

Services of Worship

- Spencer 9am
- Riplinger 11am

Church Office

210167 State Hwy 13
Spencer, WI 54479
715-659-5158

Email: sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

Website

www.stjohnsspencer.com

Facebook

Spencer

www.facebook.com/sjlCSpencer

www.facebook.com/Riplingerchurch/

Interim Pastor

Pastor Ritchie Cole
Pastor Tim Hinrichs

Minister of Faith Formation

Jenny Nieman

Email: jennyfaith659@gmail.com

Cell: 715-613-3636

Parish Secretary

Lori Cook

Pam Hardrath

sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

For immediate assistance, call or text
Pam at 715-507-0549

Deadlines

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

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

Invite others to services of worship

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

CONNECT



December
2022



The season of Advent isn't really designed to be a countdown to the celebration of Christmas. It is a time of preparation for Christ's return and the establishment of the kin-dom of God. It is a reminder that we are all heading someplace; we are works in progress; we are longing for something more, children included. That's the upward and forward call of Advent. We are looking forward.

The advent wreath and candles provide beautiful symbolism for each week of advent as we wait for Christmas to arrive.

Week 1: November 27th: We light the first candle as a sign of our **hope**, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

Week 2: December 4th: We light two candles. Candles of joyous hope and proclaimed **peace**, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light it as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

Week 3 December 13th: We light three candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, and of deep and everlasting **joy**, as a sign that we are those who walk with a skip in our step because we can see the destination, and it is pure joy. We are ascending to God's promise.

Week 4 December 18th: We light four candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and of presence that speaks of **love**, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.

We light the fifth and final advent candle on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The final Advent candle represents the coming of Christ, **celebrating Jesus's birth**. We remember Christmas with anticipation, wide-eyed like a child as we anticipate in what God is doing.

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Why Children Need to Get to Church on Christmas Eve

Worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com by Carolyn C. Brown

In most families Christmas Eve and Day are busy, chaotic times. It is not easy to get a family that includes overly-excited children to church. But, it is worth the effort. Children (and their parents) actually need it.

To hear the story read or told in an important way on the “night it happened” - Children like hearing the story of their birth on their birthday and celebrating other big events on “the very day it happened.” So, the story which may have been acted out in a pageant and discussed in church school and read at home, feels more “real” when read on Christmas Eve or Day in the sanctuary.

To go to church at night– These days children are at church most often during the day. To go at night to a decorated, even candle-lit church is almost magical. When the family makes this an important part of Christmas – even in the middle of the chaos – just being there reminds children what is most important about Christmas.

To be with a crowd telling the story– Joining church friends reminds children that this story is something bigger than just their family traditions. They are part of a huge family of families who celebrate Jesus’ birth.

To sing the carols at least one more time– Not many families sing together at home and not many children’s groups sing religious carols any more. That means we need to be intentional about singing with the carols with the children. And, who would want to miss singing “Silent Night” in the Christmas Eve sanctuary while hugging your child bathed in candlelight!

To create a context in which to discover the truth about Santa– If Santa is all there is to Christmas Eve once children learn “the truth,” Christmas is just a greedy gift grab. But, if Christmas Eve has always circled around the story of Jesus told in the sanctuary the Christmas celebration gets richer.

To create memories- Worshiping on Christmas Eve or Day as a family creates over the years a treasure trove of memories. Some of them shine with wonder. Others make for eye-rolling stories that are retold every Christmas. These memories are precious for both the children as they mature and the parents as they age. Make worship together as a family a priority for your Christmas celebration.



Thank you to Joan Bruss, Gail Jicinsky, Rudy Nieman and Jenny Nieman for providing us with meaningful messages during worship. We appreciate your time and dedication to keep our congregation thriving!



Christmas Eve– December 24th
2:30pm Riplinger
4:30pm Spencer
6:30pm Spencer
Christmas Day—December 25th
9am Spencer
11am Riplinger

Council Positions

In preparation for congregation elections at the annual meeting in January, we are in need of nominations for all of the positions listed below. Any confirmed member is eligible to serve. You may indicate your own interest or nominate other individuals from the congregation by contacting Rudy Nieman. All names submitted will be contacted to secure a commitment and willingness to serve if elected.

Vice-Chair (2 years - 1 year as Vice chair followed by 1 year as Chairperson) - The first year of this position as vice chair has the primary responsibility of learning the topics and issues before taking over the second year as the chair (see above); preside at meetings in absence of the chair and serve as chair of the nomination committee.

Recording Secretary (1 year term) - Keep accurate minutes of meetings of the Congregation Council and of the congregation; keep an accurate record of the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions, and any updates or changes as they occur; maintain an accurate list of membership of all committees and boards; conduct correspondence as necessary.

Financial Secretary (1 year term) - Receive all incoming contributions; Deposit all contributions into the appropriate financial institution with deposits designated for specific budget categories; Order and provide members with individually numbered traceable envelopes; serve as chair of the counting committee.

Worship Director (1 year term) - works with the pastor and worship planning team to prepare and organize meaningful worship services that inspire, uplift, and encourage. This includes communications and coordination of the various elements of worship including training and scheduling of persons serving in worship; communion setup; technology; music; decorating and worship arts; helping with the planning and coordination of ecumenical worship services; and maintenance of musical instruments.

Beyond Our Doors Director (1 year term) - help members of the congregation understand and respond to needs within the community, the nation, and the world so that the congregation can demonstrate God's love and serve those in need. This includes support and coordination of the following: Community Outreach Meal for Everyone (COME), food pantry, giving tree, community care walk, Lutheran World Relief, World Hunger, and other local, national, and international needs as they arise.

Congregational Care Director (1 year term) – To facilitate and encourage activities which support and care for all members of our Congregation through supporting the development of their spiritual and physical well-being. Coordinate new member orientation, assist with visitor follow up, arrange visits with members of the congregation who are hospitalized, home bound or reside in long term care facilities.

Food, Fellowship and Fellowship Director Plan and organize ways to celebrate as a congregation together to build strong relationships. Organize church wide function and other functions as needed to promote and encourage the congregation to share their talents, food and blessings. Reach out beyond our doors to our community to involve them when possible.

Buildings and Grounds (1 year term) – working with volunteers, this position is responsible for the overall care, maintenance, and improvement of the church's facilities and grounds to ensure a safe and well-maintained facility

Be Involved!



GIVING TREE

Holiday Shopping with Love - The Giving Tree

This year's Giving Tree is up and ready, if you are able to purchase a gift for a family in need this Christmas season, please pick a tag, note the tag id #, find the corresponding tag id spot on the clipboard and put your name and phone number there. Go shopping and return the gifts to church by Dec. 11. If you have any questions contact Lori Kops at 715-613-5399



Practice
Every Tuesday
6pm in the sanctuary

Ongoing Bible Studies:
Monday's: 6:30pm, John Bible Study
Wednesday's: 9am: Proverbs Bible Study
Men's Group December 15 & 29, 6:30pm,
213462 Hwy 13

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS!!

Anyone interested in being a part of the



on December 18th, 9am should contact Jenny ASAP.

Parts available:

2 readers (reading from a giant story book, no memorization needed)

Mouse (all lines will be printed inside props, no memorization needed)

Costumes are at church, and will be fitted at the first practice.



Thank you everyone who recently completed the time and talent survey. We are in need of Assisting Ministers, 3 ushers, 1 person to run tech and 1 person to run sound on Sunday's during worship. You will be trained in these areas and asked to serve once every 8 weeks.

ALSO NEEDED:

On Christmas Eve at 4:30pm:

1- ushers
Acolyte

On Christmas Eve at 6:30pm:

Greeters
Acolyte
Reader
Communion Assistant

On Christmas Day at 9am:

2-ushers
Acolyte
Tech
Sound
Communion Assistant

Please email the office sjlcoffice13@gmail.com, call or text Pam at 715-507-0549 if you are willing to fill these needs.

Buildings and Grounds

Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hades will not overpower it. (Matthew 16:18)

Spencer Winter Weather Policy

Our policy for weather-related cancellations and closures is for the safety and well-being of the staff, volunteers and participants in our many activities, including Sunday worship. We are aware that holding church activities when roadways are hazardous may endanger the staff and volunteers who travel in order to help lead such activities, as well as those who may choose to participate. Accordingly, our policy is always to put safety first.

Monday through Friday

The closing of St John's Spencer, including the church office, will follow the Spencer School District cancellations. When the Spencer School District cancels school or has an early dismissal due to inclement weather during the week, then all St John's activities will be cancelled. If, for some reason, leaders feel there is a need to cancel evening activities even though school has been held, they will inform the participants of the cancellation.

Sunday Worship Service Cancellation

In inclement weather or extreme temperatures, the Pastor and Chairperson will decide whether or not to cancel worship. This decision will be made by 6:30 am prior to worship. The cancellation information will be found on our Facebook page, via phone message on the church voicemail and via email to the congregation.

Poinsettia Contribution Form

Poinsettia Contribution Form

If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of poinsettias complete this form and return it to the church office by Dec. 18. Cost: \$10 each (6.5 inch pot). Poinsettias may be taken home after Dec. 25 on a first come, first serve basis.

Name of person(s) ordering _____

Number of Poinsettias _____

Reason (i.e. In memory of; in honor of; in celebration of, etc.)

Next Generation

“We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders” (Psalm 78:4 NLT)



The Christmas program is December 18, 9 am, we will not have JAM on the 18th. Also, family time is important, so we encourage all of you as well as our JAM teachers to spend time with family this Christmas season so we will not have JAM classes on December 25 or Jan 1. JAM will resume on January 8.



December 21, we'll be celebrating with a Christmas Party, friends and family are invited! Parents- your kids are only this age once, so to encourage families to take the time together for Christmas we will not be meeting Dec. 28. We'll resume Jan 4.

Wednesday Night Cross Training and LIVE link: [HERE](#). This link will take you to a folder where you can see the schedule, sign up to serve in worship (all youth should serve twice through the school year) and to serve the meal.



“Those who say they live in God should LIVE their lives as Jesus did.” 1 John 1:6

December 21, we'll be celebrating with a Christmas Party, friends and family are invited! We will not meet on Dec 28. We'll resume Jan 4.



Suppers Needed help provide food, serve and clean up on December 7 or 14. You can pick the dates that work for you, you can do one of the duties or stay for all, it's your choice. Questions, talk with Jenny. Sign up [here](#). Penny Vinnedge is scheduled for December 21.



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH! DISTRICTS YOUTH CONFERENCE

Jan. 13-15 Youth grades 6-12 are eligible to participate, but MUST register with Jenny by December 7. Cost is \$130

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Parent Cue – Cue /kyoo/ n. Something serving as a signal to begin a performance. No One Has More Potential to Influence Your Child Than You. Parent Cue is not an encyclopedia or exhaustive training course on making your kids “turn out”. This blog is a cue. A prompt. Because really, we know you're already busy doing all you can to invest in your kids and help them on their way to adulthood. But it's not always easy to stay focused. Our goal is to make it easy for you to remember what's important. Sound like something that might be helpful for your family? Check it out at parentcue.org.

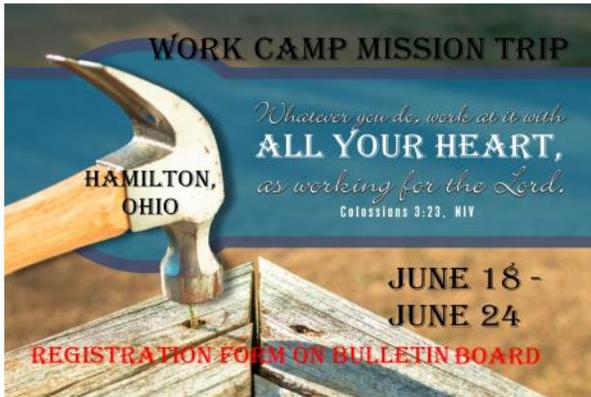


RIGHT NOW MEDIA Christmas Vacation

Boredom Buster
Keep the reason for the Christmas season front and center or find inspiring New Year messages by watching videos that are available on RightNow Media. You can view these great videos from your phone, tablet or computer. Access RightNow Media directly from our website: www.stjohnsspencer.com, just click on the link and set up your account. Feel free to send your friends over to the website so they can have access to this fabulous resource too.

Mission Trip

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45



2023 Mission Trip

We're heading to Hamilton, Ohio for our week- long mission trip. The trip is open to any youth currently in 8th grade-adults. Applications are found on the bulletin board. Application and a \$50 deposit are required to reserve your spot by Dec. 12. Applications will be taken after this date, but we cannot guarantee there will be space so it is extremely important to register by Dec. 12.



2023 Basket Raffle The basket raffle will begin on Feb. 22. If you would like to donate a themed basket for the raffle, the mission

trip participants would be grateful! Baskets or items to add to a basket can be brought to church and placed in Jenny's office. If you have any questions, feel free to contact [Jenny](#).



The next planning meeting is December 1, 8 pm in the youth room.



Club 52 Fundraiser the participants going on the mission trip will be sending out letters to family and friends asking for their support. If you would like to contribute to Club 52 there are Club 52 letters on the bulletin board, you can fill in a youth's name or can leave it blank and it will go to the fund for the entire trip. Thank you for your support!

Save the Date!

May 4 & 5, 2023 will be the Rummage Sale.

Shop with Raise Right (aka Scrip)

What is Raise Right?

Raise Right is a term that means "substitute money". When you purchase through raise right, you are purchasing negotiable gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash. You can use scrip to make everyday purchases like food, clothing and other essentials, and with every purchase you earn revenue that we use to help out in the community.

How Raise Right Generates Revenue for Us

The Great Lakes Center acts on our behalf as well as other nonprofit organizations to purchase large amounts of gift cards from grocery stores, department stores and other retailers. Because Great Lakes purchases with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. St. John's buys cards from the Great Lakes Center at a discount. This discount - from two to fifteen percent, or more - is our organization's revenue.

Raise Right Is Shopping Cart Fun!

Raise Right is a popular fund raiser because families don't need to sell anything. Organization members produce revenue by making purchases *they would make anyway* AT NO EXTRA COST TO THEM! Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts even gasoline can be purchased with scrip. These cards make great gifts and can help you maintain a budget.

Here's How to Order Gift Cards

First, you can order gift cards by filling out the order form found in the brochure rack and place it in the Scrip mailbox. Please make checks payable to "St. John's" Found on page 14.

Second, you can place an order by going on-line to www.raiseright.com. If you use this option, please pay by "Prestopay" on-line, credit card payment or make your check payable to St. John's. If you use this option, please print out your order summary and place it in the Scrip mailbox. **Enrollment code: C99A97F23L251**

Orders will be placed on December 4th and December 11th to ensure delivery before Christmas.

HAPPY SHOPPING WITH RAISE RIGHT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!



The Waterford at Colby Corrine Kettleborough 1110 N. Division Colby, WI 54421	Muriel Oelrich 211763 Mystyc Avenue Spencer, WI 54449	Doris Seefeld 312 Dehne Street Colby, WI 54421
Grace Maines Touch of Home 9787 Ives St. Marshfield, WI 54449	LaVilla Schilling W143 Cloverdale Road Colby, WI 54421	Cyndi Ackerman PO Box 691 Black River Falls, WI 54615
Marshfield Health Services Linda Marchinek 814 W. 14th St Room 13 Marshfield, WI 54449	Lois & Joyce Block 402 Dehne Drive Colby, WI 54421	Pat Miller N9934 Groveside Ave Spencer, WI 54449
	Jim Schmutzler N11245 Maple Street Spencer, WI 54479	Military Address: Tyler Klemment 11422 105TH Avenue SW Apt L1 Lakewood, WA 98498



Youth Opportunities

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)

Ready for an action packed snow filled, fuel for your faith weekend!

Wintertainment (Grades 9-12)

January 6-8, 2023 • \$143

Meltdown (Grades 6-9)

February 17-19, 2023 • \$143

Church will pay \$50 of the cost.

Meltdown campers will be equipped and challenged through Bible teaching during weekend sessions. Trained, mission driven counselors will lead cabin activities throughout the weekend. During free time campers can take advantage of tube runs, cross country skiing, snowboarding, and relaxing around the fireplace while enjoying a hot beverage. [Forest Springs](#) Camp, Westboro

Pole and Paddle, Northern Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Trip

Boys who completed grades 8-12

June 22-26, 2023

July 13-17, 2023

\$310

Church will pay \$103 of the cost. This trip includes tenting, canoeing beautiful lakes, fishing and eating your catch, hiking and having a daily time with the Lord as you focus on exploring his creation. No experience necessary, just a love for the outdoors.

Check out other youth camps at Arrowhead Bible Camp, New Auburn [here](#)

Ready for a summer You'll Never Forget?

Based on the grade your child is entering in 2023.

Kids Quest (Grades 2-5)

June 14-17, 2023 • \$203

Junior Camp 1 (Grades 3-6)

June 18-24, 2023 • \$493

Junior Camp 2 (Grades 4-6)

July 2-8, 2023 \$493

Kid's Quest and Junior Camp campers will enjoy Bible teaching from Forest Springs' favorites John & Diane Windle, complimented by the hilarious hi-jinx of Hairy and Company. Campers will learn new skills like archery and able to take advantage of dozens of fun-filled programs areas during their free time and an opportunity to explore camp independently and as a cabin group.

[Forest Springs Camp](#), Westboro

Take 7 (Grades 6-8)

June 25 - July 1, 2023 • \$493

Junior High (Grades 7-9)

Speaker: Tom Richards

July 2-8, 2023 • \$493

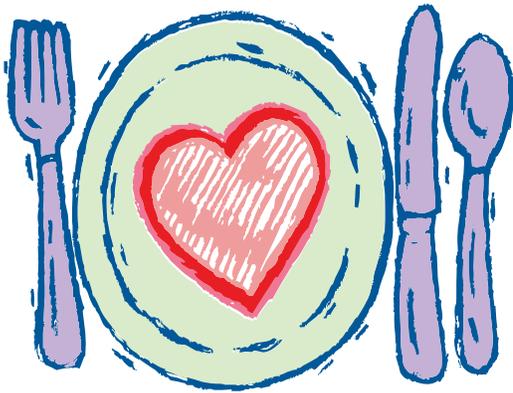
Super High (Grades 9-12)

Speaker: TBD

July 9-15, 2023 \$493

Throughout their time at camp, teen campers have an opportunity to explore camp independently and as a cabin group. Looking to enjoy some down time? Forest Springs has plenty of areas to relax, enjoy a snack or coffee drink, play a game or just catch up with friends. Teen campers will be equipped and challenged through Bible teaching during sessions held twice a day. Forest Springs' favorites Dan Hartke & Matt Hoffland will lead times of worship. Campers can take advantage of dozens of fun-filled programs areas during their free time like paintball or our high-ropes course. [Forest Springs](#), Westboro

Beyond our Doors



Community Outreach Meal for Everyone: COME

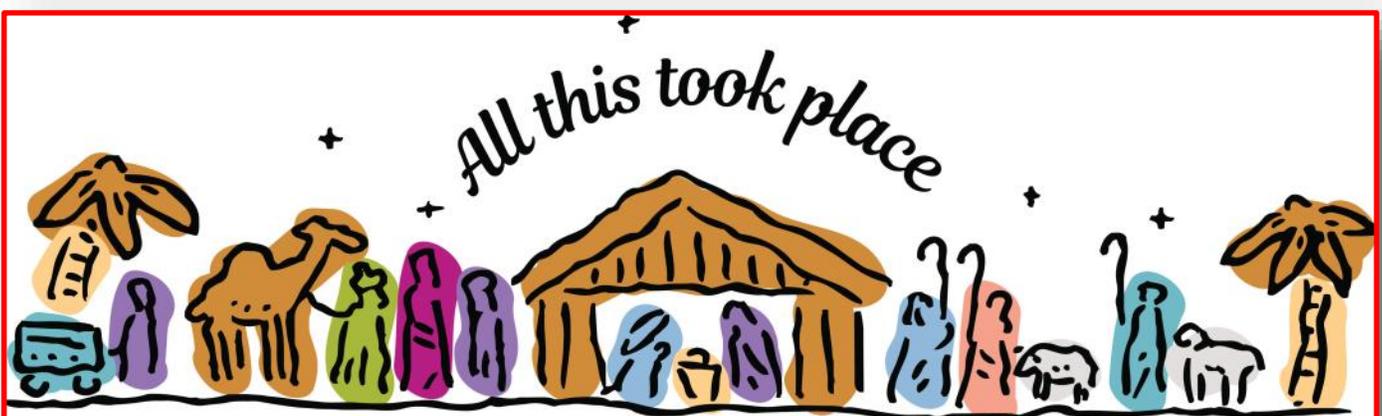
December 22, 5-6 pm

Serving: Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, stuffing, dinner rolls and cookies.

Many hands are needed each month for this meal. Each month we need cooks, food servers, beverage servers, greeters, dish washers, and clean up crew. Each job only requires a short amount of your time. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the entry or from the home page of the [church website](#).

Thank you to each and every person who played a role in the Community Thanksgiving Service. It was a wonderful time of thanking and praising God. It was awesome to see 128 people in worship. All food and the \$500 monetary donation benefitted King's Food Pantry.

thank you



TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET.

Matthew 1:22, ESV



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Donna Wenzel | 18 Jake Reynolds |
| 2 Malachai Anderson | 24 Jackson Schuette |
| Harper Reynolds | 25 Rich Wilke |
| Ralph Ottum | 26 Jane Meacham |
| 3 Jeff Weyer | 27 Judine Block |
| Todd Ertl | 28 Christopher Schmidt |
| 6 Trevor Ackman | 29 Corrie Bauer |
| 7 Michael Neumann | 30 Randi Thompson |
| Ila Meacham | Candi Mertins |
| 9 Raylan Burns | |
| 13 Braden Kieffer | |
| Juliet Ertl | |
| 14 David Lucht | |
| Jessica Ertl | |
| Derek Hendrickson | |
| 15 Carson Weyer | |
| 16 Zoreyna Hardrath | |

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

May the love of Christ shine through your marriage!

18 Doug & Jan Kops	46 years
9 Lance & Claire Neumann	5 years
11 Keith & Trish Porter	27 Years
18 Roger & Darlene Shupe	46 years
30 Jordan & Heather Vogel	15 years
31 Derek & Nicole Buse	5 years



Jayson Dekarske and Vicki Lee

We pray for the families and friends of those who made their way home to Jesus this month, including:

- Carol Sandley, November 4th
- Dorothy Vogel, November 4th
- Ashton Curtin, November 5th
- Karin Hanson, November 29th



Prayer List
Those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities:
 Emmie Weigel, Cyndi Ackerman, Kathy Dietsche, Barb Dommer, Corrine Kettleborough, Pat Miller, LaVilla Schilling.

Those with health concerns: Dianne Vaughn, Merlin & Jean Kobs, Phil Lopez, Lois Block, Kristy Fellenz, Todd Frahm, Audrey Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Michael Howe, Susan Howe, Paul Kilty, Jodi Krause, Sandy Lemens, Larry Labrensz, Dylan Maki, Linda Marchinek, Bill Martens, Adam Miller, Darla Newman, Dorene Newman, Kris Ovans, Tammi Schiferl, Adryan Schmidt, Doris Seefeld, Joanne

Seefeld, Roy Sobeck, Jon Soderberg, Kimberly Tate, Darin Thompson, Rich Wilke, Lenore Williams, Jim and Teresa Zahn.

Those with cancer: Judi Andrew, Brenda Gardner, Wayne Hendrickson, Sue Johnson, Parker Klimmer, Dennis Krause, Jeff Miller, Michelle Oelke, Kathy Pieper, Tom Steiner, Barb Wachsmuth, Francis Wash, Heather Widmann.

Those serving in the military: Tyler Klement

Prayers of Thanksgiving: Darleen Borchardt

Please look through the prayer list and let the office know if there are any updates. Thank-you!

Please contact the office if you are available to serve in open spaces. Thank-you!

SERVING THIS Month



December 5

Message: Pastor Ritchie Cole
Greeter: Alexa Weber
Usher: Brad Helsten
Usher: Ryan Hardath
Tech: Kyler Hardrath
Sound: Hunter Reynolds
Acolyte: Danica Weber
Reader: Teri Shorer
Communion Assistant: Lori Helsten
Hospitality: Teri Schorer

December 11

Message: Joan Bruss
Greeter: Luanne Schwarze
Usher: Jim Christopherson
Usher: Devyn Schmidt
Tech: Qwyntyn Schmidt
Sound: Adryan Schmidt
Acolyte: Wylie Seefeldt
Reader: Jim Christopherson
Communion Assistant: Teri Shorer
Hospitality: Jan Ammons

December 18: Christmas Program

Usher: Travis Hardrath
Usher:

Acolyte: Parker Manicke

Christmas Eve, December 24: 4:30pm

Message: Rudy or Jenny Nieman
Greeter: Luanne Schwarze
Usher:
Usher: Wayne Hempel
Tech: Bruce Luepke
Sound: Darin Thompson
Acolyte
Reader: Gwen Thomas
Communion Assistant: Janine Luepke

Christmas Eve, December 24: 6:30pm

Greeter: Rudy or Jenny Nieman
Usher: Travis Hardrath
Usher: Ryan Hardrath
Tech: Kyler Hardrath
Sound: Pam Hardrath
Acolyte
Reader:
Communion Assistant:

Christmas Day, December 25: 9am

Message: Gail Jicinsky
Assisting Minister:
Greeter:
Usher: Allen Jicinsky
Usher:
Tech:
Sound:
Acolyte
Reader:
Communion Assistant:

January 1

Message: Rudy Nieman
Greeter:
Usher: Travis Hardrath
Usher: Ryan Hardrath
Tech: Rachel Nieman
Sound: Kyler Hardrath
Acolyte:
Reader: Bill Martens
Communion Assistant: Jenny Nieman
Hospitality: Pam Hardrath

Riplinger

Attendance		Readers	
October 2	8	December 4	Joan Miller
October 9	9	December 11	Sherry Schmutzler
October 16	19	December 18	Brenda Newman
October 23	7	December 24	Trish Porter
October 30	19	December 25	Dave Newman
		January 1	Joan Miller



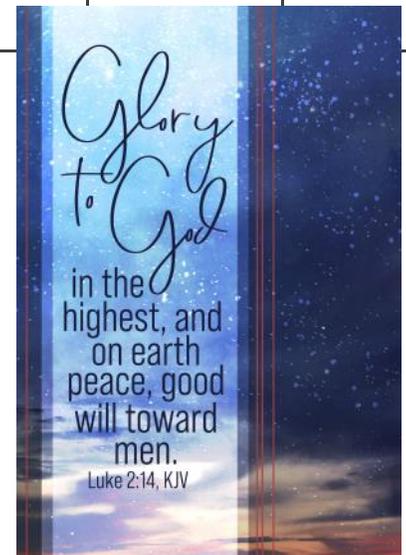


DECEMBER 2022

27 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	28 6:30pm John Bible Study	29 6:00pm Christmas Choir Practice	30 9:00am Proverbs Study 6:00pm Youth Supper 6:30pm Cross Training 6:30pm LIVE	1 6:00pm Stratford Yoga	2	3
4 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 10:00am Special Congregational Meeting 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	5 6:30pm John Bible Study	6 6:00pm Christmas Choir Practice	7 9:00am Proverbs Study 6:00pm Youth Supper 6:30pm Cross Training 6:30pm LIVE 8:00pm Mission Trip Meeting	8 6:00pm Stratford Yoga	9	10
11 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	12 6:30pm John Bible Study	13 6:00pm Christmas Choir Practice 6:30pm Spencer Council	14 9:00am Proverbs Study 6:00pm Youth Supper 6:30pm Cross Training 6:30pm LIVE	15 6:30pm Men's Group	16	17
18 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:00am JAM 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	19 6:30pm John Bible Study	20 6:00pm Christmas Choir Practice	21 9:00am Proverbs Study 6:00pm Youth Supper 6:30pm Cross Training 6:30pm LIVE	22	23	24
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	26 6:30pm John Bible Study	27 5:00pm COME Meal	28 9:00am Proverbs Study	29 6:30pm Men's Group	30	31



Riplinger,
January 15th
Spencer,
January 29th
following worship



Orders turned in before December 11 will be delivered before Christmas.

St. John's Gift Card Order Form
 A gift card program that supports donations to community families in need.

Name: _____
 Phone: _____

DINING OUT	Amt	X Qty	Total
Applebee's	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
Arby's	\$10.00		
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Chili's Grill & Bar	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
Dairy Queen	\$10.00		
Dunkin' Doughnuts	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Hardee's	\$10.00		
Olive Garden	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Papa Murphy's Pizza	\$10.00		
Pizza Hut	\$10.00		
Pizza Ranch	\$25.00		
Red Robin	\$25.00		
Starbucks	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
SUBWAY	\$10.00		
	\$50.00		
Taco Bell	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Texas Roadhouse	\$25.00		
GAS STATIONS	Amt	X Qty	Total
Centex	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Kwik Trip	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
Total Column 1			

GROCERIES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Festival Foods	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
Pick 'N Save	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
ONLINE	Amt	X Qty	Total
Amazon.com	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
iTunes	\$15.00		
	\$25.00		
Shutterfly	\$25.00		
RETAIL STORES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Aeropostale	\$25.00		
American Eagle Outfitters	\$25.00		
Barnes & Noble Booksellers	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Bath & Body Works	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Bed Bath & Beyond	\$25.00		
Best Buy	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$250.00		
Bracke	\$25.00		
Cabela's	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Clair's	\$10.00		
Dunham's Sports	\$25.00		
Game Stop	\$25.00		
Gap	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Great Clips	\$25.00		
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft	\$25.00		
Kohl's	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
LL Bean	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Land's End	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Lane Bryant	\$25.00		
Total Column 2			

RETAIL STORES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Lowes	\$20.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Maurice's	\$20.00		
Menards	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Michaels	\$25.00		
Fleet Farm	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Old Navy	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Pet Smart	\$25.00		
T.J. Maxx	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Target	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
The Home Depot	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
Walmart/Sam's Club	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
CREDIT CARD	Amt	X Qty	Total
American Express	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$200.00		
Visa	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$250.00		
Total Column 1			
Total Column 2			
Total Column 3			
Total Amount Due			

Please put order form & check in Pam Hardrath's mailbox. Thank-you!

October Spencer Council Minutes

St. John's Lutheran Church
Spencer, WI

Church Council Meeting

October 11, 2022, 6:30pm (approved)

Present: Chair: Pam Hardrath; Vice-chair: Rudy Nieman; Treasurer: Teri Schorer; Minister of Faith Formation: Jenny Nieman; Worship Director: Bruce Luepke; Buildings and Grounds Director: Travis Hardrath; Food, Fellowship and Fun Director: Heather Vogel; Congregational Care Director: Joan Bruss.

Absent: Secretary: Cindy Weiler; Beyond Our Doors Director: Vacant

Meeting called to order by Pam Hardrath at 6:30pm.

Opening Prayer led by Pam Hardrath

New Business:

Buildings and Grounds: Lawn mower discussion: Approved Special Congregational Informational Meeting and Vote on December 4, 2022, regarding purchasing a new Hustler zero turn commercial lawn mower not to exceed \$15,000. (Teri, Rudy)

Minister of Faith Formation: Approved church paying chaperone fees for youth events using Bible Camp Scholarship funds. (Heather, Bruce)

Worship: Approved upgrading Easy Worship technology. Current program is considered out of date and we are unable to run updates and use the program to full potential. (Teri, Rudy)

Old Business:

REPORTS:

Pastor's Report (Vacant)

Secretary (Cindy Weiler)

Attached, motion approved to accept September minutes as written.

Treasurer (Teri Schorer)

We will be tithing 2% quarterly to LCMC. They do not want 10% from congregations. LCMC prefers congregations give locally and to congregation needs. We will choose an area non-profit and rotate between the 3 local food pantries. This quarter we chose Sleep in Heavenly Peace and Kings Food Pantry

Salaries are now paid monthly.

Minister of Faith Formation (Jenny Nieman)

Jesus And Me

We start each Sunday with an opening in the sanctuary with a few songs and kids head off to their classrooms.

Off to an ok start, very low attendance. We have two classrooms, one for 3yr-Kindergarten and the other for 1st-5th grade. If we get more kids than what we currently have, we will adjust

accordingly.

Cross Training

We're using new curriculum it's called What's Up? So far, it's been received very well by youth and small group leaders. Small group leaders this year are Amanda Gronski, Travis Hardrath, Rudy Nieman and Jenny Nieman. Planning and setting up the Cross Training Easy Worship and game Wednesday.

The requirement for youth to serve as an acolyte is back, so far, we have a good amount of youth signed up to serve, we're working on getting those not signed up on the schedule.

Each week youth are challenged to bring their physical/paper Bible, bring their homework or text a copy of the sheet completed to their small group leader and memorize an assigned verse- we're giving candy/rewards for each of these they accomplish each week.

Parents had signed up to provide a meal each Wednesday, we're working on getting those who hadn't signed up to do so yet.

LIVE

Leah Nieman volunteered to be the female leader for high school, we need a male leader still. Current series is called Life Revealed (Alpha series)

Each week youth are challenged to bring their physical/paper Bible, bring their homework or text a copy of the sheet completed to their small group leader and memorize an assigned verse- we're giving candy/rewards for each of these they accomplish each week.

Most youth who are at the time frame of selecting a mentor have turned in a request form, my plan is to ask the adults they have requested in the next few weeks and get the mentor program started by the end of October.

Youth are required to serve in worship in some capacity, we had them sign up for where they would like to serve, and the office put them on the schedule.

Parents had signed up to provide a meal each Wednesday, we're working on getting those who hadn't signed up to do so yet.

5th Quarter events have not been attended at all; Oct. 14 is the last one scheduled for this school year.

Worship (Bruce Luepke)

Attendance:

September 4 -42

September 11 - 57

September 18- 70

Spencer Council Minutes Continued

September 25 - 67

Worship Team and leaders met and planned out until Feb. Jenny will lead worship on Wednesdays during Lent

Christmas Eve worship Jenny and Rudy, 4:30 & 6:30pm in Spencer, 2:30pm in Riplinger.

Christmas Day worship 9am, Gail in Spencer. 11am, Joan Miller in Riplinger.

Large TV's have been purchased to replace projectors. Will be up and running soon.

Building and Grounds (Travis Hardrath)

- Snow plowing update winter 2022-23
- The sign will be completed this month. Purchasing circle trim from Stratford Sign and switching all lights over to LED.
- North door hinge will be repaired. Reminder note will put on back door, it is not getting pushed shut.

Food, Fellowship and Fun (Heather Vogel)

Due to extreme coffee waste during funerals, we will not be filling carafes and leaving them on

the tables.

Congregational Care (Joan Bruss)

St. John's Basics for new members and those interested in learning more about our congregation will be held November 13th following worship.

Beyond Our Doors (vacant)

Trunk or Treat October 30, 5:30 to 7:30pm

Vice Chair (Rudy Nieman)

Chair (Pam Hardrath)

New members: Jayson Dekarse and Vicki Lee
Time and Talent surveys will be sent out this month.

Annual meeting, January 29th, 2023, following 9am worship.

Call committee update: 1 applicant reviewed (3 so far). Primarily an online presence,

Next Meeting: November 8, 2022, at 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn

Lord's Prayer



Treasurer's Report

St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI
Treasurer's Report as of October 2022 for General Operating Fund

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Income				
410.010	Tithes & Offerings	5,580.00	52,510.94	75,000.00
410.011	Non-tithe Offerings General Fund	1,330.00	34,809.00	45,000.00
410.050	Riplinger Reimbursements	0.00	5,177.61	8,000.00
441.060	Building use	75.00	640.00	500.00
	Total Income	\$6,985.00	\$93,137.55	\$128,500.00
Expenses				
<i>500.000 Wider Mission</i>				
500.010	Tithe (10% first fruits to NW Synod/ELCA)	0.00	1,362.15	7,500.00
	<i>Total Wider Mission</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$1,362.15</i>	<i>7,500.00</i>
<i>510.000 Worship</i>				
510.030	Copyrights	0.00	728.00	700.00
510.050	Community Worship Services	0.00	750.00	850.00
510.070	Instrument maintenance/service	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
510.100	Worship Supplies	214.79	650.92	1,500.00
	<i>Total Worship</i>	<i>\$214.79</i>	<i>\$2,128.92</i>	<i>4,050.00</i>
510.020	Pulpit Supply	140.00	840.00	500.00
510.060	Worship - Music/Special Events	0.00	0.00	750.00
<i>520.000 Faith Development</i>				
520.010	Birth to 3	8.64	8.64	300.00
520.020	Children's Ministry (SS, VBS, GIFT, etc)	(85.00)	(246.98)	1,000.00
520.030	Middle School (Cross Training, Youth, etc)	(90.00)	238.66	1,000.00
520.040	High School (discipleship, chaperones, grads)	(60.00)	44.60	1,000.00
520.050	Adult Faith Formation	0.00	264.14	300.00
520.070	Library Resources	4.21	10.70	200.00
	<i>Total Faith Development</i>	<i>(\$222.15)</i>	<i>\$319.76</i>	<i>3,800.00</i>
520.080	Right Now Media	0.00	0.00	1,320.00
<i>540.000 Fellowship & Care</i>				
540.010	Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	81.03	295.47	500.00
540.020	Care Resources	0.00	0.00	100.00
540.030	Events	126.54	186.85	
	<i>Total Fellowship & Care</i>	<i>\$207.57</i>	<i>\$482.32</i>	<i>600.00</i>
<i>560.000 Office</i>				
560.010	Office Supplies (shared)	22.09	758.73	600.00
560.020	Telephone & Internet (shared)	122.97	1,229.70	1,475.00
560.030	Postage (shared)	85.17	594.06	1,000.00
560.050	Copier Maintenance (shared)	221.00	1,757.54	1,100.00
560.060	Office Subscriptions, Software, Upgrades (shared)	0.00	1,589.43	2,100.00
	<i>Total Office</i>	<i>\$451.23</i>	<i>\$5,929.46</i>	<i>6,275.00</i>
560.080	Technology - all areas	0.00	35.00	
<i>570.000 Administration</i>				
570.010	Offering Envelopes	0.00	0.00	250.00
570.020	Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	91.86	917.44	1,200.00
570.040	Insurance & Workman's Compensation	0.00	4,221.36	4,500.00
570.050	Mileage Reimbursement (shared)	0.00	470.55	700.00
570.070	Conference Dues	0.00	0.00	50.00
570.080	Leadership Study Materials/Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	100.00
570.085	Synod Assembly Fees	0.00	0.00	100.00

Treasurer's Report Continued

St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI
Treasurer's Report as of October 2022 for General Operating Fund

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
<i>Total Administration</i>		<i>\$91.86</i>	<i>\$5,609.35</i>	<i>6,900.00</i>
<i>580.000</i>	<i>Buildings & Grounds</i>			
580.020	Electricity	418.53	3,481.01	4,000.00
580.030	Natural Gas	15.52	1,914.27	1,500.00
580.040	Holding Tanks	0.00	495.00	1,000.00
580.050	Waste Disposal	108.00	1,053.00	1,125.00
580.065	Cleaning	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
580.070	Repairs & General Maintenance Expenses	326.69	1,765.40	1,500.00
580.080	Snow Removal	0.00	2,695.00	2,000.00
580.090	Lawn Mowing- Church	0.00	243.83	500.00
580.100	Cemetery Assoc Lawn Care	0.00	0.00	500.00
<i>Total Buildings & Grounds</i>		<i>\$868.74</i>	<i>\$11,647.51</i>	<i>13,125.00</i>
<i>590.000</i>	<i>Staff</i>			
590.110	Pastor Compensation	0.00	8,794.86	24,840.00
590.120	Housing Allowance (Pastor)	0.00	2,975.00	8,400.00
590.130	Books & Subscriptions (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	300.00
590.140	Continuing Education (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	900.00
590.150	Medical Insurance & Pension (Pastor)	0.00	4,161.83	14,303.00
590.160	Social Security Allowance (Pastor)	0.00	900.40	2,542.00
590.170	Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	600.00
590.210	FICA	192.76	1,517.96	2,885.00
590.230	Organist Payroll	174.00	2,131.50	2,600.00
590.240	Treasurer Payroll	150.00	1,350.00	1,800.00
590.250	Secretary Payroll (shared)	1,396.50	10,724.00	15,600.00
590.260	Staff Continuing Education	0.00	0.00	200.00
<i>Total Staff</i>		<i>\$1,913.26</i>	<i>\$32,555.55</i>	<i>74,970.00</i>
590.280	Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	799.00	5,635.50	17,680.00
590.285	Medical Insurance (Minister Faith Formation)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses		\$4,464.30	\$66,545.52	\$137,470.00
Difference		\$2,520.70	\$26,592.03	(\$8,970.00)



Consolidated Fund Activity Report

St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for October 2022

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/IE's	Page 1 of 1 End Balance
301.000	General Fund Balance					
301.100	General Balance	41,137.29	6,985.00	4,464.30	0.00	43,657.99
302.000	Special Funds Balance					
302.001	ARK Balance	281.72	593.65	40.00	0.00	835.37
302.005	Fall Harvest Dinner Balance	200.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	280.00
302.102	Globe Money Balance	143.86	38.62	0.00	0.00	182.48
302.120	Technology Balance	2,761.59	60.00	2,729.98	0.00	91.61
302.138	Bible Camp Balance	5,283.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,283.52
302.145	Mission Trip Balance	3,602.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,602.53
302.155	Kitchen Equipment Balance	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
302.160	Parking Lot Maintenance Balance	0.00	0.00	6,981.00	0.00	(6,981.00)
302.180	COME Balance	1,957.51	680.00	39.99	0.00	2,597.52
302.195	Fellowship Hall Balance	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
302.800	Seminary Fund Balance	1,854.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,854.99
302.100	Memorial Gifts Balance	2,595.41	990.00	0.00	0.00	3,160.41
302.105	Building Fund Balance	43,790.55	1,175.00	425.00	0.00	44,965.55
303.000	Thrivent (Savings Acct) Balance	6,191.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,191.04
304.000	Sabbatical (Forward Fin.) Balance	1,099.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,099.67
Total		\$110,925.68	\$10,602.27	\$14,680.27	\$0.00	\$106,847.68

