



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 25, No. 12

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923
January, 2021

Epiphany: 3 a (1): a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something (2): an intuitive grasp of reality through something (as an event) usually simple and striking (3): an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure b: a revealing scene or moment...

Have you ever had one of those aha moments? You know the ones, where all of a sudden a light goes off and you realize the answer to a puzzle you have been trying to solve. One of those instant enlightening moments as if someone suddenly turns the light on and you can clearly see for the first time in a long time. To a song writer it is the "hook". To a scientist perhaps a newly discovered gene. To Archimedes it was the discovery of buoyancy for which he is reportedly to have shouted "Eureka"! To Isaac Newton it may have been when he got hit on the head with a falling apple.

Aha moments are everywhere. They come unexpectedly most times but usually while searching. Although they appear to be sudden discoveries, they are however the eventual outcome of due diligence. Curiosity causes a ripple effect to begin. The constant searching and seeking after understanding led many a young pioneer to new discoveries and great advances in the arts and sciences. Without curiosity and the constant seeking for answers there would be no new discoveries, or aha moments to

write about. Sir Isaac Newton put it best when he said: "I keep the subject of my inquiry constantly before me, and wait till the first dawning opens gradually, by little and little, into a full and clear light."

The Christian life has unfolding moments like that, when you discover there is much more to God and his kingdom than you first knew, much more to his purpose for you than you imagined. Abraham experienced that at age 75, Moses at age 80, the Apostle Paul on the road to Damascus. The Magi from the East had their aha moment as well. They were astrologers by trade, star gazers, who spent their lifetime studying the sky. They were learned enough to know this shining new star was to symbolize the coming of a new King for Israel. So they set out in search of this King. The obvious place to look for an Israeli King would be Jerusalem. When they arrived there they were greeted by Herod the reigning King. They inquired of him and his learned men as to where this child was, who was born "King of the Jews", for they saw his star. He was not to be found there.

In further searching of the Scriptures it was noted that Bethlehem in Judea was to be the birthplace of the King. So off they went in search of the answer to their inquiry. As they went they beheld the star shining brighter and brighter as they approached the place where Jesus was...

...When they arrived, the star stood right over the house and they were filled with great joy... They were about to have an aha moment. Alas! Eureka! We found Him! For the Christian, our first aha moment occurred before we were old enough to realize it! In the water of Holy Baptism we were first given faith via the Holy Spirit. Faith which began a lifetime journey to understanding God. As we grew older we learned more and more about God and His will for our lives. Each new discovery should deepen our desire to know more. It is this discovery of greater truths that stands as our spiritual aha moments.

What started out as a small light in the sky grew into a great awakening for these wise men who traveled far from home to find what they were seeking. Each aha moment begins with a new light shining in a familiar place. It is this newness, placed amid the familiar, that stirs a longing to seek for more. If we are never presented with new light we would never develop the hunger to seek more. If your nest is never stirred you may never learn to fly. Instead you would stagnate as individuals in Christ.

The Lord can be found by all those who diligently seek Him with their whole hearts. The Holy Spirit causes a stirring in your heart, a desire to know more of Him, to seek to find greater understanding of who and where He is. Once you set out on this journey to find the King of the Jews you will not stop until you actually are in the very presence of God Himself in heaven.

Reflection upon this newly discovered light leads one on a lifetime journey of discovery. Standing in the way of any new found wisdom are all the traditional barriers to your understanding. While seeking the King

of the Jews, He was not to be found in Jerusalem as conventional wisdom would have taught. Instead the wise men had to look further, dig deeper into the Scriptures to find out the true birth place of this new born king. Had they stopped searching after reaching Jerusalem to find no new child king they would have missed the greater blessing awaiting them in Bethlehem.

We must continue to dig deeper, look harder, gaze longingly into the Scriptures, ever looking for that new light. Without the continued inquiry and waiting for the Holy Spirit to shine the light of God's grace into your lives, you too could miss many aha moments in the years to come. 2021 is now upon us. What better way to find more aha moments than to join us in Bible study at 9:15 on Sunday morning in 2021. God is waiting to open the eyes of your heart to the truth of His Word! Have a blessed New Year in Jesus' name.

Pastor Munding



+In Our Prayers

Pastor Paul Pett

Jennifer Dopke

Donald Siegmund – father of Pat
Siegmund

Alice Janes – 92nd birthday

Julie Snow

Laverne and Verona Lipke – parents of
Ramona Hrebik

Leo Sperberg – father of Daniel
Sperberg

Martha Pieper – Bonnie Sperberg's
sister

Betty Freimark

Gary Eggert

Joan Parsons

Janet Ryerson

Maren Krause

Billi Kaufman

Ken Schuett

Marie Chellow

Kathy Wiese

Dolly Doan

Orville Behm

Bob Young

Connie Simson

Brian Hartzke

Our Shut-In and Homebound members



Hospitalized

Julie Snow
Gary Eggert



New Members

Tina Markowski and son Owen
206 S. Hunter St.
Berlin



January 1, 1977 - Mark & Ricki Schubert
January 2, 1971 - Kris & Ramona Hrebik
January 17, 1976 - Ken & Leanne Hansen



Quarterly Voter's Meeting

Sunday, January 31st

Following late service,
beginning at approx. 11:45 am.



St. John Prayer Chain

Members of the Prayer Chain believe that prayer is a vital part of our Christian life and devotion in serving the

Lord. The Lord encourages us to bring our burdens to Him. We live in troubled times, which includes, but is not limited to Covid-19. Lifestyles have changed dramatically and has affected every aspect of our lives.

Praying is something you can do anytime and anywhere in your home. If you feel you would like to serve the Lord by being a member of the Prayer Chain, please contact me or any member of the Prayer Chain.

Present members are:

June Richter (coordinator)	920-361-2451
Barbara Rosner	920-361-2728
Amy Brooks	920-789-9385
Cathy Young	920-290-0063
Sharon Stumpner	920-361-4332
Linda Nitz	920-361-3744
Candy Schram	920-290-1455
Shirley Keenlance	920-361-0300

Notes / Guidelines for Prayer Chain

1) Anyone can activate the Prayer Chain. If you have someone tell you they would like to have us pray for them, call June so she can start her calling and you start by calling the person that you usually do. (When the person who usually calls you calls, you will know the chain has been completed.

2) If you know of someone needful, ask them if they would like for us to pray for them. If you ask their permission and they say no, drop it.

3) We are to maintain a level of confidentiality. While it may NOT be confidential to others in the congregation or community, whatever is said should not come from you. I.E. You are not to repeat anything you hear on the Prayer Chain.

4) If you know you are going to not be available for some time, like if you were going on vacation, or for some reason would not be available, let the person that calls you know and ask them to call the person you usually call.

5) Let the person who calls you know how you would like to be notified, land phone, cell phone, text, or? And when is the best time to call? We do not leave detailed messages on answering machines.

6) How long do you pray for a person? Some said 2 weeks. Personally I pray 2 weeks and then transfer them to my prayer journal. If you would like to make a personal inquiry please do so if appropriate. Use your own discretion. Most people appreciate sincere concern for their wellbeing.

7) Do not put people on the Prayer Chain without their request or permission. Some would interpret that as an invasion of privacy.

8) People needing prayer are not limited to St. John. Prayer requests may include friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, etc.

If you have questions or comments please do not hesitate to call me . June Richter (920) 361-2451

Ladies Aid News...

The Ladies Aid had their December meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2020. The members packed Christmas bags for shut-ins and other members of the congregation. Members had a cookie exchange and played Christmas games.

The St. John Ladies Aid will serve refreshments at the next Bloodmobile on Tuesday, January 12.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 4 in the church lower level.





January Birthdays

Thank You! Thank You!



Thanks to the people who donated the beautiful trees for Christmas this year!

Thank you to Russ and Robin Henriksen for donating all 5 Christmas trees in church.

Thanks to Don and Barb Rosner for the small wreaths outside. A special thanks to the Altar Guild and others who decorated the church this year. Thank you to Rich Wallner and Kevin Koch for putting up the Christmas trees.

We will undecorate the church on Saturday, January 9th, starting at 9:00 am

Thank you to all!!



Poinsettia Donation

The 2 red poinsettias on the Altar were donated by the family of Alice Janes in honor of her 92nd birthday.



The congregation has been divided by SECTIONS OF THE ALPHABET, using the first letter of your last name. All nametags are white.

Elders assigned to each section are listed below.

Elder 1	Mr. Tyler Kettlewell	A thru D
Elder 2	Mr. Stan Hartzke	E thru H
Elder 3	Dr. Gary Eggert	I thru L
Elder 4	Mr. Brian Thiel	M thru P
Elder 5	Mr. Rich Wallner	Q thru S
Elder 6	Mr. Michael Herbst	T thru Z

There will be a chart on the wall by the mailboxes with these names as well to inform members.

Stan Hartzke	1/02
Kristen Mertens	1/03
Kyle Verch	1/04
Caleb Voigtlander	1/04
Ronda Dretske	1/06
Nathan Mosier	1/06
JoAnn Kaufman	1/07
Dirk Lueck	1/07
Rachel Vergin	1/07
Harrison Drover	1/09
Charles Nechkash	1/09
Susan Fink	1/10
Ralane Tuinstra	1/10
Rev. Paul Mundinger	1/11
Brian Resop	1/11
Alice Parsons	1/12
Kevin Parsons	1/12
Debra Wissell	1/12
Cindy Drews	1/13
Curt Snow	1/13
Haley Bevers	1/15
Ryan Bolen	1/16
Emma Krueger	1/16
Sandy Londowski	1/16
Hallie Coronado	1/17
Sandy Gregor	1/18
Viz Ries	1/18
Janet Ryerson	1/18
Antonette Kracht	1/19
Eugene Ficken	1/22
Brandon McCormick	1/22
Julie Hess	1/23
Cassandra Snow	1/25
Jack Weiland	1/25
Brock Wilde	1/25
Connie Boening	1/26
Kashton Mehn	1/27
Pat Durrant	1/28
Bill Brooks	1/29
Noah Kaufman	1/31

Divine Love:



Human Care

St. John Carling Ministries

The year 2020 is now in our rearview mirror, and many Americans are not sad to see it go.

It has been a long time since there's been so much stress in one 365-day calendar year. Not only did the Covid-19 virus disrupt everything, but it was also a presidential election year.

So now that we're in 2021, we are filled with hope. Out with the old; in with the new. This year, we hope and pray that a fail-proof remedy will emerge to combat this virus.

We've had to *defend* ourselves against the virus. We are asked to keep a space of 6 feet between ourselves and others. When in public, we need to wear a face covering. Churches were closed as were movie theaters and sports arenas. Oh, yes, 2020 was an unusual year! A year ago, we had no idea!

So we have been defending ourselves by staying home and alone as much as possible. But behind the scenes, scientists have been on the *offensive*, too, working feverishly to develop a vaccine of antidote to beat the virus.

We're ready for something new. We're tired of the old way of living. Sounds familiar.

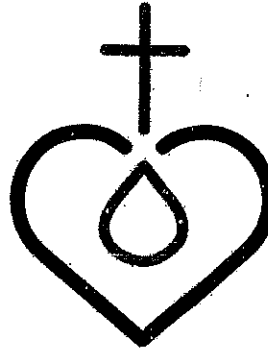
The apostle Paul speaks of the old and the new frequently. He notes that God is a God of new things. He also says that "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5: 17).

Here is encouraging news to remember for the year 2021: God is a God of new things. God will be with you, as God has in the past. Therefore, we do not fear.

May I suggest a Bible verse for you to remember for the year 2021 ? "Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread ... because it is the LORD your God who goes with you; he will not fail , you or forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31 :6).

Write this verse down, or underline it in your Bible. Memorize it if you can. It will be a big help to you in the coming year, 2021 !

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for preserving me throughout the past year! For the new year, I continue to trust in You. Amen.



LWML News:

The LWML met on Monday, December 14th at church. We brought individually wrapped treats for our COVID Christmas party.

Our January meeting will be Monday, January 18th at 6:30pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend. We have had a couple visitors at our last couple meetings, and they made it out alive, come and join us! We will have a Bible study and short business meeting.

Our Winter Get Away is still planned for Jan. 29-30 in WI Dells. Registration information is on the website or there is a form in the card room at church.

We will be hosting a prayer breakfast on February 6th at 9am at St. John. We will have breakfast and Pastor Munding will lead us in a service. Watch the bulletin for more information in the future, everyone is welcome to attend, you don't need to be an LWML member.

Spring Rally is April 27th at Mount Morris

39th LWML Biennial Convention will be in Lexington, KY June 24-27, 2021

Memorials



DONATIONS

For General Fund

From Dave Barbola.....\$100.00



From St. John Lutheran School



Happy New Year!

I pray that you all had a blessed Christmas we all celebrated the gift of the Christ child in that stable in Bethlehem.

2020 was truly a year for the books. Covid, virtual school, Presidential elections, racial tensions, storms, wildfires are a few of the things that made it challenging and memorable. We must not forget the many positive things that happened as well. We have been able to return to worshipping in person. We were blessed to return to "in person" classes this past fall. Our faithful members have remembered the needs of our church and school with their financial gifts. The Lord has blessed this congregation in so many ways.

Now we find ourselves entering 2021 together. My wish for you and your loved ones is God's continued blessings in the coming year. He does, so richly provide for His children. He sent His Son into our world to redeem us from sin, death and the devil. This was truly the greatest gift of all time.

We continue to be blessed, at the school, so far this year. We have not had a student test positive this year. We had one staff member test positive with mild symptoms. We have had two teachers self-quarantine for a time with no positive tests. We thank the Lord for His protection.

Our volleyball season has been completed successfully with no Covid-related issues. Our basketball teams started practicing in December. Games are scheduled to begin this month. Our athletic directors and coaches are in contact with our league's other schools and the WIAA to work

on policies and procedures to keep our student athletes, coaches, officials and fans safe while providing the opportunity for athletic competition.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Pett and our students for putting on our first live Nativity. It was very successful with more than 200 passing through the display. We also collected a large pile of donations for the Berlin Food Pantry. We thank everyone who donated to this worthy cause.

I would also like to thank everyone who made this event take place. We had dads and trustees who gave of their time to construct our stable. We had students as our actors. We had donated lumber for the project. We had staff and students directing traffic and taking the donations. There were people who supervised students and provided snacks in the warming area. This was a great witness to our community about the Christmas story. I thank everyone who helped to pull it off. We are already looking forward making additions and improvements to next year's display.

We are making plans for this year's Lutheran Schools Week at the end of January. It will look different this year, like everything else. Watch for announcements in the weekly church bulletins, as we plan to celebrate our Lutheran school. The school receives many blessings from our congregation and is a blessing to a congregation so dedicated to providing Christian education for generations.

God bless you all in 2021.

I am yours in Christ's service.

*Happy
New
Year!*

Thanks from the Seminary!

The last 3 months have been filled with amazing opportunities to serve the Lord. As Colleen and I continue to develop our relationship with both St. John's Lutheran in Arnold and Immanuel Lutheran in Barnhart, we are growing in our faith that the Lord is with us every step of the way. COVID has made leading worship challenging at times but loving on our people has drawn people back to church to be together in the word.

This last week I was honored to do my first Baptism of a boy from our preschool at Immanuel Lutheran Church. The young man was telling his parents about the new pastor coming to teach and pray with them in school. The parents decided to come to church to learn more about what we were doing in the church. Soon after they decided to have their 3-year-old son Baptized and the mother who is Roman Catholic decided to become Lutheran so the family could attend church together as a family. Praise the Lord! Seeing the Lord work through you is very , rewarding.

I really appreciate the opportunity to serve in both churches as a student. Having the resources of St. John's Lutheran allows me to grow Immanuel Lutheran in ways that would otherwise be unavailable to a sole pastor of a small congregation.

You can continue watching me develop as a worship leader by watching Immanuel's worship services at:

<https://www.facebook.com/immanuelbarnhart/>

God's Peace be with You,
Bruce Elliot

Dear St. John's

I wanted to thank you all for your continued generosity as you support my seminary education! I very much appreciate how much you have helped me out. My second quarter has just begun – only one week under my belt, but it has been good. My classes so far have been really helpful

and I have still been learning a lot of things. I know will be useful as I begin my ministry next year. There is just so much to know! Of course, I'll never learn it all, but it is comforting to know that God is always there to help and guide. I hope that you are all having a blessed Advent season and I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Have a great day and God Bless,
Seminarian Rob Schrader

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we rejoice in God's gift of His Son, I thank you for your caring contribution of **\$750.00!** In donating to Concordia Seminary during these challenging times, you are making an important difference in our mission of forming students for the Holy Ministry.

The Christmas season is a special time for celebrating love, joy, peace, family and faith and for cherishing our blessings, secure in the knowledge that Jesus came into the world bearing the gift of eternal salvation through faith in Him. Your gift to the Seminary also is a great blessing, as it supports those who are preparing to boldly proclaim "Christ is born!" for generations to come.

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3: 17 ESV).

Thank you again for your wonderful gift, and blessings to you and yours this Christmas!

Most cordially yours,

Vicki Biggs

Senior Vice-President, Seminary Advancement
Chief Communications Officer



DID YOU KNOW.....



There's a new smile in our Lutheran School office these days and that smile belongs to Deb Schrader. For the past 23 years Deb had worked for Berlin Family Eye Care and was looking for a new challenge when the secretary job became available. She applied and the new challenge was found. "I really love this school!! The staff is wonderful and greeting the students every morning is the high-light of my day!!"

Debra Dewhurst was born November 1st 1971 at Berlin Hospital. Her dad, Bob, worked at David White/Realist for over 40 years and mother Betty, at Berlin's JC Penney store until it closed. She then worked at 1st National Bank until retirement. On November 21st 1971 Debra was Baptized by Pastor Arthur Schedler. She has 2 older brothers, Doug & Dan followed by 1 younger brother, David.

Deb's Kindergarten year was spent at Rural Heights Country School south of Berlin followed by 3 years at Clay Lamberton. She was then enrolled at St John for 4th through 8th grade. "I loved St. John School almost immediately and felt very loved and nurtured here." She only scored 1 point during her years playing basketball and struggled with cheerleading also. "I did love the West Bloomfield track meets. They offered academic tests along with the track events and I was better at those." She remembers a lot of good times with good friends, working at the Chop Suey suppers, attending basketball tournaments, sleepovers and youth group activities. "Pastor Eckardt did a lot of fun things with the Youth Group." Deb was confirmed by

Pastors Meyer and Eckardt on March 31st 1985 and graduated co-salutatorian of her 8th grade class. "Graduation was both exciting and terrifying because I had to make a speech."

Working at Berlin Printing and Office Supply and later at Super-Valu grocery kept her pretty busy throughout her high school years. She graduated from BHS in 1989 and then attended Moraine Park Technical College, earning an Associate Degree in Data Processing. Recently Deb got her teaching sub license so she can help out at school. She has already subbed in 4K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades.

Deb started dating Mike Schrader shortly before graduating in 1989. Their parents knew each other from high school and their Dads were members of the Berlin Volunteer Fire Dept. at the same time. Mike was also a fire fighter along with Deb's three brothers. Mike and Deb were married on May 16th 1992 by Pastors Meyer and Doan with Nancy Wallner at the organ.

They raised 2 sons, Rob and Pete. Both boys attended St John School from preschool through the 8th grade and both were valedictorians of their 8th grade class. They graduated from BHS; Rob in 2011 and Pete in 2013. While their boys lived at home their family took several trips to Mexico, Florida, Washington DC, Arizona, Wyoming and the Black Hills.

Continued on the next page.

Deb Schrader continued

Rob graduated from UW LaCrosse and taught Social Studies and History for 1½ years in Holcombe, Wi. He then felt the call to the ministry and is in his final year at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft Wayne. "While Rob was studying at LaCrosse he spent a semester studying abroad in Bradford, England. When his semester was done, Mike and I along with Pete, my parents, Mike's mother and my sister-in-law all met him in England. Rob was an awesome tour-guide and we had an amazing trip visiting England, Scotland, Wales and Paris"

Pete was accepted into the Business Scholars program at Concordia, Mequon and graduated in 4 years with a Bachelors in Marketing and a Master's in business. He has worked for the last 1 ½ years for the Broan Co in Hartford, Wi. Both sons were married this past summer: Rob to Paige Jones and Pete to Jade Wilds.

Deb enjoys reading, watching movies and being outdoors. When she was 24, she decided to try sky-diving and took a couple of her brothers along on the adventure. She stays closer to the ground these days and keeps fit by walking, running and biking; "something I can do with my adult children." She has run in several 5K's and missed participating this past summer because of the COVID. Deb and Mike enjoy exploring Wisconsin's beautiful state parks. In 2017, they celebrated their 25th wedding Anniversary with an Alaskan cruise and land tour: enjoying the wild-life and beautiful scenery.



At St John Deb is a member of the LWML and Altar Guild while Mike serves as a Trustee. "Mike and I love the people here at St John and the family feeling we have while we are here. There are so many members who are willing to step up and help out. This congregation is very blessed with wonderful members."



From the desk of Karen Wendt.....

Happy New Year everyone. You all know me as the person who writes the "Did you know" articles about people in our congregation. Well, I have some exciting news to share with you. I recently became the Green Lake County Field Editor for Our Wisconsin magazine. My job is a simple one: be the "eyes and ears" of "Our Wisconsin", forever on the look out for stories about people doing highly interesting things in and around Green Lake County.

I recently submitted an article about "The World's Largest Puzzle" which will appear in the February 2021 issue. This is a good example of what they are looking for: something interesting and unusual that happened in our county. I can also submit pictures of Green Lake County sights.

If you know of something that might qualify as newsworthy please give me a call and maybe it will end up being published. It can be anything happening in our great state of Wisconsin. My phone is 920-369 6822 or just see me in church. Thank You



LuWiSoMo News

Fall 2020

While We've Been Apart...



Reroofing the Chapel

While we've been apart due to COVID, the LuWiSoMo ministry team has been very busy working to improve camp and make it better than ever for when we can all return and gather again.

With all the changes over the last decade, many of the needed infrastructure upgrades and property and facility work were unable to be addressed. That has now changed, and we're digging in!

Your gifts over the past several years repaid the huge debt to a more manageable level and helped resolve the financial situation. Now we're able to put your gifts to work on the much needed investments in the property and facilities to ensure LuWiSoMo is ready to serve God for generations to come.

Replacing and upgrading roads, roofs, plumbing, septic systems, windows, doors, siding, and removing buildings that are unsafe and beyond repair is costly and not as exciting as adding new facilities and other projects, but is very necessary if we're to be good stewards of the blessings we've been given.

We've found ourselves with a huge backlog of these types of projects, some desperately overdue, and are now focused on tackling them and setting up reserves to maintain these needs moving forward. At the same time, we're looking ahead and starting to plan for what is needed to serve the ministry's future needs, so that once we've caught up with this backlog, we're ready to keep moving forward.

Following are highlights of some of what we've completed and what's in the works. Know that while these are big but necessary investments, we're pacing them to ensure we remain financially healthy with proper reserves.

Continued on Page 2...

Your Help Needed

COVID continues to cause all retreats to be cancelled or rescheduled. This means no operating income. Yet basic expenses continue. Financially, that means your gifts are what support camp right now. Thank you to each of you who've stood in the gap these past months with your gifts. Know they are truly making the difference!

Right now, like so many others, we too need your financial help to get through this and be ready and able to welcome you back when this is done. Thank you in advance for your support! Here are some ways to help...

Triple Challenge 2020

Support LuWiSoMo by contributing to "Triple Challenge 2020". Thanks to two anonymous donors, your gift **now** through January 15th is **Tripled!** Details on the website.

Amazon COVID & Holiday Shoppers

If you shop Amazon, sign in via smile.amazon.com and under "Your Account" select the option to make LuWiSoMo your charitable organization of choice. There is no difference in cost or ordering process except signing in via smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com, but when you do and select LuWiSoMo, we receive funds from Amazon. Thanks to all who're doing this — it adds up!

Thrivent Choice

Reminder to Thrivent members, you can designate your Thrivent Choice dollars to LuWiSoMo. Thanks to all who've been doing this! Your dollars add up and make a big impact for God's ministry at LuWiSoMo!

Tom Martin Retires



Please join us in a huge "Thank You" to Tom Martin for his over 24 years of service to God's ministry at Camp LuWiSoMo, as he has decided to retire at the end of this year. Don't worry, you'll still see Tom around LuWiSoMo as he plans to volunteer from time to time and attend events. We celebrate Tom and his faithful and dedicated service to God at LuWiSoMo over these many years and pray God's richest blessings on him and his family as he begins this new season of his life.

Summer Camp 2021

Plans are proceeding for summer camp not knowing what will develop with COVID. Dates for the 2021 camp weeks are live on our website, but registration is on hold until the new year to see where things are then with COVID.

New this summer – a slight change regarding the ages for campers for each of our Youth Camps. Ages now vary for each camp week, offering more flexibility and dates for the majority of youth campers, while still maintaining age appropriate programming. Youth Camp weeks are now: Week 1 (Grades 3-6), Week 2 (Grades 2-5), Week 3 (Grades 4-7), Week 4 (Grades 5-8).

High School CITs

Counselors In Training (CITs) are high school students who spend two or more weeks volunteering at summer camp, serving alongside camp counselors and staff. You experience the joys and hard work of camp ministry, while developing your leadership skills and growing in faith. If this sounds like an opportunity for you, or for someone you know, see the details on our website or contact us.

Attention Nurses

Each week of summer camp we need a volunteer nurse or nursing student to help serve with distribution of meds and as our Health Supervisor. Your meals, and housing for you and your family, are provided. Enjoy time at camp and sharing your gifts! If this sounds like something that interests you or someone you know, please consider being a blessing in this way. Contact us to learn more and schedule your week(s). Thank you!

While We've Been Apart...

Continued from Page 1

While COVID has slowed progress on some of the more costly projects, we're using plenty of our own "elbow grease" to keep moving on all that we can. Thank you in advance for your gifts that will allow this work to continue!

Completed

- Retreat Center – Kitchenette cleaned and restored as true "Guest Kitchen". Stove added. LVP flooring laid in Meeting Room. All carpet now removed for cleaner environment and easier maintenance.
- Retreat Center / Dining Hall – Failed septic systems completely rebuilt with new pumps and equipment.
- Campground Shower House 2 (Main) – Replaced water heater and added new iron and sediment filters. All new toilets and major plumbing repairs. Up next, repainting, inside and out!
- Farmhouse, old "pigpen" and outbuildings on west side of the Chapel removed.
- New roofs on all camp & campground buildings (mostly covered by 2017 storm claim) and all now the same for a uniform "campus" feel. New building exterior color plan in place so as updates are made, we grow into a uniform "campus" appearance.

- Staff House 1 (formerly Director House) completely remodeled and now home to Heather "ZuZu", our wonderful Program Director.
- Roads – Began phased project to upgrade all roads, many in desperate need. Main camp & campground roads done. Remainder to be done in next 2 years

In Process

- Outdoor Education Curriculum – Update & Expand
- Retreat Center Water System – Old water heaters, pressure tanks, and water filtration and softener systems replaced along with full plumbing upgrade.
- Retreat Center – Replace failing smoke / CO2 detectors with new system to current code. Replace broken card reader door hardware and repair doors. New exterior window & doors. Restore lower lever to guest recreation area. Upgrade lighting and paint.
- Maintenance Shop – Full clean up and organization, inside and out, just about complete.
- Summer Camp Arts & Crafts and Canteen – Moved from Old Dining Hall to Chapel Activity Center and Nurse's Station to restore Chapel and its Activity Center as the hub for youth summer camp activities.
- Shepherd's House & Old Dining Hall demo
- New & expanded parking area behind Chapel
- Waterfront – Reorganize and expand
- Picnic Tables – Phased replacement from wood to aluminum for longer life and easier maintenance.
- Picnic Shelter - Add "ceiling" to address bird issue & refurbish. Part of Chapel Courtyard development.
- Youth & Family Cabins – Restain exteriors. Replace doors & hardware. Repair / replace porch decks

Upcoming

- Master Plans – Campground including adding group camping, gathering shelters, and other upgrades, and Full Camp including walking trails throughout and connecting all areas of property, family housing, relocate maintenance building, activity center / gym.
- Bunk House (formerly Dormitory) – Convert to year-round group housing. Replace asbestos exterior siding, windows & doors, install air conditioning, finish last of interior work and add new bunk beds.
- Retreat Center Bathrooms Remodel
- Retreat Center Kitchen Remodel

Questions / Stay Connected

If you have a question, want to know more about what's happening or share a thought, we're always excited to hear from you! Feel free to contact me directly via the "Contact" page on the website or give us a call.

Are you receiving LuWiSoMo emails? If not, or to be sure we have your current contact info, email us your info and we'll make sure you're on the email news list.

Dan Freiburger
Business Director | Executive Director
www.LuWiSoMo.org | 920- 622-3350

St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: December 15, 2020

The December meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Bob Young. Pastor Mundinger opened with prayer.

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

Secretary's Report submitted by Amy Radliff

Motion by B Radliff/Krause to accept November minutes. Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>November 2020</u>	<u>November 2019</u>
General Fund	\$96,011.85	\$41,209.81
Children's Fund	\$ 199.85	\$ 3,809.54
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$ 501.01	\$ 4,941.15
Attendance	128 per week	194 per week

Motion by Koch/Thiel to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account November 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$1,293.82	Income:	\$ 29.36
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$1,323.18

Hot Lunch Account November 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$ 3,622.42	Income:	\$35,524.31
Expenses:	\$34,852.21	Ending Balance:	\$ 4,294.52

Elderly Fund November 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$6,702.28	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$6,702.28

Children's Fund October 2020:

Beginning Balance:	\$83,411.03	Income:	\$ 442.85
Expenses:	\$ 6,253.81	Ending Balance:	\$77,600.07

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

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- A 6-month job performance evaluation of the janitor, Cynthia was completed. She will receive a \$0.50/hour increase.
- Still working on the hot water estimates and potential date of installation. Trustees are waiting on competitive bids from two sources.
- A suggestion of lighting on the north side of the Church was discussed. Recommendations will be reviewed, project is tabled until Spring 2021.

Motion by Koch/Thiel to accept Trustee's report. Motion approved.

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report

Official Acts: Transfer In – Antonette Kracht, from Trinity Lutheran, Borth, WI.

Deaths – Raymond Fay and Donna Jones.

Communicant Members 478

Baptized Members 556

Church Families 293

Board of Education Report by Kevin Koch

- Living Nativity was well received by community. Large amount of food was collected for the Berlin Food Pantry. More than 200 candy canes with cards were handed out.
- Mrs. Schram has submitted her intent to retire at the end of this school year. Names of potential candidates can be submitted to Mr. Curt Snow or to a member of the board.
- Fruit sale was conducted and fruit to be delivered December 16th
- Christmas bags will be assembled for Christmas Eve services

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

Old Business:

- Still waiting on response for Payroll Protection Plan forgiveness.
- Reineke Monument of Oshkosh has missed their deadline for installation of the stone marque outside of church. Weather may prohibit the installation until Spring.

New Business:

- Welcome Adam Ewald to the council as Vice Chairman, term beginning in January 2021.

Meetings next month: Trustees – Monday, January 11th. Board of Education – Tuesday, January 12th - 6pm.

Elders – Tuesday, January 12th- 6pm. **Council – Wednesday January 20th– 6pm.**

Annual Voter's Meeting – Sunday, January 31st following the 2nd service (approx. 11:45am)

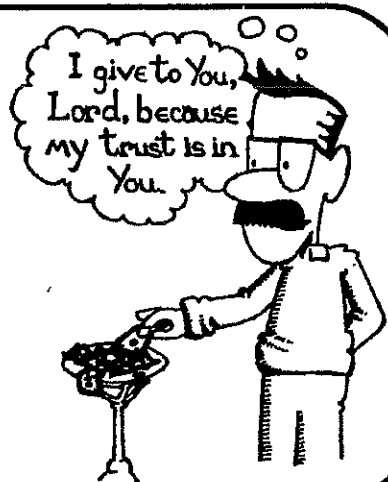
Motion by Koch/B Radliff to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

*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.*

**IF THE WISE MEN, EVEN THOUGH
THEY KNEW LITTLE ABOUT THE
CHRIST CHILD, BROUGHT HIM
GIFTS, HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD
WE WHO KNOW HIM DO THE SAME?**

**“They opened their treasures and presented
Him with gifts of gold, and of incense and of
myrrh” (Matthew 2:11).**





January 2021



EPIPHANY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8 am Worship/HC 9:15 SS/BC 10:30 Worship/HC	4	5	6 3:45 Public Confirn	7 6:30 Worship/HC	8	9 9:00 am Un-decorate the church
10 8 am Worship/HC 9:15 SS/BC 10:30 Worship/HC	11	12 6:00 Elders 6:00 Bd. of Ed.	13 3:45 Public Confirn	14 6:30 Worship/HC	15	16
17 8 am Worship/HC 9:15 SS/BC 10:30 Worship/HC	18	19	20 3:45 Public Confirn 6 pm Council Mtg. 7 pm Sr. Choir	21 6:30 Worship/HC	22	23
24 8 am Worship/HC 9:15 SS/BC 10:30 Worship/HC	25 6:30 pm LWML Mtg	26	27 3:45 Public Confirn 7 pm Sr. Choir	28 6:30 Worship/HC	29	30
31 8 am Worship 9:15 SS/BC 10:30 Worship 11:45 Voters Mtg						

