

Connect July 2021

Services of Worship

- Spencer in-person 9am Sunday and Monday at 6:30pm
- Riplinger in-person 11am Sunday
- Facebook Live 9am Sunday or when it works for you after that time.
- Online @ www.stjohnsspencer.com/onlineworship

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.

Give thanks to God for the gift of independence on July 4-5

Combine your devotion to God with love of country by coming to a service of worship on Independence Day weekend. Take part in an Independence Day litany. We pray that God will give grateful hearts to all who enjoy freedom and lead us to exercise our freedoms with care, and that God will assist all who still seek liberty in this world!

Mission Trip Participants to Present Service of Worship at Spencer on July 18—Hear the story of the mission trip to Charleston, South Carolina the week before as participants relate their experience of living out the love of God in Jesus Christ by giving in service to people in another part of the country.

Christmas in July on the 25th—Christmas in July will be the theme for Vacation Bible School on Sunday, July 25 at 5-8pm and at the services of worship on July 25-26. Catch the spirit!

From the Pastor

Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”
Matthew 22:21b

As this nation prepares to celebrate Independence Day, this occasion provides an opportunity for people of faith to acknowledge a relationship to both temporal and spiritual authorities. One of the great liberties of this country is that of freedom of religion as provided in the Establishment Clause of the Constitution:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

People came to this country to practice freedoms of religion, assembly, and speech.

Recently the Gallup Poll found that for the first time less than half the people belong to a community of faith, so the support of the dominant culture to affirm religious freedom is waning.

The establishment clause is meant to limit the powers of government so that freedoms and liberties are preserved. Government is given as a gift by the creator to protect the common good and is not to exceed its authority.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with uncertain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

These freedoms cannot be taken for granted. Benjamin Franklin stated, “Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Lowell Bolstad

Armed Services Prayer Book - Living Lutheran

A prayer book designed specifically for military personnel, their families, veterans and chaplains was an unmet need until recently.

The first of its kind since World War II, the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Prayer Book for the Armed Services was developed with the contributions and review of chaplains and other service members. This durable, pocket-sized companion from Augsburg Fortress is ideal for those in the military, family and friends of those in active service, veterans, as well as pastors and congregations of those who serve.

“In our office, we get at least one call per week asking, ‘What can we do to support our troops?’ Individuals and congregations who send copies of the prayer book for our chaplains to pass on to others help sustain faith in Christ for those serving in uniform,” offers Eric Wester, ELCA pastor and assistant to the presiding bishop of the ELCA and director, Federal Chaplaincies, Washington, D.C.

The features of this special prayer book include:

- Morning and evening prayer for individual use
- Prayers for many service-related contexts, including preparation for missions, confronting crises, grieving fallen companions, life circumstances during deployment, and more
- Corporate worship services with resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and the ELCA’s full-communion partner churches
- Affirmation of baptism for returning veterans
- Prayers for congregations whose pastors serve as chaplains or whose members are deployed
- Twenty-six psalms for a variety of circumstances
- The words to 65 hymns and songs, including an expanded section of national songs

Ordering and shipping is easy. If you have the APO/FPO address, Augsburg Fortress can send the order to wherever a service person is stationed, even internationally. Find out more on Augsburg’s website or by calling 800-328-4648.

Congregations and individuals can also send financial gifts to the ELCA Bureau for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries for the purchase of prayer books.

Gift prayer books are purchased by the bureau and shipped according to the donors’ wishes or sent to chaplains in deployed settings, military medical facilities and pre-deployment sites as troops head “out the door” and “down range.” The prayer books are also sent to basic training and “boot camp” sites for new recruits. Each prayer book retails for \$8.00. Checks for gift prayer books can be sent to Prayer Books, Bureau for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries, 305 E. Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20001.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2013/12/armed-services-prayer-book/>

Bishops Reflect on Military Chaplaincy—Living Lutheran

This year, for the first time in the church’s history, the ELCA installed two synod bishops who are serving as reserve military chaplains. Michael Lozano is bishop of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and a chaplain in the Army Reserve, and Bill Tesch is bishop of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod and a chaplain in the Air Force Reserve. *Living Lutheran* asked the bishops about their experiences as military chaplains and how congregations can care for service members and veterans.

In what ways do you believe ELCA pastors and congregations are uniquely equipped to serve U.S. service members?

Lozano: ELCA pastors bring a theology of grace. A theology of law and gospel. An understanding of how God works both through the church and through governing authorities to make God’s reign known. Our broad ecumenical relations also act as a bridge for many faith groups to work with and through ELCA chaplains in a military setting. Our commitment to experiential pastoral care, preaching and management within a parish enhances and qualifies ELCA pastors to be military chaplains.

Tesch: Our expression of the gospel with our theological insight around two kingdoms—two ways God works in and through us—and our understanding of accompaniment makes us uniquely qualified to be able to serve with excellence in the diverse military context. We are one of the few members of the chaplain corps who can truly serve everyone. Commanders love us because we don’t pick and choose who is worthy of our service.

We just love the neighbor God places in front of us.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2019/11/bishops-reflect-on-military-chaplaincy/>

Treasurer's Report: May 2021

St. John's Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report: May 2021

INCOME

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Tithes & Offerings	\$9,938.65	\$48,622.47	\$148,000.00
Riplinger Reimbursement Shared Exp.	\$798.46	\$2,117.28	\$8,000.00
Building Use	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$10,737.11	\$50,739.75	\$157,000.00

EXPENSES

1. Supporting the Wider Mission

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Tithe (10% to NW Synod/ELCA)	\$983.00	\$5,197.00	\$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	\$0.00	\$100.00
	\$983.00	\$5,197.00	\$15,600.00

2. Preparing For and Conducting Worship

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Copyrights	\$0.00	\$631.00	\$700.00
Community Worship Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Pulpit Supply	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Instrument Repair	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$58.99	\$377.93	\$2,500.00
Music/Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Organist Payroll	\$261.00	\$783.00	\$2,600.00
Pastor Compensation*	\$1,991.32	\$9,956.60	\$25,645.00
	\$2,411.31	\$11,848.53	\$35,295.00

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	-\$20.00	-\$35.23	\$3,000.00
Middle School (shared)	\$0.00	-\$60.00	\$1,000.00
High School (shared)	-\$30.00	\$226.71	\$2,300.00
Adult Faith Formation	\$38.30	\$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	\$4,978.30	\$12,820.00
Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	\$960.50	\$4,131.00	\$17,680.00
	\$1,944.46	\$10,792.04	\$39,200.00

4. Caring For Our Church Family

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Care Resources	\$14.24	\$14.24	\$150.00
Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	\$0.00	\$431.78	\$500.00
Office Supplies (shared)	\$120.91	\$331.30	\$600.00
Telephone & Internet (shared)	\$147.55	\$685.72	\$1,500.00
Postage (shared)	\$18.00	\$455.60	\$1,000.00
Copier Maintenance (shared)	\$0.00	\$189.74	\$1,100.00
Subscriptions, Software (shared)	\$284.00	\$1,453.69	\$2,100.00
Technology - all areas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	\$110.14	\$560.81	\$1,500.00
Leadership Study Materials	\$0.00	\$71.60	\$100.00
Pastor Compensation*	\$995.66	\$4,978.30	\$12,820.00
Secretary Payroll (Shared)	\$973.00	\$3,453.50	\$15,600.00
	\$2,663.50	\$12,626.28	\$38,420.00

5. Reaching Out to Serve Our Community

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Kitchen License/COME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mission project expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00

6. Equipping and Maintaining Our Platform for Mission

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Electricity	\$297.02	\$1,605.81	\$4,500.00
Natural Gas	\$149.82	\$1,261.15	\$2,000.00
Holding Tanks	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$1,000.00
Waste Disposal	\$374.46	\$648.36	\$1,100.00
Cleaning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Supplies & Gen Maint	\$556.11	\$1,616.24	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$909.00	\$2,000.00
Lawn Mowing - church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Cemetery Assoc Lawn Care	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Staff Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Insurance & Workman's Comp	\$551.62	\$2,104.16	\$4,500.00
Mileage - Pastor (shared)	\$44.80	\$272.72	\$1,200.00
FICA (7.65% staff payroll)	\$179.35	\$697.51	\$2,885.00
Treasurer Payroll	\$150.00	\$750.00	\$1,800.00
	\$2,303.18	\$10,164.95	\$27,685.00
Total Expenses	\$10,305.45	\$50,628.80	\$157,000.00
Difference	\$431.66	\$110.95	\$0.00

Pastor Expense Breakout*	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Paid by Riplinger Annual Budget
Pastor Compensation (Spencer)	\$2,069.38	\$10,346.90	\$24,840.00	\$10,643.00
Housing Allowance (Spencer)	\$700.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,400.00	\$3,600.00
Social Security Allowance (Spencer)	\$211.86	\$1,059.30	\$2,542.00	\$1,090.00
Health Insurance & Pension (Spencer)	\$1,001.40	\$5,007.00	\$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	\$19,913.20	\$51,285.00	

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

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

	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers	End Balance
General Fund (Checking Account)	\$15,427.75	\$10,737.11	\$10,305.45	\$0.00	\$15,859.41
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	\$552.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$572.00
Bible Camp Scholarships	\$4,016.27	\$462.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,478.27
Mission Trip Balance	\$5,215.03	\$539.50	\$1,722.25	\$0.00	\$4,032.28
Kitchen Equipment Balance	\$24.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.00
COME Balance	\$3,109.23	\$0.00	\$223.54	\$0.00	\$2,885.69
Seminary Balance	\$554.99	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$659.99
Memorial Gifts Balance	\$1,795.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,795.41
Building Fund	\$22,940.44	\$1,674.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$24,634.44
Checking Account Balance					\$55,674.83
Thrivent Choice (Savings Acct)	\$5,483.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,483.34
Sabbatical Fund (Forward Bank)	\$980.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$980.42
Total	\$60,832.22	\$13,537.61	\$12,251.24	\$0.00	\$62,138.59

May Spencer Council Minutes

St. John's Lutheran Church Leadership Minutes for May 11, 2021 (Approved)

Attending: Pastor Lowell Bolstad, Chair – Pam Hardrath; Vice Chair – Nick Wash; Secretary – Nadine Willett; Treasurer – Roxie Wetterau; Worship Director – Luanne Schwarze; Minister of Faith Formation – Jenny Nieman; Beyond Our Doors Director – Position vacant; Congregation Care Director – Teri Schorer; Buildings & Grounds Director – Travis Hardrath

Missing: Food, Fellowship & Fun Director – Heather Vogel

Call to order: At 6:33 PM by Chair Pam Hardrath

Opening prayer and devotion was led by Pastor Bolstad.

As a part of the devotion, connections and cooperation were highlighted. Discussion was shared about partners provided by God as well as relationships a congregation shares beyond itself.

New Business:

- Correction to April minutes: Update needed to record that Bob Helsten is on the cemetery committee.
- Request and motion to fund work to support and straighten the parking lot light poles was approved.
 - Travis, Allen, and other members will do the work with supplies to fill, straighten, and lift all six light poles with supplies anticipated to cost about \$1,000.
- Clarification on request, approval, budget, and payment process from Roxie, St. John's Treasurer:
 - "Many of the expenses are fixed and/or automatic renewals and debits. The point of the budget is so that directors can operate within their ministry areas and make necessary purchases. It would not make sense to inform someone every time there is a need to purchase something that is covered in their budget, for example: lightbulbs, envelopes, communion cups, etc. If anyone is unsure of what is or is not included in the budget, then please ask. The operating budget is the general fund. Expenditures from the savings account (Thrivent) must be approved by council, such as unexpected expenses, special events, or items not covered in general operations. As stated in the constitution, anything over \$5000 needs congregation approval."
 - Additional point: "The council did an excellent job in cutting expenses last year; however, there is concern that tithes/offerings have also decreased in comparison to this time last year."

Old Business:

- Email from Tim Ault regarding memorial for Pastor David Ault: Based on previous discussion, the council recommends the memorial gift be applied to landscaping at the cemetery near the flagpole along with a plaque commemorating the pastoral service from 1969 to 1999 for Pastor Ault. Pam and Teri will

seek clarification on the funds sharing between Spencer and Riplinger congregations for cemetery memorials.

- Call Committee: The committee is meeting with Pastor Randy Olson from the synod on May 18th. From there more information regarding candidate availability will be determined and shared.
- Building Use Policy: Teri is working on the updates to the building use policy. She will provide a draft within the next couple of weeks that will have one policy document with columns for member and non-member building use fees and information. Also, a helpful checklist will be prepared for guiding the cleaning and closure processes; this will include a signature area.
- Worship Service on a Weeknight: The congregational needs and resources for a weeknight worship were discussed. MSA to start a Monday evening worship on June 7 at 6:30 PM. This will be iWorship music. The families of Pam and Travis Hardrath and Danielle and Keith Schmidt will take the lead on organizing worship serving for these worships.
- April In-person Worship Attendance and Review:
 - Easter April 4 @ 7 AM: 22
 - Easter April 4 @ 9 AM: 60
 - April 11: 67
 - April 18: 78
 - April 25: 52
- Review of first two Sunday evening in-person worship services at 6:30 PM (CDC guidelines with masks required):
 - May 2: 18
 - May 9: 13
 - Also, the point was made that there will be worship on Monday, May 30 at 6:30 (Memorial Day).
- Operation Christmas Child: It had been raised for discussion at the April meeting about the possibility of getting involved with this program, but it was now decided to instead focus on the food drive with the Thanksgiving community worship and the Giving Tree. So we will not be taking on Operation Christmas Child at this time.

Secretary Report: Nadine Willett

- Minutes from council meeting on April 13, 2021 were reviewed and approved with corrections noted.

Treasurer Report: Roxie Wetterau

- April Report: Income of \$10,369.95 was reported with expenses of \$10,317.54 for a net difference of positive \$52.41 for the month. The General Fund balance is \$15,267.75. Report approved.

May Spencer Council Minutes

Pastor's Report: Pastor Lowell Bolstad

- Pastoral Ministry: Worship and preaching, administration, visitation, and wider church
- Within the transition dynamics progression, current focus is on:
 - Connections Cooperation: Who are the partners in mission God provides?
- Guidance is ongoing regarding the call process and worship service needs.

Minister of Faith Formation Report: Jenny Nieman

- JAM (Jesus and Me):
 - Meeting scheduled for May 19 for 5th Graders and parents as they transition to Cross Training in fall.
- Bible Camp Sunday is May 23
 - Additional funds from St. John's Bible Camp Scholarship will be made available to those who register for camp.
- Cross training (6th to 8th Grade students):
 - End of year party is scheduled for May 12.
 - Wednesday summer fun nights: Begin June 2 at 6:30 PM. Two Wednesday in summer were there will NOT be fun nights scheduled are July 14 and August 11.
 - Transition-to-LIVE in fall: Planning meeting for 8th graders and parents on May 12.
- LIVE (9th to 12th Grade students):
 - End of year party is scheduled for May 12.
 - Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 16.
- 2021 Mission trip: The trip to Charleston, South Carolina is planned for July 11-16.
 - Clark pizza fundraiser sale: Completed.
 - Rummage Sale: \$1,280.60 raised.
- Community Prom on May 8:
 - Helpful and generous community support was provided for equipment, supplies, and time.
 - Attendees from various area schools: 46 students; 14 adult chaperones.

Worship Report: Luanne Schwarze

- Organ repair possibilities are still uncertain. Piano tuning scheduled.
- Spencerama community worship: This is scheduled for 8:30 AM on Sunday, June 13th. Teri Schorer and Nadine Willett are helping with coordination. Breaking Chains will lead the community worship as well as the praise music. Others on the worship team volunteered to help serve and more details will be planned. Donations will go to the King's Pantry. Bruce and Janine will lead the welcome, ushering, and offering coordination. Printed information will be shared at the community worship about God's Word as well as information about local church families. We

hope to record the community worship with teamwork between St. John's and Spencer United Methodist to accomplish this with the intent to share this online later in the day on Sunday, June 13th.

- Weeknight worship in summer: Serving resources and needs of the congregation were discussed. More follow-up at council meeting.
- Live stream possibilities in the future: Once we have transitioned to a hopefully fast and stable internet connection with Spectrum, there is the possibility of live streaming worship. It is recommended that a team be formed to consider and plan for this ministry opportunity. Worship budget for 2021 includes a video camera and supporting software purchase.

Buildings and Grounds Report: Travis Hardrath

- Roof repair is scheduled.
- Change to Express Disposal will result in a monthly savings of about \$90.
- Work and supplies for alignment of light poles is approved as noted in new business.
- Kitchen sink is lowered to a good position.
- Thanks and appreciation to the twenty-four people who participated in Grubby's Day work.

Food, Fellowship, and Fun Report: Heather Vogel

- No news this month.

Congregational Care Report: Teri Schorer

- Building Use Policy: Updates are in progress as noted in old business.

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

- Vice Chair Report: Nick Wash
Sunday evening worship going well for the first two weeks of this service.

Chairperson Report: Pam Hardrath

- Updates are included in above discussion points.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Council gathering time closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

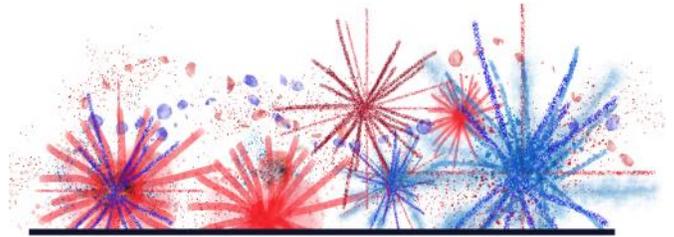
Respectfully submitted by Nadine Willett, Council Secretary



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Glenda Fellenz | 13 Dennis Kopp |
| 2 Heidi Shupe | Adam Miller |
| 3 Carter Griepentrog | Emily Weiler |
| 4 Marilyn Bruger | 14 Gary Grieser |
| Luanne Schwarze | Josh Reynolds |
| 5 Pam Hardrath | Jenny Reynolds |
| Reed Mueller | Carol Sandley |
| 6 William Clater | Bob Burns |
| Clark Reynolds | 15 Will Gorst |
| Sharon Schizik | 16 Nancy Halverson |
| Jackie Soback | 20 Wayne Hendrickson Jr. |
| 7 Kinsley Kalepp | 23 Iva Schuette |
| 8 Dawn Bruss | 24 Tom Dommer |
| 9 Joan Bruss | 25 Aidan Griepentrog |
| Jenny Nieman | Trenton Weiler |
| Natalie Seefeld | Joyce Block |
| 10 Kyler Delis | 26 Jody Scidmore |
| 11 Cailee Clements | 28 Edward Bruger Jr. |
| Cheryl Gallion | Brady Kalepp |
| Velma Hera | 29 Jenna Zahn |
| 12 Danielle Soback | 30 Judi Andrew |
| Jeremy Vogel | Morgan Elsinger |
| | 31 Mindy Burns |

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



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| 2 Harold & MaryAnn Boyer | 27 years |
| Tom & Linda Brehm | 49 years |
| 9 Tim & Amanda Gronski | 11 years |
| 11 Kaleb & Alicia Herman | 1 years |
| 12 Scott & Heidi Shupe | 18 years |
| 13 Joe & Betty Muehlbauer | 34 years |
| 19 Michael & Susan Howe | 25 years |



- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| Kaylyn Kohl | March 24 |
| Mogan Schjoneman | April 11 |
| Jemma Jacobson | April 18 |
| Wyatt Bauer | June 6 |
| Reagan Reynolds | June 20 |



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

Cyndi Ackerman, Alice Brandt, Roger Kilty, Grace Maines, Linda Marchinek, Jean Mellenthin, Pat Miller, Dorothy Neuman, Phyllis Premau, LaVilla Schilling, Earl Schizik, Dianne Vaughn.

Those with ongoing health concerns:

Lois Block, Dick Berger, Todd Frahm, 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.

Our All-Star Volunteers

	July 4	July 11	July 18	July 25
Greeter	Gary & Randi Thompson	Jan Ammons	Inez Fosberg	Teri Schorer
Technology	Teri Schorer	Tracey Ackman	Savana Weyer	Rachel Nieman
Sounds	Teri Schorer	Lydia Nieman	Leah Nieman	Rachel Nieman
Ushers	Milt Viergutz	Jim Christopherson	Adryan Schmidt	Devyn Schmidt
	Jan Ammons	Rudy Nieman	Bill Martens	Bob Helsten
Communion Assistant	NEEDED	Teri Schorer	Inez Fosberg	Jenny Nieman
Reader	Teri Schorer	Jim Christopherson	Glenda Fellenz	Bill Martens
Hospitality	Lori Cook	Heather Vogel	Teri Schorer	NEEDED

Riplinger News	
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Readers</u>
May 30 12	July 4 Joan Miller
June 6 13	July 11 Sherry Schmutzler
June 13 8	July 18 Brenda Newman
June 21 10	July 25 Trish Porter

Spencer Worship	
<u>Attendance</u>	
May 30	36
June 6	64
June 7	16
June 13	86
June 14	13
June 20	64
June 21	21

Lawn Mowing Schedule
July 4: Marsha 715-223-5166
July 11: Keith 715-937-2099
July 18: Harry 715-659-5380
July 25: Travis 715-507-0548




Scrip Cards are back!!!

For the summer, Scrip will be available in the office, Monday through Thursday 10am to 2pm, Mondays following worship (talk to Pam Hardrath), online using shop-withscrip.com and paper copy order forms can be found in the brochure rack and put in Pam Hardrath's mailbox. Checks 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).

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 5 PM Vacation Bible School	28 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	29	30 6:30 PM Cross Training Summer Fun Night	1	2	3
4 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	5 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	6	7 6:30 PM Cross Training Summer Fun Night	8	9	10
11 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	12 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	13 6:30 PM Spencer Council	14	15	16	17
18 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger	19 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	20 5:30 PM Worship Committee	21 6:30 PM Cross Training Summer Fun Night	22	23	24
25 9 AM Worship at Spencer 11 AM Worship at Riplinger 5 PM Vacation Bible School	26 1 PM Staff 6:30 PM Worship at Spencer	27 5 PM COME (Community Outreach Meal for Everyone)	28 6:30 PM Cross Training Summer Fun Night	29	30 Middle School Lock Out	31

Faith Formation

Spencerama Weekend Dunk Tank Saturday, June 12 Nathan Gronski, Rachel Nieman & Jenny Nieman sat in the Dunk Tank and raised \$50 for youth activities at St. John's.



Spencerama Parade—Sunday, June 13 fifteen people from St. John's walked with the St. John's "Fired Up for Jesus" parade float and handed out close to 300 VBS invitations and snacks. We had a blast walking and waving to all of the parade goers.

Summer Fun Nights—All 5th-8th graders and their friends are invited to come on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm for bonfires, games, and a short outdoor worship. Youth should bring a lawn chair, wear shoes to run/play games in and dress according to the weather. Two dates we will NOT have Summer Fun Nights- July 14 & August 11.

Small Group Leaders Needed—We have a large group of upcoming 6th graders, which means that we're looking for 2 adult male small group leaders and 2 adult female small group leaders. We want adults who are willing to spend time with middle schoolers and invest their time and faith in them sharing the love of Jesus with them weekly. Applications can be found on the bulletin board please contact Jenny with questions.

What you do and who you are matters!!!—Parents and grandparents did you know that you are the single greatest influence in their kids lives!!! Yes, there are plenty of other "things" that catch and hold your kids attention, but YOU are the consistent presence that ultimately influences them. Therefore, you are at great risk for identity theft- and that's good news! Your kids are watching your every move, listening to your every word, watching how you treat others etc. Your kids behavior and their faith starts with you! What type of model are you? Is your identity worth "stealing"? If we want to raise faith filled kids who love Jesus and have a relationship with Him, then we need to model for them a love for Jesus and show them how our relationship with Him matters to us in our every day life and what that looks like every day not just on a Sunday for worship.



RightNow Media-

Summer is here, are you in need of some quality content to fill some downtime you may have? Check out RightNow Media, this free app has thousands of videos for every age. A few video recommendations to get you started are: This is the Day by Tim Tebow; The Power of Jesus' Names by Tony Evans; Intentional Parenting by Doug Fields, Phil Vischer's Philippians: Where Does Joy Come From (for kids), Compass & Light: A series on Mental

Health by Silent Images; You can search by a topic that you're interested in and there is a special Kids Channel too, then you know your kids are watching safe material. Take a look at the RightNow Media resource on our website: http://www.stjohnsspencer.com/right_now_media_29.html and sign up for a free account. Once you have your account created, you can download the app to your favorite mobile device. If you have questions about RightNow Media contact Jenny at jennyfaith659@gmail.com.

Mission Trip July 10—Four high schoolers: Elisha Blanchard, Paige Klement, Lydia Nieman, Sam Soback and Jenny will leave for Charleston, South Carolina. The group will arrive back in Spencer on July 17. Please pray for safe travels and a spirit filled week for them. The group will lead worship on July 18 to share their experiences with everyone.

Faith Formation

One Fest in Chippewa Falls July 23-25 —

One Fest is a Christian music festival in Chippewa Falls at the end of July. Nationally known Christian artists such as: Rend Collective, Danny Gokey, I Am They, Micah Tyler, Jason Gray, Blanca, 7th Time Down, and more. Check out the event at: one-fest.com.



July 29, 5-8 pm—We're hosting Christmas in July VBS for kids age 3 years-5th grade. We are hoping that this one day event will be a fun event for all elementary kids to grow in their relationship with Jesus. Spread the word and invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

Registration forms are on the bulletin board at church or on our website: stjohnsspencer.com under the ministries, children tab. I have also added it to this page.

Volunteers are needed for each of the events. We'll need folks to help decorate, lead games, crafts, snacks, and Bible story stations.

Questions about the roles, contact Jenny jennyfaith659@gmail.com or Heather Vogel hrrhusby@hotmail.com

Middle School Lock Out July 30th—

What's a Lock Out? Simply it's the opposite of a Lock In. Middle school youth and a few adults will spend the night outdoors doing scavenger hunts, playing games, building relationships around a bonfire and during other activities. Who is a middle schooler? Kids leaving 5th -8th grade this school year. This is the first event for 5th graders to participate in as they enter middle school and one of the last events an 8th graders participates in as they move onto high school. Registration forms will be emailed, posted on the Cross Training Facebook page, posted on the bulletin board and handed out on Wednesday nights.

Summer Event Registration Form

Part 1– Parental Information

Mother (or other female adult)

Name: _____

Home/cell phone: _____

Home address: _____

Work phone (if applicable on Sundays in case of emergency): _____

Most used email address: _____

Father (or other male adult)

Name: _____

Home/cell phone: _____

Home address: _____

Work phone (if applicable on Sundays in case of emergency): _____

Most used email address: _____

Part 2– Emergency Contacts/Other authorized adults for pick up

Emergency Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Others authorized to be picking up your child(ren) if it will not be a parent: _____

Please list all children you are registering below:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Grade: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Grade: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Mail or scan/email this form to St. John's Lutheran Church-
Snail mail: St. John's Lutheran Church 210167 State Hwy 13
Spencer, WI 54479

Email: jennyfaith659@gmail.com

Suggested donation of \$5 per kid, per event.

Circle which date(s) you are registering kids for:

June 27

July 25

August 29

Join the fun this summer and take Flat Jesus with you! Summer is just around the corner, and we find ourselves in and out of church, so help us to stay connected during the summer months and share your adventures with us and with Jesus!

Remember that Jesus said, "I will be with you always." Sometimes it's hard to remember to look for him wherever we go. So, this summer, take Flat Jesus with you and look for where God is at work in the world, then, share that good news with all of us!

Simply take pictures of Flat Jesus throughout the whole summer while you are playing, adventuring, on vacation, or just hanging out at home!

Email your pictures to sjlcoffice@frontier.com, post them to our Facebook page ([St. John's Lutheran - Spencer, WI - Home | Facebook](#)) and/or bring them in to church to be posted on the Bulletin Board.

We can't wait to see your summer with Flat Jesus!!

