

Services of Worship

- Spencer 9am
- Riplinger 11am
- Spencer 6:30pm



connect

APRIL 2024

Spencer Congregation: Parish Office

210167 State Hwy 13
Spencer, WI 54479
715-659-5158
Email: sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

Riplinger Congregation:

W1776 2nd Avenue, Spencer

Website

www.stjohnsspencer.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/sjlcSpencer
www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer>

Pastor Jeff Siegel

Email: sjlcpastor13@gmail.com
Cell: 715-615-2458

Office Hours:

Mondays 9am to 1pm
Wednesdays 5 to 9pm
Also available by appointment

Minister of Faith Formation

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

Parish Secretary

Pam Hardrath
Wednesday 5:30 to 9 pm
sjlcoffice13@gmail.com
For immediate assistance, call or text
Pam at 715-507-0549

Deadlines

- Weekly email:
Tuesdays 9am
- Sunday announcements
Wednesday 5pm
- Monthly newsletter:
20th of each month



The Foundation Series will continue during 6:30pm worship on Sundays, April 7, 14, 21 at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, **it is required for youth wishing to Affirm their Baptism on April 28.** This series focuses on equipping everyone with usable faith to help us through this life, leading us faithfully to the kingdom where we can enjoy God forever.

Riplingers Quarterly Meeting
April 21, following worship



Serving Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Fruit Salad, Peas & Carrots, Assorted Bars
Please spread the word. This free community meal is open to everyone.

Join us to hear and see WHAT GOD IS DOING IN ESTONIA



Come and meet

Pastor Siimon Haamer

6:30pm
Tuesday, April 30th

St. John's Lutheran Church
210167 State Hwy 13
Spencer, WI

Learn more about the mission work of Tartu Academy of Theology, incredible development of Christian outreach center Home of Hope and the challenges they face due to war in Ukraine.

tatest.org

Pastor Siimon Haamer is the President of Tartu Academy of Theology and also a third generation lutheran pastor from Estonia.

Siimon is representing a family that has been sharing word of God for Estonian people already almost throughout a century. They have done so despite of persecution and hardships that they as Christians experienced under Soviet occupation during 50 years after WW 2. Because of the atheistic Soviet regime Christian continuity was cut in Estonia.

THEIR MISSION IS to tie these broken connections again and to proclaim word of God in Estonia, the country which is considered to be one of the most secular countries in the world.

The Spencer congregation will be supporting Siimon's mission in April. To learn more about his mission consider attending Siimon's presentation on April 30 at 6:30pm. Watch this video [here](#) that shares the background of their mission work and their current biggest challenge.

PASTOR JEFF'S CORNER

Readings

APRIL 7

Acts 4:32-35
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

APRIL 14

Acts 3:11-21
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36-49

APRIL 21

Acts 4:1-12
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

APRIL 28

Acts 8:26-40
1 John 4:1-11
John 15:1-8

Affirmation of Baptism
April 28, 9am & 11am
worship services. We will
be celebrating with high
school students who will
be affirming their faith. Be
sure to be in worship on
Sunday, April 28 to support
these young adults as their
proclaim and take
ownership of their faith.

Due to the numerous
activities occurring in the
building we are asking that
the first person to arrive
after it snows, please
shovel a few swipes in
front of the door and at
least one side of the
sidewalk by the bell tower.
Thank you for your
cooperation.

Hello Friends,

By the time you are reading this we will have celebrated the resurrection of Jesus on Easter and be on our way toward reflecting on the Ascension of our Lord, and then Pentecost.

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he was seated at the right hand of God, on the throne above. It is a reminder that he is still aware of, active in, and leading us through our struggles.

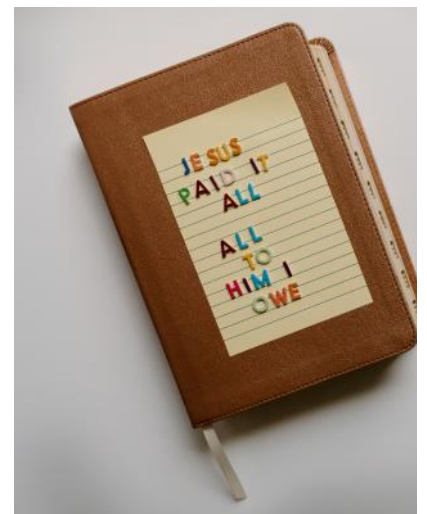
The Ascension of Jesus reminds us he came, not just to hang out with us, but to send us forth into all the world to offer his friendship to everyone. We do this as we reach out to those around us and support various kinds of mission work! His instructions to go forth came with the call to wait on the coming of the Holy Spirit. This was a reminder that they were not just forming another human organization with bylaws, but would be part of a living entity greater than any local gathering or organizational structure. It would be indwelt by the living God, the Holy Spirit!

As we approach Ascension, let us fix our eyes on the resurrected Jesus and the work he has called us to share in and to share in it together. And as we enter Pentecost, let us remind ourselves we are called to be more than another human organization, but a community of people living by and being led by the Holy Spirit in sharing the saving gospel of Jesus!

Please pray about this question "How can we be this kind of community in the coming year?"

Your servant,
Pastor Jeff

**PASTOR JEFF WILL BE AT A FUNERAL
IN PHOENIX, APRIL 1 TO 3. FOR
IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE, CONTACT
PAM AT 715-507-0549 OR
sjlcoffice13@gmail.com**



THANK YOU!



Thank you for another successful Lent soup supper. Thank you to everyone who provided soup, bars, bread, helped with set up or helped with clean up. Thank you Heather Vogel, Jenny Nieman, Jean Ngirwe, Gail Jicinsky, Kaitlin Radue and Joe Weix for providing us with thought provoking messages throughout and to the many people who served in worship. THANK YOU for all of your hard work and dedication.

LILLY CONTRIBUTIONS

The lily's decorating Spencer's altar for Easter were loving provided by:

- In loving memory of Kathy Kaiser by Keith & Danielle Schmidt, Josh Kaiser & Karrie Gilmore & families.
- In loving memory of Jean Marten; Leon Dommer; Eugene & Arlene Marten; Rose & Paul Ivacic by Petie & Jerry Marten.
- In loving memory of Emily; Dustin; & Michelle by Alan & Mary Seefeld.
- In loving memory of my loving husband, Gary; Gary's brother Ken; parents Elmer & Darlene Grieser; Karen's brother Jim; & Karen's parents Merlin & Milda Ramker by Karen Grieser & family.
- In loving memory of mom & granny by Michelle Krueger.
- In memory of & in honor of family & friends by Inez Fosberg.
- In memory of Darlene Jicinsky; & Edwin Borchardt by Allen & Gail Jicinsky.
- In memory of all my loved ones by Faye Lang.
- In memory of Joanne Kasper; Harold & Dorthaleen Hardrath; Lester & Irene Wunrow; Howard & Isabel Kohl; DuWayne & Linda Wunrow; Glen Hardrath; & Grace Wunrow by Travis Hardrath & family.

rightnow MEDIA

RightNow Media

Several years ago, St. John's tried out Right Now Media as a resource for Bible Studies, video messages, and materials to provide to families to help them in their faith journeys. This resource has proven itself to be invaluable! Each of you has online access to over 14,000 Bible Study videos several years ago for adults and tons of kid's videos and it's all available to you for FREE. If you haven't yet checked it out, please do so. There's a couple of ways for you to gain access to this resource: you can text Rightnow SJLCS to 41411, and you will automatically be prompted to create your FREE login; you can find the link to it on our website: www.stjohnsspencer.com/right-now-media; OR if you're on Facebook you will see some things highlighted. Take a look at the resources that Right Now Media provides and then let us know what you think. Feel free to share it with friends too!

YOUTH MINISTRY/MISSION TRIP

Questions: Please contact out Minister of Faith Formation Jenny Nieman jennyfaith659@gmail.com or 715-613-3636



JAM- May 5 will be the last Sunday for this school year. Keep an eye out for Vacation Bible School information coming soon.

First Communion Class for all ages

On April 11, 6:30 pm Pastor Jeff & Jenny Nieman will be offering a First Communion Class for ages 1st grade to adult. The intent of this class is to teach a variety of ages and learning stages about communion. In short, this class is for:

- Anyone 1st grade and older who **have not** been receiving communion
- Anyone 1st grade and older **who have** been receiving communion but would like to learn more or refresh their knowledge.

The class will be hands on, not just sitting and listening . Please contact [Pastor](#) or [Jenny](#) to let us know you or your family will be attending so we can plan for plenty of supplies by April 7.



Cross Training & LIVE

We're getting close to the end of the school year, the last Wednesday for this school year is May 15.



Butter Braid Sale Update

Middle schoolers sold 231 Butter Braids. Approximate profit is \$1501 to go to the Bible Camp Scholarship Fund. Thank you to everyone who sold and bought to help raise funds to send kids to Bible Camp.



2024 Mission Trip to Lincoln, IL, June 15 to 22. April 3 and May 1 at 8pm, are the next planning meetings.

Male Chaperone 26 years old or older. Needed for the 2024 Mission Trip June 16-22 to Lincoln, IL. Anyone interested in learning more or having questions contact Jenny.



Mission Trip Fundraisers Basket Raffle

The Basket Raffle drawing was March 31 following worship. Winners were contacted by phone. A full list of winners will be printed in the May newsletter. The Mission Trip participants Tahneya

Anderson, Nathan Gronski, Ryan Hardrath, Addison Knecht, Arianna Krueger, Rachel Nieman, and Jenny Nieman thank you and appreciate all of your help!

Rummage Sale

The Mission Trip participants will be holding the Rummage Sale this year on May 2 & 3. They would greatly appreciate donations of gently used items. Items can be placed in the trailer in the back of church beginning mid April. Reminder- we do not take large appliances, TVs or exercise equipment. If you have any questions about items you'd like to donate, please check with Jenny (715-613-3636) before you drop it off.

Volunteers Needed- if you would be willing to help the youth set up the sale beginning April 28 after 5 pm or run the rummage sale during the school day, please sign up on the bulletin board or find the online sign up on our website. Thank you in advance!

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM



Affirmation of Baptism

Affirmation of Baptism April 28 at 9am.

We will be celebrating with high school students who will be affirming their faith. Be sure to be in worship on Sunday, April 28 to support these young adults as they proclaim and take ownership of their faith. We'll have refreshments following worship to celebrate this special occasion.

What is the Affirmation of Baptism process?

Knowledge is important- but knowledge alone is not the essence of the Christian faith. A thorough process of teaching the faith will involve all the senses and more. Although classes and meetings conducted for the purpose of learning about the faith do have an important place, these are not the only ways in which faith is received. The life of faith must be communicated and learned in a variety of ways in diverse settings- through home and congregational life.

Young children often have an opportunity to grow gradually into an entire congregation that lives the Christian faith. The youngster who goes to Sunday school is also invited to take part in other dimensions of the church's life- worship, activities, and informal gatherings. Sometimes these activities take place only among others their own age, at other times they are part of a much larger group.

In families that participate regularly in congregational life, the family itself is frequently the most influential teacher of the faith. A youngster has the opportunity to learn each day from a parent or another significant adult what faithful living is about. Meal prayers, bedtime prayer, scripture reading, and the practice of religious customs and rituals communicate the faith through speaking, hearing, smelling, touching, tasting and seeing. The home provides the daily context through which the faith is experienced.

Growing up in the faith means coming into contact with a wide network of believers as children enter into the faith community. Here is an important parallel: what is accepted as a given for young children who enter the faith (i.e. the importance of family and congregational life) also needs to be provided for people who come into contact with the church at later points in life. Older youth and adults also need the many contacts the Christian parish provides as they enter into Christian community themselves.

Moving toward Affirmation of Baptism

The question asked of those wishing to affirm their baptism is: "Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?" "This question is asked of the group and it is expected that each youth is intending to keep these promises by living each of them out by coming to worship regularly, take communion, live out their faith in their lives Monday-Saturday, serve the communities they live and work in and concern themselves with peace and justice in their lives and communities.

Excerpt is from "*Welcome to Christ A Lutheran Catechetical Guide*"



FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Faithful Friends

INTRODUCING St. John's Faithful Friends!



Faithful Friends is a venue for the “seniors” in our congregation to build relationships, engage in serving one another, be involved in the life of St. John’s, and to have fun and engaging activities. The target age range is not firmly defined but anyone about 60 and older would be comfortable in this group.

A few willing souls have been enlisted to help brainstorm a vision of what Faithful Friends might look like, what we could do, what should we do and where do we start.

We started with a focus on our shut-ins and home-bound. Under Pastor Jeff’s direction, we now have several lay members trained and visiting shut-ins on a monthly basis and are offering to serve communion on those visits. Pastor Jeff will continue visiting the shut-ins each month as well. A schedule was drafted with a list of possible activities of interest for Faithful Friends.

APRIL 9th

Our kickoff event will be Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. There will be FUN get acquainted activities and lunch provided. There is no charge for this event. Please come and bring your friends with you!

APRIL 3rd – MAY 29th

Workout Wednesdays! Meet in the Fellowship Hall for low-impact exercise using DVDs, Silver Sneakers videos or other You Tube exercise resources. We will follow along on the T.V. that was recently installed in the Fellowship Hall. These exercises are designed with seniors in mind – many will be using chairs. No one needs to get down on the floor! The program will be cued up at 8:00am on Wednesday mornings and will run up to 11:30am with someone on hand to do the T.V. programming for you. You do not need to participate the whole time. Come when you want and leave when you want. You are also welcomed to come anytime on your own to exercise with or without T.V. programs or to walk laps in the building.

MAY 6th – JUNE 24th Space is limited so please register ASAP, it will be open to the public April 1.

Better Your Balance: Reduce Your Risk for Falls

Join us on **Mondays, May 6- June 24 from 9:30-11:30AM (*No class on Monday, May 27)** for the **Stepping On:** Aging and Disability Resource Center Falls Prevention Program. Hear from experts on topics such as strength and balance exercises, medication and vision as it relates to fall risk, in-home safety, footwear and much more. Location: St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer. Pre-registration is required by calling: 888-486-9545. Cost: Suggested Contribution of \$10 for the entire 7-week session.

JULY – DATE NOT SET YET

Wausau Road Trip! Car-pool options available. We will tour Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum and Monk Botanical Gardens with a lunch break in between. Watch for more details coming soon.

Other events for the rest of the year are in the planning stages and will be shared in upcoming newsletters and bulletin announcements. Your ideas are welcomed! Please contact Gail Jicinsky or Pastor Jeff and let us know what you would like Faithful Friends to do.

Faithful Friends contact is Gail Jicinsky, 715-650-0720, gjicinsky@gmail.com

DO SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

READ HOW THESE FOLKS ANSWERED THAT QUESTION.....

Why small group bible studies? Well, why not?

Small groups are a time of fellowship to study God's Word, voice concerns, ask questions, share what may be on your heart, or be lifted up by others when you are feeling down. I remember my first study when I was afraid to even ask a question. I was nervous and knew nothing about the Bible. I had never read it at that point, yet I knew something had changed in my life and I wanted to know more. I committed to a two-year study and my faith and relationship with Jesus grew, as well as establishing many other relationships within our congregation. You can ask many people that attended that study, and they would likely tell you it didn't take too long before I began to open up, ask questions and even share. I no longer worried if my answer or comment might be wrong because I realized that is how we learn, and no one was there to judge anyone. I thought I would feel intimidated being in studies with other more experienced members, but they only brought encouragement, and a wealth of knowledge and insight to the study.

You don't have to know the Bible, that's the purpose of the small group studies. When we show up, we are all saying, "I don't have all the answers, but I'd sure like to know more." You don't have to feel pressure to say anything, just feel free to soak it in and get to know our amazing God and His Word. It's a great way to start navigating and familiarizing yourself with the Bible. Take our recent study on Habakkuk. I had no idea that many of the same questions we often ask, have already been asked many times throughout the Bible. Check out Habakkuk's conversation with God as he asks questions and God responds. We may not always receive answers or like the answers we do receive, but we can be assured, just like Habakkuk, that God is on the throne and in control. We learned the writer of Psalm 73 also had many of the same questions until he entered the sanctuary of God and could see from an eternal perspective.

With so much unrest throughout the world today, reading and studying God's word together is a great way to draw closer to God and each other. "Together" is the key word because we will always be stronger together. Join us and learn of God's unconditional love, mercy, grace, and the extreme measures He will take to draw us back to Him. It doesn't get any more extreme than sacrificing your son for the sins of the world.

God gave us a choice in all things, so choose Him. Want to know more? Come to a small group study. Or if you still have questions, please ask any one of us providing these encouragements and invitations in the newsletter. May God's peace be with you all.

Together in Christ,

Joan Bruss

We had always thought about attending but never did. We were invited to attend Pastor's Ponderings and decided to check it out. Then we were invited to attend the Monday night study. Joe went the next week and came home very excited. He said I needed to go to this study. It was amazing! So, the next week I also went. He was not wrong. The speaker is very knowledgeable, helps you understand what you are reading and keeps your interest. We have realized others have the same questions and concerns. You are not alone. It is also more than a bible study – happenings from the week are often discussed as well. It has truly been a great learning experience.

Joe and Rhonda Weix



DO SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

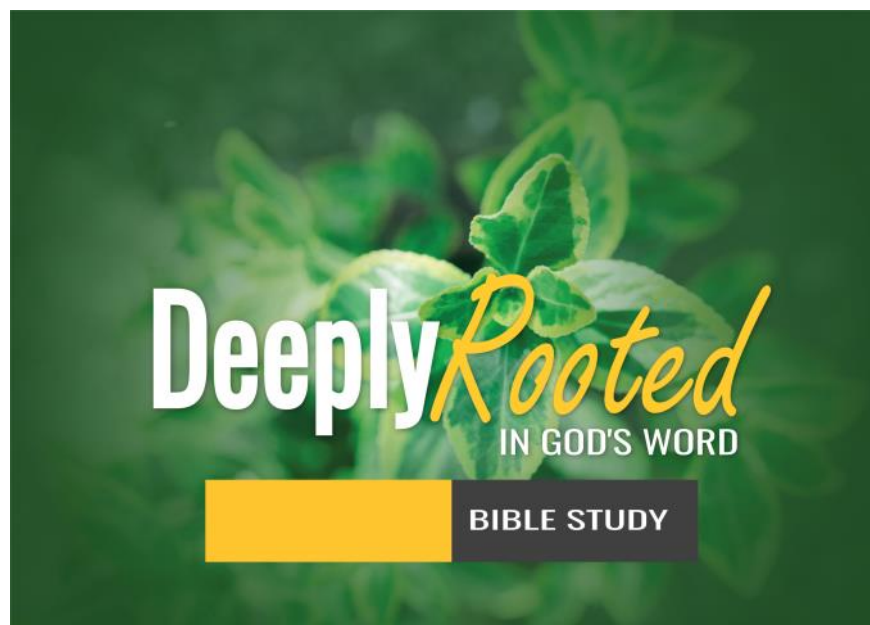
READ HOW THESE FOLKS ANSWERED THAT QUESTION.....

In my “later years” of life I have really wanted to study the Bible and learn all I can. However, when I picked it up to read it I was overwhelmed to say the least! There is so much, where do I even begin? It is so hard to understand and interpret on my own. I really thought that there was no hope for me. So, when I started coming to St John’s I decided to join my first Bible study and man was I nervous! After all, I was completely clueless, I never even read the Bible! What was I even thinking of joining a Bible study. Man was I ever wrong! These small group studies are so nice. Things are broken down into bite size chunks and then discussed as a group. AND...it is so nice to know that I am not alone, trying to figure it out on my own. There is no judgement, there is no snickering or sneering. You will only find true Christian friends that want to help you the best they can to be the best version of you. No questions are off limits. I could go on and on as to why I feel it is important to be in a small group but instead, come and talk to me if you have doubts or fears and I would be happy to chat about it with you!

Cindy Weiler

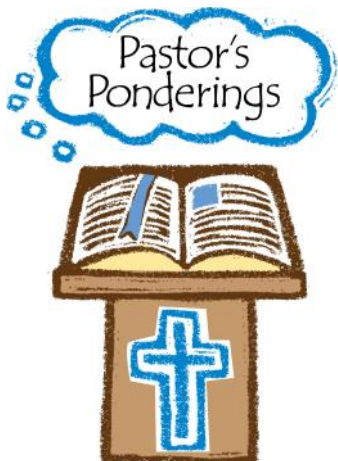
Why join a Bible study? Hmm. For years—from childhood through much of adulthood, I had only a superficial insight into the Bible. I believed the main message of the Old Testament was that God had provided the Law to His people, and that getting them to obey that Law was hopeless because of their repeatedly falling back on their sinful nature. And I concluded the New Testament’s message was that God was “trying a new tack”—Love—as a means of reaching His people. What I had always thought couldn’t have been further from the truth. I learned in Matthew 5:17 that Jesus says: “Do not think that I have come to abolish Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” Through studying the Bible, I’ve come to see the integral relationship between the Old and New Testaments—between the prophecy in the Old and the fulfillment in the New. I’ve come to understand the Old Testament as the “Letter of the Law” and the New Testament as the “Spirit of the Law.” And, in that context, each book of the Bible makes clearer not only where Mankind has been but where it is in its journey on the way to Eternal Life—what to do to get there and the joy that awaits them! Every time I open a new book to study, it’s like a present. What a joy it is untying the ribbon!

Kris Ovans



DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD

For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.
Isaiah 41:13



6:45 to 7:45pm
Wednesdays
April 10, 17, 24,
May 1

MEN'S MINISTRY

April 4 & 18, May 2 & 16 6:30pm,
Travis Hardraths shop–
213462 State Highway 13.
715-507-0548 for more information.
BRING A FRIEND!

APRIL 3: WEDNESDAY 9AM BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Begins April 3rd

“Twelve Ordinary Men” by John MacArthur. How the Master shaped His disciples for greatness, and what he wants to do with you. Who were these men? They weren’t saints. They weren’t scholars. They weren’t even religious sages. What is most amazing about the disciples is that Jesus ever selected them at all. Among them, a handful of common fishermen, a hated tax collector, and an impulsive political zealot. The message is clear. If Christ can accomplish His purposes through the lives of common men like these, imagine what He has in store for you!

All are welcome to participate in this 10 week study every Wednesday morning from April 3rd to June 5th , from 9:00 to 10:30. Each participant will receive Twelve Ordinary Men book to read (one chapter a week) and each chapter will be discussed when we meet.

Contact Gail Jicinsky 715-650-0720, gjicinsky@gmail.com to enroll. Cost of the book is \$9.50, payable to Gail.

GOLDEN AGERS DAY, APRIL 30

Seniors, come enjoy this great event! Escape to the beauty of the Northwoods at Forest Springs and share in a time of uplifting music from the Promise Quartet, great food, and fellowship along with inspiring teaching from Time Hoeksema. You’ll find Tim’s teaching inspirational and engaging. 9am to 2:30pm, \$32. Register [here](#). Brochures can be found on the bulletin board.



Golden Agers Day

UPCOMING YOUTH CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

FOREST SPRINGS



Young people can expect life-changing moments and memories that will last a lifetime. These may occur during bible teaching sessions, campfire conversations, or at one of Forest Springs' many program areas.

FIRST ADVENTURE

Grades 1 to 3
June 17 to 20

KID'S QUEST

Grades 2 to 5
June 12 to 15

JUNIOR CAMP

Grades 3 to 6
June 16 to 22

Grades 4 to 6

June 30 to July 6

TAKE 7

Grades 6 to 8
June 23 to 29

JUNIOR HIGH

Grades 7 to 9
June 30 to July 6

SUPERHIGH

Grades 9 to 12
July 7 to 13

Middle and high school wilderness trips to scenic locations throughout Wisconsin (and beyond) are also available.

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED

If you are interested in helping mow the church lawn, please let Travis Hardrath know, 715-507-0548. A rotational schedule is set up and we take turns mowing, training will be provided if needed.



Lawn Mowers Wanted

SHUT IN ADDRESSES

Marshfield Health Services
Grace Maines
814 W. 14th St. Room 2
Marshfield, WI 54449

Marshfield Health Services
Linda Marchinek
814 W. 14th St Room 13
Marshfield, WI 54449

Muriel Oelrich
211763 Mystyc Avenue
Spencer, WI 54449

LaVilla Schilling
W143 Cloverdale Road
Colby, WI 54421

Lois Block
402 Dehne Drive
Colby, WI 54421

Jim Schmutzler
N11245 Maple Street
Spencer, WI 54479

Doris Seefeld
312 Dehne Street
Colby, WI 54421

Pat Miller
N9934 Groveside Ave
Spencer, WI 54449

Bob and Audrey Helsten
106469 Highway 153
Spencer, WI 54479



April BIRTHDAYS



April ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 3 Larry Labrensz | 17 Kristin Engevold |
| Levi Dommer | Tammie Lehman |
| Emerick Berres | 18 Tara Nigon |
| 4 Hazel Craft | April Smazal |
| Linda Marchinek | 19 Doug Ackman |
| 6 Jordan Vogel | 23 Julia Craft |
| 7 Bryan Helsten | 24 Lillyan Kildahl |
| Jule Vogel | 25 Hunter Reynolds |
| Ronald Seefeldt | Nicole Buse |
| Lizzie Fehrenbach | Ryan Hardrath |
| 8 Sawyer Kilty | 27 Aliyah Anderson |
| 14 Kristin Ovans | Harper Craft |
| 15 Randy Matter | 28 Bobbi Schaefer |
| 16 Cheryl Bruesewitz | Conner Kildahl |

May the love of Christ shine through your marriage!

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 12 Ronald & Karen Seefeldt | 55 years |
| Larry & Peggy Labrensz | 38 years |
| 17 Tom & Dawn Pagenkopf | 42 years |
| 20 Duane & Corrie Bauer | 33 years |
| 21 Allen & Gail Jicinsky | 45 years |
| Paul & Jodi Leezer | 23 years |
| 26 Edward & Marilyn Bruger Jr. | 49 years |
| 27 Gerald & Jane Neuman | 56 years |

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please contact the office.

Prayers of sympathy and comfort for the family and friends of Cyndi Akerman who joined her heavenly father on March 4.



For Milt Viergutz and his family who have lost loved ones. Sandra Viergutz who joined her heavenly father on March 2. Billy Gustin who joined his heavenly father on March 3.

For the friends and family of Kathy Dietsche who made her way home to Jesus on March 20. Kathy is Lisa Kettleborough's mom.

May you find comfort in the Lord during this difficult time.

PRAYER list

Prayer List

Those with immediate health concerns:

Owen Buse, Dale Fehrenbach, Charla

Hagen, Mandi Herron, Ken Kasper, Krystle Tomczik.

Those with long term health concerns: Audrey Heldt, Elroy Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Susan Howe, Shaun Kornusky, Sandy Lemmens, Bill Martens, Tammi Schiferl, Darin Thompson, Rich Wilke.

Those with cancer: Kris Ovans, Judi Andrew, Nikki Duranceau, Ruth Fleischman, Brenda Gardner, Wayne Hendrickson, Sue Johnson, Michelle Oelke, Kathy Pieper, Tom Steiner, Wayne

Vaughn.

Those who are homebound or in care facilities:

Lois Block, Barb Dommer, Grace Maines, Linda Marchinek, Pat Miller, Muriel Oelrich, LaVilla Schilling, Doris Seefeld.

If you or a member of your family are hospitalized please let Pastor Jeff to know, via phone call or text message at 715-615-2458.

To add names to the prayer list, please fill out a yellow prayer request card or contact the office. Prayers will remain on the prayer list for 2 months. Please notify the office if you would like to renew the request. Thank you.

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome to our church family Mitch, Hannah and Ryker Rossow. Ryker was baptized on February 28.

MISSION SUPPORT

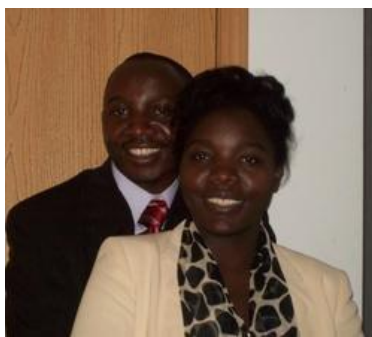


As you know, Spencer's congregation supports various missions throughout the year with 2% of our quarterly tithe.

Dear St. John's,

Thank you. We worship with broken heart in the spirit. God is moving with us. We clearly see the right vision toward to grow the church across the country. However we do need to commit ourselves more deeply. Please continually pray for us. From next month we hope will be able to move to the new temporary house which we are making now. In his service, Paul

With the October 2023 tithe we supported a group in Myanmar in SE Asia, their country is in civil war and the pastor is working to care for orphans and make orphanages.



On March 17, Jean Ngiwre shared about Void Filling Empowerment (VFE). Which has the vision to fill human's spiritual and physical voids and to empower life for great sustainability. We all have spiritual and physical void to fill. To some, many of those voids are hard to fill while others are easy to fill depending on where someone is or lives. African people have most unfilled voids: poverty everywhere, lack of clean water, lack of access to medical, lack of access to good education, hunger, uncertainties of life and much more.....Void Filling Empowerment is taking an initiative to fill the voids of people in different ways in Democratic

republic of Congo, Uganda and Kenya. If you would like more information visit www.thefillers.org or email Jean at jean@thefillers.org. Our congregation supported this mission in January 2024.



Please contact the office if you are available to serve in open spaces. Thank-you! sjlcoffice13@gmail.com
 The Lent schedule will be shared weekly on the Wednesday morning email and Sunday printed announcements.



	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28	May 5
Greeter	Susan Howe Inez Fosberg	Jan Ammons	Bob & Glenda Fellenz	Robert Haas	Amanda Gronski
Usher	Qwyntyn Schmidt	Keith Schmidt	Travis Hardrath	Milt Viergutz	Jim Christopherson
Usher	Harry Vogel	Brad Helsten	Ryan Hardrath	Rudy Nieman	Alan Seefeld
Tech	Jenny Nieman	Qwyntyn Schmidt	Kyler Hardrath	Teri Schorer	Jenny Nieman
Sound	Camdyn Vogel	Adryan Schmidt	Jakob Soback	Randi Thompson	Rachel Nieman
Reader	Milt Viergutz	Ashley Stroetz	Glenda Fellenz	Jenny Nieman	Mary Seefeld
Communion Assistant	Jule Vogel	Lori Helsten	Rudy Nieman	Jenny Nieman	Mary Seefeld
Acolyte	Caelyn Vogel	Janika Helsten	Mason Gilmore	NEEDED	NEEDED
Hospitality	Teri Schorer	Jan Ammons	Gail Jicinsky	Luanne Schwarze	Heather Vogel
Riplinger Reader	Dave Newman	Heidi McBride	Dommer Family	Brenda Newman	Trish Porter

**Sermons Are
Online**
YouTube
[https://
www.youtube.com/
@StJohnsSpencer](https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer) or
www.stjohnsspencer.com

Attendance	Spencer 9am	Riplinger 11am	Spencer 6:30pm
February 4	68	9	19
February 11	64	3	11
February 18	84	19	31
February 25	85	12	34
February 14	X	15	92
February 21	X	X	69
February 28	X	X	54



<p>31</p> <p>9:00am Easter Worship at Spencer 11:00am Easter Worship at Riplinger</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Pastor Out Of Town 6:00pm Yoga 6:30pm Minor Prophets Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Pastor Out Of Town 4:30pm Rising Dance</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor Out Of Town 8:00am Faithful Friends Workout Wednesdays! 9:00am Twelve Ordinary Men Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training/LIVE 8:00pm Mission Trip Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger 6:30pm Worship at Spencer/ Foundation Series</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Pastor Jeff in Office 6:00pm Yoga 6:30pm Minor Prophets Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00am Faithful Friends Kick Off 4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Spencer Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00am Faithful Friends Workout Wednesdays! 9:00am Twelve Ordinary Men Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training/LIVE 6:45pm Pastor Ponderings</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm First Communion Class Grades 1 to 5</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer. First Communion 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger, Communion 6:30pm Worship at Spencer/ Foundation Series</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00am Pastor Jeff in Office 6:00pm Yoga 6:30pm Minor Prophets Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4:30pm Rising Dance</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00am Faithful Friends Workout Wednesdays! 9:00am Twelve Ordinary Men Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training/LIVE 6:45pm Pastor Ponderings</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00pm OA Lock In</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger w/ Quarterly Meeting 6:30pm Worship at Spencer/ Foundation Series</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Pastor Jeff in Office 6:00pm Yoga 6:30pm Minor Prophets Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>4:30pm Rising Dance 5:00pm COME Meal</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00am Faithful Friends Workout Wednesdays! 9:00am Twelve Ordinary Men Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training/LIVE 6:45pm Pastor Ponderings</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Affirmation of Baptism 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger 6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Minor Prophets Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30pm Estonia Mission Awareness</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:00am Faithful Friends Workout Wednesdays! 9:00am Twelve Ordinary Men Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training/LIVE 6:45pm Pastor Ponderings 8:00pm Mission Trip Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00am Rummage Sale 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00am Rummage Sale</p>	<p>4</p> <p>LOOKING AHEAD! Grubbys Day is May 5. Graduate Sunday is May 12.</p>

FEBRUARY TREASURERS REPORT SPENCER

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Income				
410.010	Tithes & Offerings	9,025.97	18,556.03	140,000.00
410.011	Non-tithe Offerings General Fund	1,510.00	2,970.00	
410.050	Riplinger Reimbursements	2,215.16	2,215.16	6,000.00
441.060	Building use	0.00	210.00	1,250.00
	Total Income	\$12,751.13	\$23,951.19	\$147,250.00
Expenses				
<i>500.000 Wider Mission</i>				
500.010	Tithe	0.00	4,336.11	14,000.00
	<i>Total Wider Mission</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$4,336.11</i>	<i>14,000.00</i>
<i>510.000 Worship</i>				
510.030	Copyrights	0.00	315.00	750.00
510.050	Community Worship Services	0.00	0.00	850.00
510.070	Instrument maintenance/service	0.00	0.00	250.00
510.100	Worship Supplies	4.75	284.11	1,200.00
	<i>Total Worship</i>	<i>\$4.75</i>	<i>\$599.11</i>	<i>3,050.00</i>
510.020	Pulpit Supply	0.00	0.00	500.00
510.060	Worship - Music/Special Events	0.00	19.88	1,000.00
<i>520.000 Faith Development</i>				
520.010	Birth to 3	0.00	60.67	300.00
520.020	Children's Ministry (SS, VBS, GIFT, etc)	0.00	(20.00)	1,100.00
520.030	Middle School (Cross Training, Youth, etc)	0.00	27.78	500.00
520.040	High School (discipleship, chaperones, grads)	0.00	377.97	450.00
520.050	Adult Faith Formation	0.00	0.00	350.00
520.070	Library Resources	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<i>Total Faith Development</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$446.42</i>	<i>2,800.00</i>
520.080	Right Now Media	0.00	1,319.89	1,320.00
<i>540.000 Fellowship & Care</i>				
540.010	Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	117.91	212.81	400.00
540.020	Care Resources	0.00	0.00	200.00
540.030	Events	0.00	0.00	200.00
	<i>Total Fellowship & Care</i>	<i>\$117.91</i>	<i>\$212.81</i>	<i>800.00</i>
<i>560.000 Office</i>				
560.010	Office Supplies (shared)	163.65	236.01	1,400.00
560.020	Telephone & Internet (shared)	162.97	334.89	2,000.00
560.030	Postage (shared)	0.00	105.26	700.00
560.050	Copier Maintenance (shared)	243.00	432.47	2,000.00
560.060	Office Subscriptions, Software, Upgrades (shared)	0.00	0.00	1,800.00
	<i>Total Office</i>	<i>\$569.62</i>	<i>\$1,108.63</i>	<i>7,900.00</i>
<i>570.000 Administration</i>				
570.010	Offering Envelopes	0.00	0.00	250.00
570.020	Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	87.78	210.47	1,000.00
570.040	Insurance & Workman's Compensation	1,300.31	1,300.31	5,500.00
570.050	Mileage Reimbursement (shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
	<i>Total Administration</i>	<i>\$1,388.09</i>	<i>\$1,510.78</i>	<i>7,500.00</i>
<i>580.000 Buildings & Grounds</i>				
580.020	Electricity	333.70	664.19	4,500.00
580.030	Natural Gas	303.15	893.03	2,500.00
580.040	Holding Tanks	185.00	185.00	750.00
580.050	Waste Disposal	142.60	287.63	1,250.00
580.065	Cleaning	166.29	166.29	500.00
580.070	Repairs & General Maintenance Expenses	159.98	506.44	1,500.00
580.080	Snow Removal	500.00	1,020.00	2,500.00
580.090	Lawn Mowing- Church	0.00	0.00	300.00
580.100	Cemetery Assoc Lawn Care	0.00	0.00	500.00
	<i>Total Buildings & Grounds</i>	<i>\$1,790.72</i>	<i>\$3,722.58</i>	<i>14,300.00</i>
<i>590.000 Staff</i>				
590.110	Pastor Compensation	2,956.25	5,912.50	33,110.00
590.120	Housing Allowance (Pastor)	2,062.50	4,125.00	23,100.00
590.130	Books & Subscriptions (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	100.00
590.140	Continuing Education (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
590.150	Medical Insurance & Pension (Pastor)	776.64	1,553.28	8,700.00
590.160	Social Security Allowance (Pastor)	383.93	767.86	4,300.00
590.170	Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
590.210	FICA	177.21	380.78	2,600.00
590.230	Organist Payroll	0.00	0.00	2,600.00
590.240	Treasurer Payroll	150.00	300.00	1,800.00
590.250	Secretary Payroll (shared)	1,631.00	3,122.00	15,600.00
	<i>Total Staff</i>	<i>\$8,137.53</i>	<i>\$16,161.42</i>	<i>93,410.00</i>
590.280	Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	535.50	1,555.50	7,800.00
	Total Expenses	\$12,544.12	\$30,993.13	\$154,380.00
	Difference	\$207.01	(\$7,041.94)	(\$7,130.00)

St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for February 2024

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Page 1 of 1
End Balance

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
<i>301.000</i>	<i>General Fund Balance</i>					
301.100	General Balance	46,958.08	12,751.13	12,544.12	0.00	47,165.09
<i>302.000</i>	<i>Special Funds Balance</i>					
302.001	ARK Balance	1,146.73	32.00	0.00	0.00	1,178.73
302.005	Fall Harvest Dinner Balance	280.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	280.00
302.102	Globe Money Balance	141.17	6.00	0.00	0.00	147.17
302.120	Technology Balance	677.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	677.47
302.138	Bible Camp Balance	3,541.33	311.00	0.00	0.00	3,852.33
302.145	Mission Trip Balance	2,193.53	581.00	1,568.00	0.00	1,206.53
302.155	Kitchen Equipment Balance	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
302.180	COME Balance	2,143.97	400.00	500.00	0.00	2,043.97
302.195	Fellowship Hall Balance	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
302.800	Seminary Fund Balance	2,039.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,039.91
302.100	Memorial Gifts Balance	8,057.32	0.00	1,272.89	0.00	6,784.43
302.105	Building Fund Balance	50,492.14	1,236.50	0.00	0.00	51,728.64
303.000	Thrivent (Savings Acct) Balance	6,200.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,200.54
304.000	Sabbatical (Forward Fin.) Balance	1,235.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,235.34
Total		<u>\$125,133.53</u>	<u>\$15,317.63</u>	<u>\$15,885.01</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$124,566.15</u>

