



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 27, No. 3

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923

April, 2020

Matthew 21:5: 5 "Say to the Daughter of Zion,
'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding
on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the back of a lowly and humble little donkey. He, the Son of God, rode in on an animal that wasn't at all grand or majestic. I always think of donkeys as pack animals, carrying massive and heavy loads through the hills of Peru or Mexico. I imagine them on a farm grazing in a pasture with no real purpose. A donkey, however, is very special and it is the animal in which Christ wanted to use for the purpose of coming into Jerusalem. The donkey was chosen specifically by Jesus.

A closer look at the donkey and we can learn much more about this fuzzy little creature. A donkey for example, is often used for sheep herding. They will bond with the sheep and in the event of danger, they will let out a weird noise that alerts the sheep to safety. Is it ironic that Jesus Christ came in on the back of an animal that is used for sheep herding and protection?

Donkeys are also utilized as companions in a stable to nervous horses. They have a calming effect and offer great companionship to a horse during times such as storms. Is it ironic that Christ came in on an animal that can calm and comfort during a scary event like a storm?

Patience is another characteristic of a donkey that is taken advantage of in today's society. Children can be placed alongside a donkey and there is no fear the donkey will harm them. The donkey is patient and kind and children can ride one without fear of being rejected and thrown off. Donkeys are often used in programs to assist handicap people because of their patience and loving nature. Is it ironic that Christ came in on the back of an animal that is so patient and loving?

A donkey is a hard worker and taker on of burdens. Their bodies are strong and a person can load a

donkey's back with great weight. The donkey will carry the load over and over again because that is its objective. He does not buck in complaint or sit idle when there is work to do. Is it ironic that Christ came in on an animal that carries such great burdens?

No, to me there is no irony. The little humble and gentle donkey was chosen by Christ because in a way, it is representative of Christ in our lives. Christ herds us and protects us just like the donkey and the sheep. Christ is a friend and comforter during our times of stress. He is patient and kind over and over again even though we fail him daily. He is our carrier of burdens. He took on all our burdens and died for it.

During these unprecedented times of "stay home/stay safe", "shelter in place", "social distancing", "quarantine", and a plethora of other new terms and practices we're all learning, it is comforting to know that Jesus is there for us to keep us and comfort us. There is no problem too big or too small (as in a virus) that Jesus can't handle. Have patience and peace because the Prince of Peace is here with us throughout this crisis. Continue to pray to Him and pray for healing and health for ourselves, our nation, and the world. It will come.

This year we once again will celebrate Christ's Easter victory over sin, death and the devil. Our spiritual healing has been accomplished thanks to Jesus and His cross. Let us find the ultimate joy this Eastertide in all that our Savior has done. Because of His hard work for us, we have eternal life in His name! I pray all of you will have a happy and blessed Easter this year!

Pastor Munding



+In Our Prayers

Walter Schmudlach

Elaine Humphrey

Dolly Doan

Orville Behm

Eugene Ficken

JoAnn Fink

Janet Ryerson

The Family of Michael Cooley

Kathy Wiese

Jeannette Mitchelly

Marie Chellow

Ken Schuett

Tammy Wood

Karen Schurk

Vicky Clark

George Cunning – Uncle of Pastor
Mundinger

Julie Snow

Maren Kraus' son Ben – being
deployed to Qatar in the Middle East

Leo Sperberg – father of Dan Sperberg

Maren Krause – upcoming surgery



Hospitalized

Walter Schmudlach

Vicky Clark

Julie Snow



THANK YOU!

Dear friends at St. John, Thank you so much for all the prayers you have prayed and support you have given my Mother. It has been a long 2 years! Your loving care and compassion has been appreciated by me and my family. Blessing to you and Pastor Mundinger.

Carol (Richter) Cooley and Family



LWML News

We had our meeting Monday, March 16th. We were disappointed to have to cancel our Lenten Supper this year, as it our biggest fundraiser. Therefore we are very grateful to Jerry Krause for the generous donation to our treasury. This will help us pay for our speaker for LWML Sunday.

We had intended to have an in-gathering in April and the items collected were going to be assembled into care packages for nursing homes at our Spring Rally, but the Spring Rally has now be canceled. We will have an in-gathering for the month of May, so watch for more information in the May newsletter.

We are always looking for new members, come join us at our next meeting on Monday, April 20th at 6:30pm.

Members and Friends,

We live in interesting times.

The news of the spread of the Corona virus is frightening. Our ways of going about our days have been changed and the opportunity to gather together and worship in our Church and teach in our School has been suspended temporarily while our elected officials and health workers try to slow the spread of the virus through social distancing.

Our Pastor will continue to preach the Word by recording services for upload to the Church website <http://www.stjohnberlin.org/> and for broadcast Sunday mornings at 9:30 am on WRPN 1600 AM & 93.1 FM. He will also be offering Holy Communion during the following times: Tuesdays 9-11 AM and 6-8PM, Thursday 9-11 Am, Saturday 8-10 AM and Sunday 9-11 AM if those times don't work for you please call or text him (1-608-797-9130) to set up another time.

Our teachers continue to teach by sending home materials and using the internet. This makes their job much more difficult since by limiting their interaction with students and creating obstacles to grading and correcting assignments that no one would have imagined.

What can the rest of us do?

Pray for our Church and continue to support its mission with your giving if possible.

Our Pastor, Teachers and staff will continue to be paid as usual during this time of crisis. Churches are exempt from paying unemployment insurance, so their employees are not eligible to receive unemployment benefits. The church council has decided to pay hourly staff at their normal rate through the end of the School year.

The Lord has greatly blessed our Congregation and we are in good shape financially for now, but without your continued support and weekly giving our "cushion" will dwindle quickly and we will be forced to use reserved funds to meet our commitments and continue our mission.

Ways to continue giving:

- You can mail in your offerings or bring them in when you come for a communion appointment.
- The Church office will be staffed Monday-Thursday from 9am to 12pm for those who wish to drop off envelopes.
- Set up direct deposit. This is a very convenient way to make your contributions. Fill out the attached form and deliver it to Church with a voided check attached. Contact Amy Radliff if you have questions about the form or how direct giving works.

This situation is changing and temporary. By continuing to pray, worship, and receive the Sacrament we will be strengthened and assured through the unchanging, permanent Love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Yours in His service,
Rich

Frequently Asked Questions About Electronic Giving

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| <p>Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving?</p> <p>A. Electronic giving is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. It eliminates frequent check writing and allows you to stay on track with your giving even when you are unable to attend services. The church in turn benefits from much-needed donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that require manual processing in the church office.</p> <p>Q. How does electronic giving work?</p> <p>A. Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.</p> <p>Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?</p> <p>A. First, you sign and return an authorization form to the church indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis. Contributions are then transferred through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network—the same network already used by families to make mortgage and utility payments or to receive payroll earnings and Social Security income.</p> <p>Q. When will my contribution be debited from my account?</p> <p>A. The first debit to your account will occur on the date you specify on this form. Thereafter, your account will be debited according to the frequency you select on this form.</p> | <p>Q. How will I keep track of contributions in my check register?</p> <p>A. Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions will appear on your bank statement.</p> <p>Q. What can I use to prove I made a contribution?</p> <p>A. Your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions.</p> <p>Q. Is electronic giving risky?</p> <p>A. Electronic giving is less risky than writing checks or carrying cash to services. To process electronic donations, the church uses Vanco Services, LLC—an established and highly-regarded company that moves funds directly from member bank accounts to the church bank account on the same day without any delay. Vanco processes contributions for more than 12,000 churches and nonprofit organizations.</p> <p>Q. How much does electronic giving cost?</p> <p>A. It costs you nothing and it costs the church very little.</p> <p>Q. What if I try electronic giving and don't like it?</p> <p>A. You can cancel your authorization at any time by notifying the church.</p> <p>Q. How can I sign up for electronic giving?</p> <p>A. Complete and sign this authorization form and return it to <u>Amy Radliff</u> for processing.</p> |
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Please attach a voided check over section above.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Church Name: St. John Lutheran Church – Berlin, WI 54923

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE										
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____													
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation													
Last Name		First Name											
Address													
City		State	Zip										
Email Address													
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____	FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">FUNDS:</td> <td style="width: 40%;">AMOUNTS:</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>		FUNDS:	AMOUNTS:	<input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating	\$ _____		\$ _____	Total	\$ _____		\$ _____
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CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)		Routing Number: _____ <i>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</i> Account Number: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> </div>										
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.												
	Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____												

Ladies Aid News...



President Robin Henriksen opened the March 5 meeting with a devotion on Eve from Genesis 3 and 4.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

The Lenten Supper on Wednesday, March 11 was discussed. A motion was made and passed to put the collection from that evening towards the new refrigerator.

A motion was made and passed for the new refrigerator committee to just go ahead and order one. They will report their findings at the April meeting.

President Robin will order flowers for the altar at Easter.

A game was played and refreshments served by the hostesses: Anita Krenke, Robin Henriksen and Vickie Clark.

LADIES AID UPDATE



The April and May meetings will be canceled. We will meet again in September. Continue praying for our community and our country.

Memorials



IN MEMORY OF MARTIN BARNARD

For Bell Tower

From Bob & Karen Wendt.....\$25.00

DONATIONS

For Communion Wafers

From Delbert & Barbara Krause

.....\$64.50

Divine Love



Human Care

The donkey awakened, his mind still savoring the afterglow of the most exciting day of his life. Never before had he felt such a rush of pleasure and pride.

He clop-clopped his way into town and found a group of people by the well. "I'll show myself to them," he thought.

But they didn't notice him. They went on drawing their water and paid him no mind.

"Throw your garments down," he said crossly. "Don't you know who I am?"

They just looked at him in amazement. Someone slapped him across the tail and ordered him to move.

"Miserable heathens!" he muttered to himself. "I'll just go to the market where the good people are. They will remember me."

But the same thing happened. No one paid any attention to the donkey as he strutted down the main street in front of the marketplace.

"The palm branches! Where are the palm branches!" he brayed. "Yesterday, you threw palm branches!"

Hurt and confused, the donkey returned home to his mother.

"Foolish child," she said gently. "Don't you realize that without Him, you are just an ordinary donkey?"

Just like the donkey who carried Jesus in Jerusalem, we are most fulfilled when we are in the service of Jesus Christ. Without Him, all our best efforts are like "a filthy cloth" (Isaiah 64:6) and amount to nothing. When we lift up Christ, however, we are no longer ordinary people, but key players in God's plan to redeem the world.

Prayer: Thank You, O God, for giving me a ministry. Help me to be faithful in whatever that ministry is, however high and exalted, or lowly and menial.

In Jesus' name.

Creation Corner

From the Bi-Monthly Journal

"Does God Exist?"

A regular feature of the journal *"Does God Exist?"* is a section entitled *"Dandy Designs."* Here are various examples from God's creation pointing to

A Design to Reduce Inbreeding

As our understanding of genetics has improved, we have seen the genetic hazards involved in too small of an animal or plant population. If a plant or animal breeds with a near relative, destructive genetic characteristics are more likely to show up in offspring. You do not breed litter-mates for this reason. Animal breeders are very careful to keep mixing their stock to minimize inbred malformations. The question that comes up for biologists is how inbreeding is avoided in the natural world.

In March 17, 2015, the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, published a report that addresses this interesting question. Biologists studied a plant known as *Heliconia tortuosa* which has long tube-like flowers.

The plant can be pollinated by six hummingbird species and one butterfly species. But the most successful pollinator by far are the hummingbird species with extra-long, curved bills.



Short-billed hummingbirds and butterflies are much less likely to cause the plant to produce more pollen tubes, so the reproduction rate from those sources is low. When long-billed hummingbirds (or fake glass pipettes) came into the plant, it responded with many more pollen tubes and much more nectar. That meant that the pollen from the long-billed birds was the main pollinator of the plant.

When scientists tagged the hummingbirds, they found that the short-billed birds and butterflies all lived very close to the plant. The long-billed hummingbirds flew long distances and covered many miles bringing pollen from distant sources. In that way inbreeding in the plant was greatly reduced. Plants located at great distances would be

more likely to have a different genome. The design of the plant to accept primarily the bills of birds coming great distances, combined with the design of the hummingbirds to fly more miles as it gathered nectar, work together to address the issue of inbreeding. We suggest this is a wonderful example of God's wisdom and design in the creation. Sometimes it takes humans as curious investigators a long time to figure out the design, but a wonder-working hand has gone before us. It is the hand of God.



April 1, 1958 - Donald & Barbara Rosner
April 9, 2005 - Darriel & Nancy Kumbier
April 11, 1959 - Duane & Caroline Schudlach
April 12, 1980 - Don & Jayne Beier
April 12, 1958 - Walter & Marilyn Schudlach
April 13, 2015 - Tyler & Jennifer Kettlewell
April 19, 2003 - Brian & Sara Resop
April 19, 1969 - Russell & Kathleen Thom
April 20, 2002 - Doug & Lynnette Wilde
April 22, 1967 - Robert & Karen Wendt
April 23, 1988 - Bill & Amy Brooks



From St. John Lutheran School



We are living in a very interesting time, to say the very least. I pray for school and church families. Stay safe. Stay connected to your church as well. Pastor and the choir are doing a great job of providing audio and video options for your continued participation in worship. Please take advantage of the opportunity to stay in the Word with your family. In addition to online worship, this might be a good time to examine your family devotions and personal Bible study practices. I know that I could always do better in this area. We need to trust in and lean on our loving God during lonely, difficult, scary (as well as good) times.

I would like to report that Julie is doing very well following back surgery to fuse several vertebrae and clean up some stuff that was pressing on some nerves. She is walking around 5000 steps a day without the pain that was there for the past several years. We praise God for healing and guiding the medical staff as they cared for her. As I am typing this, she is already video conferencing with some of her 4K students and delivering instruction online.

When the Governor announced the state-wide school shutdown, we had a lot to get done in a short time. I would like to thank our Board of Education for their support during this difficult time. Our staff participated in several days of tech training with public school teachers and the staff from All Saints Catholic School. We learned about group video conferencing with our

students. We also explored options for delivering online content and assignments.

As a result, our teachers have been in contact with our students and their parents. The students have taken all their books and supplies home. The teachers are using Zoom, Google Hangouts, text, phone, and/or e-mail to communicate. Our 5th-8th graders already had been issued laptops which they have been allowed to take home to complete assignments during the shutdown. To be sure, delivery of instruction looks very different now than it looked a few weeks ago. We pray the God would bless our efforts as we continue to teach and share the love of Jesus with our students and their families.

I would like to thank Dr. Cartwright and his leadership team for involving us in preparation for this major change. They also even offered us licensing for some of their software programs at no cost.

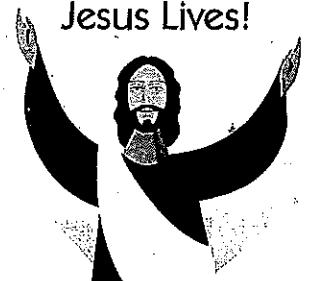
In other news around the school. The trustees found a plumber to install the drinking fountain with bottle fill on the second floor. The one on the first floor has really been appreciated. Now the second floor has one of their own.

The Board of Education ordered new mats for the end walls in our gym. The new ones are wider. They extend the full width of the court (not just under the baskets). They were installed today. They look great.

I wish you all a wonderful month as we complete our journey through Lent. Happy Easter. Stay safe. Stay home.

I am yours in Christ's service.

Jesus Lives!





April Birthdays



Kimberly Hameister	4/01	Christine Dretske	4/15
Darriel Kumbier	4/01	Ralph Wilson	4/15
Mary Ann James	4/02	Minnie Blackmore	4/16
Jacqueline Albert	4/03	Mark Piechowski	4/17
Terri Billington	4/03	Caitlyn Ramsey	4/17
Brooke Hess	4/03	Mike Schrader	4/17
Katie Beier	4/04	Orville Behm	4/18
Isaac Dament	4/04	Angie Browning	4/18
Wayne Kaufman	4/04	Jessa Schilder	4/18
Mitzi Putzke	4/04	Carlene Merrick	4/19
Corrin Ewald	4/06	Kelli Munding	4/19
Solomon Gilmour	4/07	Darwin Krause	4/20
Barbara Krause	4/07	Joshua Dament	4/21
Karen Rowen	4/07	Darleen Klemp	4/21
Oliver Billington	4/08	Gordon Lewis	4/21
Bonnie Sperberg	4/08	Sharon Dehn	4/23
David Dretske	4/10	Duane Nitz	4/24
Brett Dawson	4/11	Addison Mosier-Resop	4/24
Donald Dretske	4/11	Nathan Wendt	4/26
Mary Kracht	4/11	Barry Rodensal	4/27
Mary Lou Yerk	4/11	Ken Schuett	4/27
Elaine Achterberg	4/12	Dean Snow	4/27
Judy Mehn	4/13	Dick Zable	4/27
Chantal Fay	4/14	Jordon Podoll	4/28
Kristy Herbst	4/14	Mark Podoll	4/29
Gary Podoll	4/14		
Richard Ryckman	4/14		



Continued History of St John Lutheran Church

Pastor Arthur Schedler (1955-1973) of St James Lutheran near Shawano accepted the call and became the 12th Pastor. He was installed October 16th. Once again the Primary teacher changed when Miss Lorna Newmann of Spencer WI accepted our call. The church steeple sustained extensive damage when struck by a bolt of lightning. At the time of it's repair and re-roofing, a large stainless steel cross was placed on top of the steeple. This cross was later moved to the steeple of our present church.

Due to increased enrollment in the school, a third classroom was added for the 1956-57 school year. Mrs Mildred Lohse became the 3rd teacher. The finance committee was dispensed with and a stewardship committee consisting of 30 men was elected to replace it. In January of 1957 the first adult Bible Class met between the 8 and 10:15 services. Land was acquired around our existing buildings. First 2 lots south of the church were donated to be used as a playground for the school. The church then purchased an adjoining 3rd lot. Eight church members purchased 2 lots on Canal Street to be used as a possible building site for a parsonage. It was becoming evident that the school needed to be expanded.

From June 10th to the 16th 1957 various activities were held to celebrate the church's 90th Anniversary. Former Pastors Eggers and Baker were present. Later that same year all employees, except the Pastor, were included under Social Security. By the end of 1957 a school and parsonage building committee had been formed.

On August 3rd, 1958 ground was broken for an addition to the school using land to the north of the present school and formerly occupied by the parsonage which had been sold to Harold Featherstone and moved to 295 Canal

Street. More land was acquired when the Mendleski house, east of the old parsonage on SW Franklin was also purchased. Pastor Schedler moved his family, which included 5 children, into that house. His wife, Ellen became the school's hot lunch cook. Two new classrooms and a large multi-purpose room were planned along with offices and additional bathrooms. Teachers serving St John for the 57-58 school year were Arnold Lohse, principal and 6th, 7th and 8th grade teacher, Mildred Lohse 4th and 5th grades and Miss Delores Rung, primary grades. These 3 taught together for the next 4 years. In November of 1959 Mr Lohse celebrated his 20th year of teaching. On May 3rd, 1959 the new addition was dedicated. Again that summer, the church picnic was held at the Mount Morris Retreat. The second service being celebrated in the old barn followed by a potluck picnic. In the afternoon, lots of games and baseball were enjoyed.

In 1960, the parsonage at 263 Canal St was authorized and built with much donated labor for painting, wiring and insulating as could be found. On August 6th 1961 the parsonage was dedicated. That September, Johnathon Schedler, son of Pastor Schedler, left for Concordia, Milwaukee, to study for the ministry.

Arnold Lohse faithfully served as Principal and Teacher from July 1953 until the summer of 1961 when he left for Stillwater, MN. His family, which included wife Mildred and six children, Ralph, Herbert, Lester, Robert, Dorothy and Merle, lived in the small teacherage just east of the church. Mr. Lohse dedicated endless hours to our congregation as youth leader, choir director, organist and janitor, in addition to patiently teaching our children. He was also a faithful Lutheran Layman's League member. Mildred, taught one year in a country school and then at St John when the 3rd classroom was added in 1956. By 1959, school enrollment had

jumped to 103. A basketball program was organized with games being played against other Berlin Schools and various parochial schools in the area. The 1st coach was Garvin Shields and when he left for the Army, Bill Handrich took over the A team assisted by teacher Ken Burron. The 1st year, the A team won 2 games but lost 7. However the next year they won 16 games and only lost 2.

In 1965, a special vesper service was held honoring Pastor Schedler's 30th Anniversary in the ministry. It was conducted by his oldest brother Rev. Herman Schedler of Mequon, Wis. Mr. Paul Aufdemberge succeeded Arnold Lohse as principal and teacher, serving until the middle of 1963 and Ken Burron came from Canada to teach the 4th and 5th grades. Theodore Preuss was the next principal called, serving with his wife Mary. Delores Rung Kafer taught until the end of the 1962 school year followed by Mrs. Colleen Yoho Kohl who taught for 2 years. In 1964 the school expanded to four classrooms with 108 enrolled. Teachers were Mr Preuss, Principal and 7th & 8th grade, Ken Burron 5th & 6th, Alice Parsons 3rd & 4th and Carolyn Marquardt Polk 1st & 2nd.

The church's 95th Anniversary was observed in 1962 and the constitution was also revised that year. The following year a 100th Anniversary Committee consisting of Clarence & Dorothy Braun, Robert & Betty Barnhart, Otto & Irene Heuer, Carl & Esther Krueger, Norman & Lily Kretzman and Pastor & Ellen Schedler was appointed. Soon after, the Talbot house on Pierce St was purchased and torn down to make way for a playground for smaller children. A scholarship fund for college students was started in 1965. Ken Burron left and was replaced by Mrs Wm Lauterbach. Mr and Mrs Donald Buuck came to teach in 1966. For it's workers, St John joined the Concordia Welfare and Retirement Plan of the LCMS. An organ committee consisting of Wm Roerig, head organist, Harvey Moldenhauer, Arnold Kretzman and Alfred Krueger

was formed and the Freeport Organ Co. of Freeport, Illinois was awarded the contract to completely rebuild the church organ adding a new console, rebuilding the present pipes and adding new ones. The cost was \$22,000 dollars and raised the value of the organ to over \$80,000. In 1967 the Baehr house at 235 SW Ceresco was donated to the church and served as a teacherage and vicarage.

To prepare for the centennial celebration the church was given a new front of lannon stone, enclosing the steps. Members donated new pews and the old ones were installed at Camp LuWiSoMo. Bathrooms, meeting room and a storage room were added in the church basement. The interior was beautifully redecorated with the Ladies Aid once again purchasing new carpeting. The centennial celebration began on Sept. 17th 1967 with the rededication and relaying of the cornerstone. Communion in both English and German was given on September 24th and the youth held an ice cream social in the afternoon. A Confirmation Reunion Banquet was held at Berlin's Clay Lamberton Elementary School on Saturday evening September 30th followed by a worship service on Sunday October 1st in which Confirmation vows were repeated. St John school students and their parents participated in a Worship of Rededication and Reconsecration for 100 years of Christian education on Tuesday evening October 3rd. and on Thursday evening the St John Choir under the direction of Mr Garvin Shields presented a musical Worship of Praise to God. William Roerig was the organist for all worship services. Two former Pastors, Wm Eggers and Herbert Baker, along with Rev Erwin Moldenhauer, son of the congregation, participated in the various services. Guest speakers were Rev. Alfred Wolkenhauer, Rev Walter Stuenkel and Rev Paul Sreufert, then 3rd Vice President of the LCMS. During the centennial year, the children of St John School were taught by Theodore Preuss,

Donald Buuck, Alice Parsons, Thyra Lulow and Mrs Buuck.

In the fall of 1968, the St John Bowling League was formed. Every Saturday evening, 16 teams of 5 members each bowled the early shift at the Berlin Lanes. Mr Preuss served as principal until the summer of 1969 when he accepted a call to Arlington, Virginia. Highlights of Mr Preuss's ministry at St John included trips to Chicago for the 7th and 8th graders and participation in the Outdoor Education Camps at Camp Rokilio near Plymouth. Mr and Mrs Buuck and Thyra Lulow also left in '69. Gary Tate became temporary principal, Fred Snyder taught 5th & 6th, his wife Susan, 1st & 2nd and Connie Peterson 3rd & 4th. Book rent was \$10 per child and hot lunch 40 cents per day.

Renovation of the organ was completed in 1969. The pipes were relocated changing the arrangement of the church balcony. The organ was rededicated Feb 22nd 1970 with a concert by student Robert Rimbo from Concordia College, Milwaukee.

Thursday night services during the summer months began in 1970 and in August, Ronald Junge was installed as principal and Joanne Vetter joined the Snyders to complete the school staff. The next summer, Miss Joanne Vetter married Jim Wudy who was called to teach 3rd & 4th

grades. Joanne Wudy taught the 1st Kindergarten class at St John in 1971. The first Nursery School class in Berlin began on Monday January 29th 1973 at St John School. Taught by Joanne Wudy, the class met every Monday and Wednesday afternoon from 1-3 pm in the Kindergarten room. The cost was \$15.00 a month and the first students were David Barnes, Billi Jo Boening, Ted Kuklinski, Dana Fasser, Kris Morris and Scott Rajchel.

Ronald Junge left Berlin in 1972 and Fred Snyder became the new principal. Two new teachers, Kathleen Sofflet and Doug Mierrow were hired and Mrs. Mierrow became the 1st church secretary. St John participated in the Key 73 program during which the entire United States was canvassed by volunteers to find the unchurched.

Pastor Schedler served St John for 18 years and was given a peaceful release in the summer of 1973 to LaValle, WI. Besides his duties at St John, he served the South Wisconsin District Lutheran Laymens League as counselor and attended several National Conventions. He also attended National LCMS Conventions in Anaheim, CA and Denver, CO. His five children, Paula, Jonathan, Miriam, Mary and Susan all attended St John School and were very active in all phases of school activities.

Verse to Remember

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.'"

—John 11:25-26

Thanks from the Seminary!

Greetings from Trinity Lutheran Church in Harvel, IL

What a difference a month can make. It seems like a completely different world these days. COVID-19, Corona Virus, has changed our lives. A few weeks ago, I hadn't even heard of social distancing. And today, I am socially distancing. I've also found myself saying things that a Pastor/Vicar normally never says. "Please don't come to church". "Yes, we should cancel our Sunday morning services." Illinois was one of the first states in the nation to close bars and restaurants to sit down customers and to order shelter in place, stopping non-essential work. The initial cases were in the Chicago area, but a case has been reported in our county seat, 20 miles north, in Springfield, 35 miles north and in a small town about 20 miles west of here. So, even out here in the country, the level of concern is rising. And of course, with Linda's lung condition, COVID-19 could easily be fatal, a prospect that has her concerned and constantly reminding me to be careful. And even in this, God is in control working all things for our good! (Romans 8:28)

Speaking of Linda, she had another episode of coughing up blood last Saturday, 3/14, made worse by my being an hour away for Lutheran Emergency Response Team training. The bleeding stopped quickly and she was sent home with antibiotics.

Trinity is not having events or church services through April 4th. The Elders will have a telecon on April 2 to determine whether we resume with Palm Sunday or how we will minister to our congregation. I will be emailing and making a paper copy of a brief service with readings, prayers and my sermon during these two weeks.

My Vicarage Outreach Project, Harvel Community Garden, is really becoming challenging. It is clearly swimming upstream at this point. The object of the garden was to get people to interact with neighbors while COVID-19 is driving social distancing, encouraging people not to interact with neighbors. Instead of Monday's kickoff meeting, I will have packets available for anyone who expresses interest.

My "final" evaluation for vicarage is complete. Pastor and I worked through my self-evaluation and his evaluation and I am to track to

successfully complete Vicarage. In addition, members of the congregation completed a survey about my vicarage. I am waiting for those results. I was contacted by the Director of Placement to confirm that I am willing and able to subscribe to my ordination vows. A mid-July Ordination is just around the corner, an event that is made possible by your prayers, and generous support. Thank you once again for all concern, prayers and financial support. Please continue to pray for us during these challenging times.

May God richly bless you as you serve Him, His Church at large, your local congregation and your neighbor.

In Christ,
Joe Nehring

Seminarian III Concordia Seminary-St. Louis
Vicar, Trinity Lutheran, Harvel, IL

Dear St. John,

Hard to believe we have begun another Lenten season.

Spring is back, and still, it seems so early in St. Louis. Living in WI my whole life, the thought of planting the gardens in March is bizarre. Our daughters were down visiting and we were able to have a family photo taken for the first time in years. Coleen and I are so blessed to have such wonderful daughters.

Colleen and I can't believe this is my last semester of classes. My classes are going great, and I am enjoying the fantastic education I am receiving here at Concordia Seminary. Thank you for all of your support, because without it, it would be challenging to be here while my daughters are going to college.

Right now the family is eagerly waiting to learn where we will be sent for my vicarage assignment. As an Alternate Route student, the vicarage is convertible to my first call. My wife is anxiously awaiting where we will be moving to in a couple of months.

Thank you again for your financial support, and your cards and prayers have been a real life boat at times. Your letters seem to show up at the most needed times to lift my spirits.

I hope you have a blessed Easter season,
God's peace be with you.

Bruce Elliot
Seminarian, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: March 19, 2020

The March meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Bob Young. Opening words by Kevin Koch.

Present: Rich Wallner, Bob Young, Bob Radliff, Amy Radliff, Kevin Koch, Debra Thiel, Pastor Mundinger, Curt Snow and Keith Krause.

Secretary's Report submitted by Amy Radliff

Motion by B Radliff/Koch to accept the February minutes with correction to substitute teacher pay of \$112/day, not \$100/day and church attendance for January 2019 should read 206, not 298 per week. Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>February 2020</u>	<u>February 2019</u>
General Fund	\$39,704.64	\$31,672.58
Children's Fund	\$ 1,298.13	\$ 2,430.54
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$ 2,099.74	\$ 4,079.18
Attendance	180 per week	161 per week

Motion by Wallner/Snow to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account February 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$1,236.14	Income:	\$ 40.32
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$1,276.46

Hot Lunch Account February 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$4,364.83	Income:	\$37,017.07
Expenses:	\$2,985.83	Ending Balance:	\$38,396.07

Elderly Fund February 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$5,702.28	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$5,702.28

Children's Fund February 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$76,730.40	Income:	\$ 1,298.13
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$78,028.53

Motion by B Radliff/A Radliff to accept Treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- Met with the cleaning service regarding communication and work being done. A deep cleaning of each classroom is being done by a trustee and another individual during the school closure due to Covid-19.
- Plumbing work needs to be scheduled for the teacherage. The water softener needs to be connected and a leaky kitchen faucet fixed. There are other plumbing items in the church as well.
- When the plumber is on site, they will be asked for advice and quotes on the Church's hot water solutions.
- Elevator inspection is being scheduled.
- The rental of the church's lower level has been changed from May 31st to June 6th.

Motion by Wallner/B Radliff to accept Trustee's report. Motion approved.

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report

Official Acts: Release by request – Jane Nowicki.

Communicant Members 472

Baptized Members 551

Church Families 291

- Pastor Busse will give the sermon March 22nd.

- A member has requested to attend a Christian Care Giving Conference at Concordia University in Mequon. Tuition funds will be provided.
- Pastor reported that the Church's website has been updated with tabs guiding visitors to the newsletter, calendar, bulletin and links to the recorded service.
- An industrial size hand sanitizer was donated for the church entrance.
- E-mail communication has been sent to members regarding communion practice and collection of offerings during the Covid-19 disruption. Pastor will provide communion 9 am – noon, Monday -Thursday or by appointment.

Motion by Thiel/Snow to accept Elder's and Pastor's report. Motion approved.

Board of Education Report by Kevin Koch

- Department of Instruction (DPI) will need information on what educational materials are being provided to students during school closing due to the coronavirus.
- School work has been sent home with the students. Each school can make its own decision at this time with regard to type of instruction.
- Catalina trip is currently in question.
- Waivers for hours of instruction have been issued to the public schools, nothing has been established for private schools as of this meeting.
- There are (3) applicants for the position of school administrative assistance. Interviews are being scheduled.
- Curt reported teachers are receiving training for Zoom video training as an alternate teaching method.
- The public school is extending licenses for Odyssey, a training curriculum. Dr. Cartwright and his team have been very helpful thru this process.

Motion by A Radliff/Wallner to accept the Board of Education report. Motion approved.

Old Business:

- Minor changes to the budget proposal for salary of teacher, Mrs. Schram and hourly wage for 4K assistant, Mrs. Bruss. The budget will be approved during the quarterly voter's meeting. The budget must be in place by June 1, 2020.

New Business:

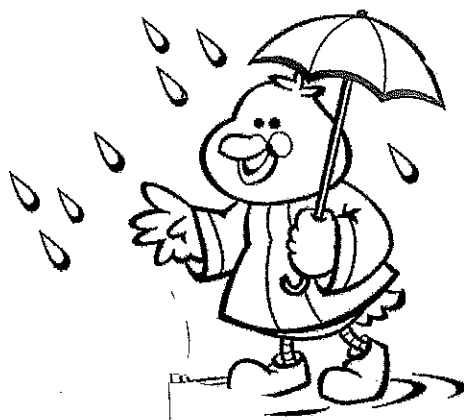
- Regarding payroll, Rich reported that regular salaried employees will continue to receive pay.
- Motion by Koch/Young to continue to pay hourly employees thru the end of the school year even though school is not in session. This would not include the scheduled days off during spring break. One opposed, motion was approved.

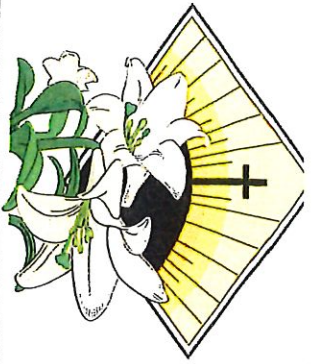
Meetings next month: Trustees – Tuesday, April 14th. Board of Education – Wednesday, April 15th. Elders – Tuesday, April 14th. **Council – Tuesday, April 21st – 6pm.**

Motion by Snow/Thiel to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7 pm. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

*Respectfully submitted,
Amy Radliff, Secretary*

****Note:** These minutes have not yet been reviewed by the Council and are subject to revision and correction at the next meeting.





April 2020



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Church Office Hours: 9:00—12:00 Monday Thru Thursday Website: www.stjohnberlin.org						
5 PALM SUNDAY No Worship service or Sunday School or Bible Class 9:30 RADIO Service	6	7	1	2	3	4
			NO Confirmation Class 6:30 Choir Practice			
			8	9 MAUNDY THURSDAY NO CHURCH SERVICE		
			NO Confirmation Class 6:30 Choir Practice		10 GOOD FRIDAY NO CHURCH SERVICE	11
12 EASTER No Worship service or Sunday School or Bible Class 9:30 RADIO Service	13	14	15	16	17	18
			NO Confirmation Class			
19 No Worship service or Sunday School or Bible Class 9:30 RADIO Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
		6 pm Council Mtg	NO Confirmation Class			
26 No Worship service or Sunday School or Bible Class 9:30 RADIO Service	27	28	29	30	RADIO: Tune in to AM 1600 or FM 93.1 from 9:30 – 10:30	

