

Connect May 2022

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/sjlSpencer/

Riplinger

www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/

Supply Pastors

Bill Rice

Tim Hinrichs

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.



Leadership for Services of Worship starting May 1—Retired Pastor Bill Rice will provide pulpit supply the second Sunday in May, July, and September and the first Sunday otherwise for Spencer and Riplinger once a month. He will bless communion for the month so that Spencer will continue to receive communion weekly. Lay people will lead services of worship and provide the message the remaining Sundays. Pastor Tim Hinrichs from Grace Lutheran Church in Nasonville will officiate for funerals and weddings. Minister of Faith Formation Jenny Nieman will officiate at baptisms.

Conversational Meeting at Spencer on May 1—Chair Pam Hardrath will host a conversational meeting after the service of worship to answer questions and to receive comments on the call process and the upcoming vote to disaffiliate.

Grubby's Day at Spencer on May 1—Wear your old clothes and pitch in to help clean the church. A light lunch will be served following the cleaning.

Second Votes on Denominational Affiliation on May 8—The resolution indicating the intent to terminate the relationship of St. John's Lutheran Church of Spencer and Riplinger with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) and to affiliate with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) will be presented for a second vote on May 8 at special Congregation Meetings following the services of worship. The first vote took place on January 16 and 23. Following the meeting, another meeting will be held to vote on approving a new constitution and discussion and a vote on whether to form a 3 point parish with Peace Lutheran Church in Edgar.

Recognition of Graduates on May 15—Graduates will be recognized with the presentation of quilts. Support our grads on this life milestone by coming to the service of worship.

From the Interim Pastor—Thank you for the partnership in the Gospel this past almost 1 1/2 years. I recount also the 1/2 year I served as your interim pastor in 2003. This combined 2 years represents one of the longest periods of time I have served in a parish as an interim pastor. My prayers go with you as you seek to witness to the crucified and risen Christ as the hope of the world in the midst of this precarious age.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Lowell Bolstad

Thank you for the cards, gifts, and words on my farewell Sunday, April 24. The heartfelt best wishes are much appreciated. I will remember you in my thoughts and prayers. May the peace of Christ guide you into the new stage of your faith journey.
Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Lowell Bolstad

FAITH FORMATION



JAM- The last Sunday for this school year will be May 8. The Sunday school store will be open on May 1 & 8 for the kids to spend their hard-earned Sunday school bucks.

Crossing the Bridge into Middle School - This event on May 1, at 10 am is for current 5th graders (soon to be sixth graders) and their parents to learn and ask questions about Cross Training. St. John's is committed to partnering with families, so our goal for this event is to clearly explain the next steps in the youth's faith journey and to help families with the transition.

Cross Training will conclude for this school year on May 11 with a party! We hope that everyone (students and parents) will come and not skip out because it's "just" a party. Parties are important to relax and have fun together, it's a huge part of continuing to form relationships with one another. So, please be sure to come to the party on May 11, 6:30 pm!

Wednesday Summer Fun Nights Beginning June 1, at 7 pm Jenny will be hosting bonfires, games, and a short outdoor worship for all 5th-8th graders and their friends on Wednesday nights. Youth should bring a lawn chair, wear shoes to run/play games in and dress according to the weather. A complete schedule of summer Wednesdays will be handed out to families, posted on the Cross Training Facebook page and on the bulletin board at church.

Crossing the Bridge into High School This event will be on May 11, at 7:45 pm, and is for current 8th graders (soon to be Freshman) and their parents to learn more and ask questions about LIVE . St. John's is committed to partnering with families, so our goal for this event is to clearly explain the next steps in the youth's faith journey and to help families with the transition.



Cross Training & LIVE- The last Wednesday night for high school youth this school year will be May 11.



Mission Trip- Fundraiser Updates

The Basket Raffle Thank you to everyone who donated baskets or pieces of themed baskets, the total raised from the basket raffle was \$920. Thank you!! We are so grateful for all of your support!

Basket winners:

Jim Christopherson, Ben Schlingsog, Ken Jicinsky, Nathan Gronski, Faye Lang (2), Petie Marten, Jo, Ema, Sophie & Beckam Schultz (3), Jeff Weyer (2), Marsha Martens, Dani Soback, Penny Vinnedge (2), Glenda Fellenz (2), Amanda Schjoneman (3), Doug & Jan Kops, Carol Sandley, Jenny Nieman, Lydia Nieman, Gary & Karen Grieser, Lillie Weis, Mike Engevold, Kelly Lawrence, Jan Ammons, Heather Vogel, & Danielle Schmidt.



Rummage Sale- thank you so much to everyone who donated items! Thank you to Donna Bychinski, Inez Fosberg, Faye Lang, Marsha Martens and Petie Marten (in case I wasn't aware of anyone else, THANK you for your help too) for working the sale. With all of your help (donating and purchasing) we raised \$1,814. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION

Affirmation of Baptism Celebration On April 24 we celebrated with 14 our high school students as they affirmed their baptisms. Thank you to everyone who attended worship that morning to show your support to these youth and



Treyton Walker Ackman

Parents: Doug & Tracey Ackman
Birthday: November 14, 2003
Baptism: January 11, 2004 at St. John's Lutheran Church Spencer
Sponsors: Deb Ackman-Vanderwyst & Dawn Ackman
Bible Verse: Phillipian's 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Tony Brett Bauer

Parents: Duane & Corrine Bauer
Birthday: September 27, 2004
Baptism: November 28, 2004 at Immanuel Lutheran Marshfield
Sponsors: Melinda Belanger, Jason & Angie Reed
Bible Verse: Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Theresa Knecht

Parents: David & Amanda Knecht
Birthday: February 24, 2007
Baptism: April 22, 2007 at St. John's in Spencer
Sponsors: Lance Lehman, Justin & Bobbie Jo Knecht
Mentor: Sharon Schizik
Bible Verse: "The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving."
Psalm 28:7

Malachai Gunnar Scott Anderson

Parents: Andrew Anderson & the late Jill Ellis
Birthday: December 3, 2004
Baptism: January 16, 2005 at Zion Lutheran Stratford
Sponsors: Dana Swanson & Kurt Swanson
Bible Verse: "Psalm 139:15-16 "You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book."

Bristol Eli Jo Engevold

Parents: Mike & Kristen Engevold
Birthday: March 9, 2005
Baptism: June 26, 2005 at St. John's Spencer
Sponsor: Brittany Slempek
Mentor: Leah Nieman
Bible Verse: 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God had not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Theresa Joan Knecht

Parents: David & Amanda Knecht
Birthday: February 24, 2007
Baptism: April 22, 2007 and St. John's Spencer
Sponsors: Lance Lehman, Justin & Bobbie Jo Knecht
Mentor: Sharon Schizik
Bible Verse: Psalm 28:7 "The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving."

FAITH FORMATION

Devyn Robert Schmidt

Parents: Keith & Danielle Schmidt
Birthday: August 10, 2005
Baptism: October 2, 2005 at Trinity Lutheran Spencer
Sponsors: Josh Kaiser, Tracy & Denny Jakobi
Mentor: Jeff Weyer
Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Qwytyyn Lee Schmidt

Parents: Keith & Danielle Schmidt
Birthday: January 15, 2007
Baptism: February 18, 2007 at Trinity Lutheran Spencer
Sponsors: Craig Schmidt and Josh Kaiser
Mentor: Travis Hardrath
Bible Verse: Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Samantha Kay Soback

Parents: Chad & Jackie Soback
Birthday: September 28, 2004
Baptism: February 13, 2005 at St. John's Spencer
Sponsors: Jamie Kulesa & Connie Harding
Mentor: Kelly Wilke
Bible Verse: Proverbs 14:6 "A mocker seeks wisdom and never finds it, but knowledge comes easily to those with understanding."

Carson James Kilty

Parents: Bryan & Tanya Kilty
Birthday: June 26, 2005
Baptism: August 14, 2005 at St. John's in Spencer
Sponsors: Ray & Judy Kilty; Troy & Missy Schreindl
Bible Verse: Proverbs 16:2 "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and he will establish your plans."

Kyler DuWayne Hardrath

Parents: Travis & Pam Hardrath
Birthday: August 31, 2007
Baptism: October 7, 2007 at St. John's Spencer
Sponsors: Tyler Hardrath & Beth Erickson
Mentor: Bob Fellenz
Bible Verse: Psalm 136:1 "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever."

Cadyn Jaxon Hardrath

Parents: Troy & Luci Hardrath
Birthday: February 11, 2006
Baptism: April 2, 2006 at St. John's Spencer
Sponsors: Tyler Hardrath, Mike & Rexanne Braun
Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11 "I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."



Levi Edward Dommer

Parents: Tom Dommer & Tanya Beyerl
Birthday: April 3, 2005
Baptism: June 19, 2005 at St. John's Riplinger
Sponsors: Ronda Beyerl & Travis Dommer
Bible Verse: Psalm 31:24 "Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!"

Jenelle Lillian Ertl

Parents: Todd & Jessica Ertl
Birthday: September 24, 2006
Baptism: May 31, 2009 at St. John's Riplinger
Sponsors: The Riplinger Congregation
Mentor: Leah Nieman
Bible Verse: Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Trevor Harold Ertl

Parents: Todd & Jessica Ertl
Birthday: August 10, 2004
Baptism: May 31, 2009 at St. John's Riplinger
Sponsors: The Riplinger Congregation
Mentor: Denny Kopp
Bible Verse: Isaiah 40:31 "Because I place my hope in God, I can soar like an eagle, run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint."

I can do
ALL THINGS
through
Christ
who strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

FAITH FORMATION

2022 High School Graduates On May 15 we will be celebrating high school graduation with 8 of our high school students. We'll be gifting each of them a quilt made by a congregation member, so they have a little piece of St. John's to take with them as they venture out on their own. Make every effort to be in worship that Sunday to help them celebrate. A big thanks to Jan Kops, Glenda Fellenz, Gail Jicinsky, Joy Miller, and Petie Marten for making quilts for our graduates.



Kole Herman

Parents: Larry & Pam Herman

Graduating from: Spencer

What are your plans after high school?

NTC for Culinary Arts

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

Helping with VBS

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

Learning about God through everyday activities.

You can find God in the smallest thing.

Leah Cook

Parent: Lori Cook

Graduating from: Spencer

What are your plans after high school?

Entering the workforce. Working full-time at Menards until I decide what I want to go to school for.

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

Had fun at one of the lock ins.

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

Helped me feel more thankful and how to cope with stress better.



Jaci Cook

Parent: Lori Cook

Graduating from: Spencer

What are your plans after high school?

I am going to NTC in Wausau to study to become a Veterinary Technician.

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

I had fun at one of the Lock Ins. It was fun playing games and hanging out with friends. I also had fun playing GaGa Ball.

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

I learned how to keep a Thankful Journal that I will continue to make entries in.

Paige Klement

Parents: Jesse & Jim Klement

Graduating from: Colby

What are your plans after high school?

Personal training & nutrition.

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

Going on Mission Trips, all of the car rides there and back.

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

They helped me make friendships that I never would have had.



FAITH FORMATION



Will Gorst

Parents: James & Becky Gorst

Graduating from: Spencer

What are your plans after high school?

I will be working for the family business & taking classes at NTC.

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

St. John's was there for us when we needed it most and I look forward to continuing my relationship with them.

Josie Tremelling

Parents: Amanda Gronski & Bryan Tremelling

Graduating from: Marshfield

What are your plans after high school?

Medical Field—Pediatric Psychology

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

The VBS week and helping kids

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

St. John's helped me grow as a person. The members were always so kind to me.



Kaitlyn Schmidt

Parents: Amy & Matthew Schmidt

Graduating from: Marshfield

What are your plans after high school?

I am going to UW Stevens Point for actuary sciences.

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

I remember at a lock in with my friend and we said we would stay awake all night! I fell asleep during the movie!

The talks during and after Cross Training usually about current topics, and all the times we got way off topic during conversations.

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

It has helped me grow as a person and it has helped shape my morals as a human. As I leave for college I will remember these lessons and hopefully they help me make responsible decisions.

Treyton Ackman

Parents: Tracey & Doug Ackman

Graduating from: Spencer

What are your plans after high school?

I plan to enter the workforce.

Tell us about a memorable Cross Training or Sunday School experience.

Camp Luther

Tell us how St. John's helped your spiritual journey and how you plan to continue growing.

God helps me in the darkest of times. I know I can always count on him to bring me to the light.



Notes From Our Council

SPECIAL VOTE ON MAY 8: On May 8th following worship we will have our 2nd vote regarding leaving the ELCA and associating with LCMC. If the vote is in support of leaving the ELCA, we will vote on a new constitution. We will also discuss and POSSIBLY vote on whether to become a 3 point parish or contract services with Peace Lutheran Church in Edgar.

THREE POINT ASSOCIATION INFORMATION: Peace Lutheran Church in Edgar heard we are in the process of voting on leaving the ELCA and associating with LCMC. Their chairperson Jackie Asplund reached out to me because they are looking for a part time pastor. Hope Lutheran Church in Edgar is not interested in sharing ministry with them at this time. We met regarding becoming a 3 point parish or contraction pastoral services and our councils feel we can make this arrangement work to the satisfaction of all 3 congregations. Peace Lutheran is primarily interested in a Pastor for worship.

As Riplinger stated in their call packet, they are located in an area of little or no growth and much of the Riplinger population is retirement age or older, making growth in their congregation difficult. They are losing members due to death and poor health. They have between 10 and 18 members in worship on Sunday. It is probable they will be unable to financially support their congregation in the next few years. Throughout the last year, we have employed pastor on a three quarter time basis sharing payment with Riplinger.

Overall our income covers our expenses and the surplus is minimal. My concern is, we as a congregation alone are unable to cover the expense of a full time pastor. The 3 churches together would be more financially equipped to do so.

FYI: Pastor Tim Hinrich's from Grace Lutheran Church in Nasonville will officiate for funerals and weddings. Jenny will officiate baptisms. Please contact the church office and Amanda will share your information with Pastor Hinrich's.

CONVERSATIONAL MEETING: There will be a meeting following worship on May 1st in Spencer to answer any questions I am able to regarding this information. Otherwise, contact Pam Hardrath via email at tpkrh4@gmail.com or 715-507-0549.

If your family has a pastoral emergency, please contact Joan Bruss at 715-383-4112 or Rudy Nieman at 715-223-9579. They will connect with appropriate care for your situation.

Thank-you for your continued patience as we continue to create our future with God's help!

A Special Note

EAGLE PROJECT

From Kyler Hardrath: On June 18th starting at 8am, I am going to need some volunteers to help me with my Eagle Project here at church. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board. I am going to landscape the southeast corner of the building by the kitchen where all of the air conditioners and pipes are. It is a pretty hard area to mow. I will need some people to help remove sod, remove rocks and sift rock, level rock, remove sod around stationary objects, etc. I am also looking for 2 people to donate and operate a compact tractor. There are also some tools that I will need if you are able to donate them. Thank-you in advance for all of your help.

Building & Grounds

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED

Green grass is well on its way and we need volunteers to keep the lawn looking great this summer. If you would like to help mow the church lawn, please let Travis Hardrath know at 715-507-0548.





May BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Jasper Berres | 7 | Shelby Christopherson |
| | Karen Grieser | | Lori Cook |
| | James Schizik | | Douglas Mellenthin |
| | Teri Schorer | | Mike Schuette |
| | Rainier Seefeld | 8 | David Cook |
| 2 | Carissa Miller | 9 | Shawn Ottum |
| 3 | Travis Hardrath | 10 | Ema Schultz |
| | Darlene Shupe | 11 | Marnay Schultz |
| 4 | Jaci Cook | 16 | Blake Engevold |
| | Leah Cook | 17 | Bryce Griepentrog |
| | Terry Gallion | | Selena Mertins |
| | Brayden Sebold | 21 | Janice Neumann |
| | Harry Vogel | | Sharon Hamus |
| 5 | Bryce Fleischman | 22 | Dawn Reckner |
| | Bob Helsten | 23 | Mogan Schjoneman |
| | Tanya Kilty | | Ronald Stelson |
| | Karla Kilty | 24 | Jeremy Oelrich |
| 6 | Kaleb Herman | 26 | Sally Rakovec |
| | | 27 | Gayle Dommer |
| | | | Steve Gaetz |
| | | | Sasha Otero |
| | | 29 | Trish Porter |
| | | 30 | Brianna Michlig |
| | | 31 | Sherry Schmutzler |



May ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Adam & Tanya Manicke | 12 years |
| 3 | Travis & Carri Weiler | 14 years |
| 7 | Paul & Bridget Christopherson | 34 years |
| 10 | Jim & Elsie Schmutzler | 25 years |
| | Chad & Jackie Soback | 19 years |
| 13 | Matthew & Candi Mertins | 16 years |
| | Travis & Pam Hardrath | 16 years |
| 18 | Dean & Nadine Willett | 37 years |
| 20 | David & Brenda Newman | 44 years |
| 26 | Kurt & Rachel Blanchard | |
| | Mike & Tammie Leman | 38 years |

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



Remember these lost loved ones

RoseAnn Husby
Roger Kilty
Wilbur Buse
April 19

Easter Lily Donations

- * Helsten Children - In honor of Robert and Audrey Helsten and in memory of all loved ones
- * Gwen & Ron Schmidt - In memory of Walter & Alvera Klein & In honor of their 12 grand children
- * Kris Ovans—In celebration of blessings received



Those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities:

Cyndi Ackerman, Dick Berger, Kathy Dietsche, Barb Dommer, Corrine Kettleborough, Roger Kilty, Grace Maines, Jean Mellenthin, Pat Miller, Dorothy Neuman, Dar Ponschok, Phyllis Premau, LaVilla Schilling, Elsie Schmutzler.

Those with ongoing health concerns: Jan Lois Block, 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, Rich Wilke, Lenore Williams.

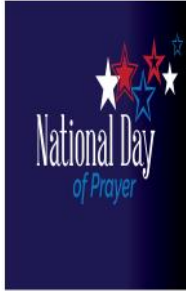

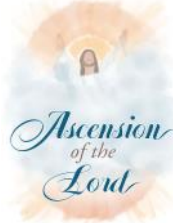

Those with cancer: Judi Andrew, Linda Bauer, Brenda Gardner, Sue Johnson, Mark Kilty, Parker Klimmer, Dennis Krause, Jeff Miller, Michelle Oelke, Kathy Pieper, Tom Steiner, Barb Wachsmuth, Francis Wash, Emily Weiler, Mark Zimmerman.

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.



MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship at Spencer 10:00 AM Conversational Meeting 10:00 AM Crossing the Bridge into Middle School 10:00 AM Grubbies Day 10:00 AM JAM 11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger	2	3	4 9:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Cross Training 6:30 PM LIVE	5 	6	7
8 9:00 AM Worship at Spencer 10:00 AM ELCA Vote 10:00 AM JAM 11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger w/Weiler Baptism 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack Meeting 	9	10 6:30 PM Spencer Council	11 9:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM End of Year Party for Cross Training 7:45 PM Cross the Bridge into High School	12	13	14
15 9:00 AM Worship at Spencer w/High School graduate recognition 11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger	16	17	18 9:00 AM Bible Study	19 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack mtg	20	21
22 9:00 AM Worship at Spencer 11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack Meeting	23	24 5:00 PM COME (Community Outreach Meal for Everyone)	25 9:00 AM Bible Study	26 	27	28
29 9:00 AM Worship at Spencer 11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger	30 OFFICE CLOSED  HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY <i>Remember and Honor...</i>	31	1 9:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Wednesday Summer Fun Night	2	3	4

May Spencer Serving Schedule

	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
Message	Joan Bruss	Pastor Bill	Rudy Nieman	Jenni Nieman	Gail Jicinsky
Assisting Minister	Penni Cloud	Pastor Bill	Penni Cloud	Cindy Weiler	Allen Jicinsky
Technology	Kyler Hardrath	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman	Savana Weyer	Leah Nieman
Sound	Ryan Hardrath	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman	Lydia Nieman	Leah Nieman
Reader	Mary Seefeld	Allen Jicinsky	Bill Martens	Gail Jicinsky	Jim Christopherson
Hospitality	Pam Hardrath	Gail Jicinsky	Heather Vogel	Teri Schorer	Lori Cook

Riplinger News

Attendance		January Readers	
March 2	11	May 1	David Newman
March 6	12	May 8	Joan Miller
March 13	13	May 15	Sherry Schmutzler
March 20	16	May 22	Brenda Newman
March 27	14	May 29	Trish Porter

Spencer Worship Attendance

	Soup	Worship
March 23	52	54
March 27		71
March 30	Cancelled	
April 3		73
April 6	27	70
April 10		86
April 15 (Good Friday)		45
April 17 (Easter)		144
April 24 (Confirmation)		199

Riplinger St. John's WELCA

WELCA met on April 6th for our final meeting under the ELCA Synod. Joan Miller called meeting to order with the reading of secretary and treasurer reports. On a motion, and second, our treasury money will go into the general church budget. In regard to the sending of greeting cards to our shut ins, it will be discontinued as we are no longer a WELCA group. Our thanks go out to all who in any way helped support us at all times. We were so blessed as we remembered the many fall turkey dinners, the pot lucks, soup dinners and the serving of funeral lunch's for our dearly departed, and the spiritual occasions such as our Christmas parties.

Again our thanks to all and special thanks to God, we left with the sure knowledge of his helping hand.

SCRIP

Start Scripping Today!

Consider purchasing gift cards from our scrip program for all of your holiday needs! Families can now 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. Kwik Trip cards are for sale in the office Monday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm. If you would like to purchase them on Sunday before or after worship, please let Pam Hardrath know. You can use the gift cards to purchase fuel at the pump. All other gift cards are available for purchase using the order form in the brochure rack and then placing it in Travis and Pam Hardrath's mailbox. \$100 was donated to Kathryn Green who experienced loss due to a house fire. If you know of a family in need, please let Pam Hardrath know.



Treasurer's Report: March 2022

Treasurer's Report For General Operating Fund

INCOME	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Tithes & Offerings	\$4,267.68	\$12,089.12	\$75,000.00
Non-tithe General Fund	\$5,317.00	\$16,303.00	\$45,000.00
Riplinger Reimbursement Shared Exp.	\$473.35	\$1,709.25	\$8,000.00
Building Use	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$500.00
Total Income	\$10,058.03	\$30,126.37	\$128,500.00

EXPENSES

<i>Supporting the Wider Mission</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Tithe (10% to NW Synod/ELCA)	\$0.00	\$1,160.00	\$7,500.00
Total	\$0.00	\$1,160.00	\$7,500.00

<i>Worship</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Copyrights	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$700.00
Community Worship Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Instrument Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Worship Supplies	-\$139.71	\$56.29	\$1,500.00
Pulpit Supply	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Music/Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Total	-\$139.71	\$356.29	\$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	\$63.73	-\$21.27	\$1,000.00
Middle School (shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
High School (shared)	\$26.98	\$42.60	\$1,000.00
Adult Faith Formation	\$38.30	\$52.54	\$300.00
Library Resources	\$6.49	\$6.49	\$200.00
Right Now Media	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,320.00
Total	\$135.50	\$80.36	\$5,120.00

<i>Fellowship & Care</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	\$0.00	\$145.09	\$500.00
Care Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total	\$0.00	\$145.09	\$600.00

<i>Office</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Office Supplies (shared)	\$101.12	\$444.11	\$600.00
Telephone & Internet (shared)	\$122.97	\$368.91	\$1,475.00
Postage (shared)	\$0.00	\$91.38	\$1,000.00
Copier Maintenance (shared)	\$196.00	\$484.45	\$1,100.00
Subscriptions, Software (shared)	\$44.94	\$214.74	\$2,100.00
Total	\$465.03	\$1,603.59	\$6,275.00

Treasurer's Report: March 2022

<i>Technology - all areas</i>	\$0.00	\$35.00	
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	\$93.51	\$286.13	\$1,200.00
Insurance & Workman's Compensation	\$966.30	\$1,634.54	\$4,500.00
Milage Reimbursement (shared)	\$108.23	\$266.97	\$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	\$1,168.04	\$2,222.64	\$6,900.00

<i>Building & Grounds</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Electricity	\$283.90	\$909.22	\$4,000.00
Natural Gas	\$383.31	\$1,316.84	\$1,500.00
Holding Tanks	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$1,000.00
Waste Disposal	\$99.00	\$297.00	\$1,125.00
Cleaning	\$135.59	\$135.59	\$1,000.00
Repairs & General Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$520.00	\$2,565.00	\$2,000.00
Lawn Mowing - Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Cemetery Assoc. Lawn Care	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total	\$1,586.80	\$5,388.65	\$13,125.00

<i>Staff</i>	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Balance
Pastor Compensation	\$2,069.38	\$6,208.14	\$24,840.00
Housing Allowance	\$700.00	\$2,100.00	\$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	\$2,932.20	\$14,303.00
Social Security Allowance	\$211.86	\$635.58	\$2,542.00
Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor Shared)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
FICA	\$135.96	\$424.94	\$2,885.00
Organist Payroll	\$174.00	\$739.50	\$2,600.00
Treasurer Payroll	\$150.00	\$450.00	\$1,800.00
Secretary Payroll (Shared)	\$994.00	\$2,996.00	\$15,600.00
Staff Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	\$459.00	\$1,368.50	\$17,680.00
Total	\$5,871.60	\$17,854.86	\$92,650.00
Total Expenses	\$9,087.26	\$28,811.48	\$137,470.00
Difference	\$970.77	\$1,314.89	-\$8,970.00

March Spencer Council Minutes

St. John's Lutheran Church Leadership Minutes for March 8, 2022

Attending: Pastor Lowell Bolstad, Chair-Pam Hardrath, Vice Chair: Rudy Nieman, Minister of Faith Formation-Jenny Nieman, Worship Director: Bruce Luepke, Buildings and Grounds Director: Travis Hardrath, Congregation Care Director: Joan Bruss, Food, Fellowship and Fun Director: Heather Vogel

Missing: Secretary: Cindy Weiler, Beyond Our Doors Director: vacant

Meeting minutes approved April 12, 2022.

Call to order at 6:30pm by Chair Pam Hardrath

Opening devotion and prayer was led by Pastor Bolstad

New Business:

- Heather is organizing a team to plan Member Appreciation in April
- Clint Gosse looked over the soundboard system. It was discovered there is a power issue with the amp that we believe is causing glitches during worship. Council approved purchasing a new amplifier from Sound Works in Stevens Point for \$549.
- Goal setting for 2022: Building a strong foundation in Christ within our congregation. Developing vertical faith formation, a direct and personal relationship with God. One example of building this is engaging, dynamic sermons that apply God's word to our lives today. Encouraging horizontal faith, through fellowship and unity during this time of continued transition.
- The lock on the safe is being replaced. It is catching and we only have 1 key.

Old Business:

- Discussion regarding becoming a 3 point parish with Riplinger and Peace Lutheran Church in Edgar if the LCMC vote is approved. Pros and cons were discussed and council decided to continue the conversation,

REPORTS:

Pastor's Report (Pastor Bolstad)

Pastoral Ministry

Worship and Preaching – Administration – Faith Formation – Visitation – Wider Church

Secretary (Cindy Weiler)

Minutes from the February 8 meeting were approved.

Attached (Need a motion to accept minutes)

Treasurer (Teri Schorer)

Receipts \$8,675.27 Disbursements \$9279.41 End Balance \$-604.14

Jenny Nieman will be paid monthly.

Minister of Faith Formation (Jenny Nieman)

Jesus And Me

- Teachers are contacting families to encourage them to bring their kids to JAM, sending postcards to those who they haven't seen in a week or two.

Meltdown Weekend at Bible Camp

- 6 youth attended a weekend at Forest Springs, Westboro for winter activities and winter Bible camp experience. They all loved it and want to go back to a summer camp experience.
- As of February 26, I've been contacted by a few families that were working on getting their youth signed up for Bible Camp. Camps are filling fast so I've encouraged families to sign up fast, or look at other camps to send their kids to.

Butter Braid Fundraiser

- Middle schoolers sold 383 Butter Braids. Approximate profit is \$2000 to go to the Bible Camp Scholarship Fund.

Cross Training

- Weekly led large group
- Preparing small group leader guides for the Lent theme.
- Organized the Butter Braid fundraiser; delivery will be March 18.

March Spencer Council Minutes

LIVE

- The high school group is using The Ten Commandments series as we are using in worship, along with the same small group materials as Cross Training.
- Meeting almost weekly with high schoolers wishing to affirm their baptisms. Affirmation of Baptism Sunday will be April 24.
- Quilts for 8 graduates are in the hands of the quilters, with a few completed and returned already. We'll celebrate with this year's graduates in May.

2022 Mission Trip

- Basket Raffle started Mar 2.
- The rummage sale will be April 21-22

Worship (Bruce Luepke)

- Worship attendance: January average: 58 February average: 60
Feb. 6: 67 Feb. 13: 46 Feb. 20: 67 Feb. 27: 58

1. Looking for readers for Palm Sunday Service
2. We will be hosting Good Friday Service and Riplinger will do Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30
3. Easter lilies will be coming from Spencer FFA and Remembrance forms are going to be available
4. We will have one service on Easter at 9:00
5. March 21 at 6:30 there will be a meeting for people interested in leading worship services after Pastor Bolstad leaves. His last day is April 24.

Building and Grounds (Travis Hardrath)

- The lock on the safe needs to be replaced. We only have 1 key.
- Grubbies Day will be May 1.
- Seeking lawn mowing volunteers

Food, Fellowship and Fun (Heather Vogel)

- Lent soup suppers started off with good attendance. Ash Wednesday served 65 people for dinner and 88 in church.
 - Tracey Ackman has offered to be at church @ 4:30 to prep everything. She also helped me set up the sign up genius.
 - Holly Weyer is baking bread
 - Bob and Audrey Helsten donated cheese for all meals
 - We had many delicious donations of soup and desserts
- Helped fulfill food and volunteer needs for Amanda Gronski's brother's funeral

Congregational Care (Joan Bruss)

- Discussed new member classes.

Beyond Our Doors (vacant)

- Pam has completed the required food management class. The kitchen is fully licensed again.

Vice Chair (Rudy Nieman)

- Rudy will act as the Beyond our Doors Director.

Chair (Pam Hardrath)

Next Meeting: April 12 at 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn Heather Vogel, Joan Bruss

Closed with Lord's Prayer

