miller        | Cora Weiler          |
| 6 Ashlyn Hendrickson | 22 Cynthia Pescinski |
| Gracie Leezer        | 23 Ayden Michlig     |
| 7 Emily Kohl         | Carri Weiler         |
| 8 Thomas Bruger      | Charla Hagen         |
| Zach Fleischman      | Elsa Schuette        |
| 10 Aubree Fleischman | Lori Helsten         |
| Brooke Cloud         | 24 Audrey Helsten    |
| Nolt Dommer          | Jenelle Ertl         |
| 11 Braedyn Gessert   | Ryan Sebold          |
| 13 Darin Thompson    | 25 Muriel Oelrich    |
| Julie VanArk         | 26 Elisha Blanchard  |
| 14 Sadie Fleischman  | Joy Rathjen          |
| Tyler Klement        | Travis Stroetz       |
| 15 Aurora Heeg       | 27 Deana Parker      |
| Cashton Vogel        | Tony Bauer           |
| Laurence Herman      | 28 Evan Blanchard    |
| Logan Reynolds       | Jodi Alsteen         |
| 16 Nathan Neumann    | Samantha Soback      |
| 17 David Seefeld     | 29 Brenda Newman     |
| Emerald Niemann      | Faye Lang            |
| Leyla Manicke        | 30 Averie Vaughan    |
|                      | Nicole Otero         |

- |                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| 4 Dennis & Dawn Reckner     | 34 years |
| 11 Troy & Lucinda Hardrath  | 17 years |
| 14 Ryan & DeAnn Griepentrog | 25 years |
| Josh & Tanya Griepentrog    | 19 years |
| 17 Joseph & Patty Matter    | 44 years |
| 23 Gary & Randi Thompson    | 59 years |
| 25 Davis & Dawn Buse        | 39 years |
| David & Amanda Knecht       | 17 years |
| 28 Keith & Danielle Schmidt | 19 years |
| Mike & Jewel Schuette       | 30 years |
| 30 Adam & Heather Miller    | 21 years |

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



Those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities: Cyndi Ackerman, Dick Berger, Alice Brandt, Roger Kilty, Grace Maines, Linda Marchinek, Jean Mellenthin, Pat Miller, Dorothy Neuman, Phyllis Premau, LaVilla Schilling, Earl

Schiszik.

Those with ongoing health concerns: Lois Block, Dick Berger, Todd Frahm, Pam Hardrath, Audrey Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Michael Howe, Paul Kilty, Jodi Krause, Scott Kollmansberger, Sandy Lemens, Dylan Maki, Kris Ovans, Becca Raczek (Cindy Weiler's niece), Dylan Rottscheit, Tammi Schiferl, Joanne Seefeld, Theresa Seehafer, Jon Soderberg, Kimberly

Tate, Darin Thompson, Michael Weigel, Lenore Williams, Richard Zugier.

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

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.

Pastor Bolstad is available for home visits upon request. Contact the church office or the pastor.



## Spencer Serving Schedule

	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26
<b>Greeter</b>	Susan Howe	Jan Ammons	Inez Fosberg	Teri Schorer
<b>Technology</b>	Leah Nieman	Savana Weyer	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman
<b>Sounds</b>	Leah Nieman	Lydia Nieman	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman
<b>Ushers</b>	Gail Jicinsky	Jim Christopherson	Susan Howe	Bill Martens
	Allen Jicinsky	Alec Cook	Jan Ammons	Rudy Nieman
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Inez Fosberg	Teri Schorer	<b>NEEDED</b>	Jenny Nieman
<b>Reader</b>	Gail Jicinsky	Jim Christopherson	Allen Jicinsky	Bill Martens
<b>Hospitality</b>	Heather Vogel	Lori Cook	Gail Jicinsky	Teri Schorer

### Riplinger News

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>September Readers</u>
Aug. 1     18	5th: Dave Newman
Aug. 8     7	12th: Joan Miller
Aug. 15    9	19th: Sherry Schmutzler
Aug. 22    20	26th: Brenda Newman
Aug. 29    18	

### Spencer Worship Attendance

July 25	21
July 26	12
Aug. 1	70
Aug. 2	14
Aug. 8	39
Aug. 9	44
Aug. 15	34
Aug 16	9
Aug 22	30
Aug. 23	11



**LAWN-MOWING TEAM**

**Lawn Mowing Schedule**  
**Sept. 5:** Travis 715-507-0548  
**Sept. 12:** Bruce 715-613-5428  
**Sept. 19:** Travis 715-507-0548  
**Sept. 26:** Marsha 715-659-5166

### Scrip Cards are back!!!

Start Scripping Today! 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 10am to 2pm, online using [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) or a paper copy order forms can be found in the brochure rack and put in Pam Hardrath's mailbox with a check written out to St. John's. Cards on hand include Kwik Trip (\$25, \$50, \$100), Burger King (\$10), Dairy Queen (\$10), Dunkin Donuts (\$10), Festival Foods (\$25, \$50, \$100), Joann Fabric (\$25), Kohl's (\$25), Pizza Hut (\$10) Target (\$25), Wal-Mart (\$10, \$25).



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. Call 715-507-0549 or email [tpkrh4@gmail.com](mailto:tpkrh4@gmail.com).



# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 5 PM VBS (Jesus is my Superhero)	<b>30</b> 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 9 AM Bible Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	<b>6</b> OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer 	<b>7</b> 1:00 PM Staff	<b>8</b> 9 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 
<b>12</b> Back to Church Sunday Fun Day 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 	<b>13</b> 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM Spencer Council	<b>15</b> 9 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Cross Training 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10:15 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	<b>20</b> 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>22</b> 9 AM Bible Study 6 PM Supper 6:30 PM Cross Training 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9 AM Worship at Spencer 10:15 AM JAM 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 4 PM HIIT 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack	<b>27</b> 1 PM Staff 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	<b>28</b> 5 PM COME (Community Outreach Meal for Everyone)	<b>29</b> 9 AM Bible Study 6 PM Supper 6:30 PM Cross Training 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>