



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 27, No. 1

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923
February, 2022

Valentine's Day is approaching. And, with it, expectations for husbands to demonstrate their love and affection for their wives. I would like to suggest **Ephesians 5:25-33** as a template for that love, not just for this Valentine's Day, but for the new year and beyond. Not only is it instructive in its advice to the often relationally-challenged sex, I believe that it could be at least part of the very inspiration for romantic love. In verse 25, Paul tells the husbands in the Ephesian church, **"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."** No doubt every husband is familiar with at least one occasion (be it a novel or movie of some kind) in which their wife was emotionally affected from an account of two people in love where one person gives their very life to protect the other. Granted, that's the extreme example of love. Though we all would undoubtedly give our very lives for our spouse, there are even more practical applications to be found in this passage.

In verses 28-29, we read, **"...husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church..."** Now, imagine what would happen if husbands were to begin loving their wives "as their own bodies." In other words, putting them before ourselves. What if the first thoughts in our heads each morning were of their welfare instead of ours? Besides making

every effort to provide for all of their needs and even most of their wants, it would undoubtedly mean seeking to make them comfortable in even smaller, yet important ways. Opening doors for them. Listening when they want to talk. Taking the kids out once and a while, giving mom a day, or maybe just half a day, to herself. Even a simple yet sincere "thank you" for a well-kept house and the many meals provided (and yes, I know some of you husbands cook and clean as well). For me, it would include helping with laundry without being asked. I'm sure each husband could think of at least one equivalent in their own relationship. And, I'm sure we could all agree that the little things sometimes earn the biggest dividends.

Pulling off a successful Valentine's Day is easy. A successful marriage, on the other hand, takes work. With the overwhelming evidence that the traditional family is in trouble in our society, today, I contend that it's up to the husband to take the lead in building a strong marriage, thereby greatly increasing the family's chance of success. After all, the children are watching. What might it mean to the future of the family, the church and even the nation if they grow up seeing Dad loving Mom as he loves himself? I'm not a prophet, but I'd imagine it would also pay great dividends. Have a blessed Valentine's Day!



Pastor Munding

+In Our Prayers

Gerald Krause
Carolyn Schudlach
Duane Schudlach
Orville Behm
Marilyn Schudlach
Carol Kosterman
Jaden Schubert
Minnie Blackmore
Leitha Kraus
Minnie Blackmore
Mark Schubert



New Members

Robert and Janet Bunn
W2195 Hickory Road
Green Lake, WI

Charles Huibregtse
397 Seward Street
Berlin

Kendrik and Tiffani Chappa and
children Li'Onna and Maximus
N650 State Road 49
Berlin

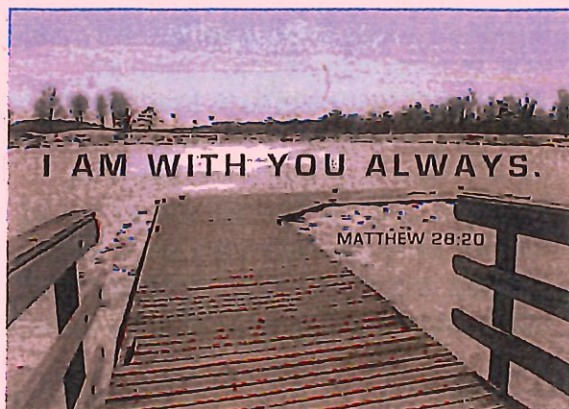
Our Shut-In and Homebound members

In the Hospital

Mark Schubert
Leitha Kraus



February 4, 2011 - Adam & Julie Deibert
February 4, 2005 - Jayson & Rebecca Mosier
February 8, 1964 - Gordon & Jean Manske
February 10, 1973 - David & Deb Johanknecht



Quarterly Voter's Meeting Sunday February 13

Following the 9 am
worship service
Begins approx. 10:30 am

Memorials



IN MEMORY OF ALICE PARSONS

For School

From Bob & Tricia Prellwitz.....\$ 25.00

For Organ Fund

From Deb Schubert.....\$ 50.00

IN MEMORY OF BRENNEN THOMA

For Organ Fund

From Deb Schubert.....\$ 50.00

IN MEMORY OF KEN SCHUETT

For Senior Choir

From Keith & Maron Krause...\$ 50.00

For Human Care

From Delbert & Barbara Krause.\$20.00

For General Fund

From Don & Donna Dretske.....\$ 25.00

From Pat & Peggy Seaman.....\$ 50.00

For School

From Joyce Parsons.....\$ 20.00

For Organ Fund

From Vern Lichtenberg.....\$ 25.00

IN MEMORY OF NATE JORGENSEN

For Maintenance & Repair

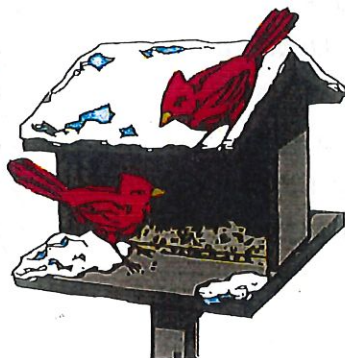
From Bob & Karen Wendt.....\$ 50.00

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE FINK

For Playground.....\$ 1,000.00

For Maintenance & Repair.....\$ 500.00

From Susan Fink



IN MEMORY OF WILFIRD POLK

For Organ Fund

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

From Vern Lichtenberg.....\$ 25.00

For School

From Darrell & Diane Voeltner..\$ 25.00

From Joyce Parsons.....\$ 20.00

For Human Care

From Delbert & Barbara Krause \$ 20.00

For General Fund

From Pete & Missy Gravunder...\$ 50.00

From Rich & Nancy Wallner.....\$ 100.00

From Family & Friends.....\$2,880.00

DONATIONS

In Honor of Holly Prah, Anna Linse and
Melissa Linse

For Playground

From Susan Swanson.....\$50.00



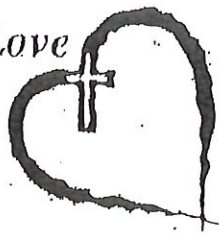
Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid celebrated Christmas on Thursday, December 2 with a potluck luncheon with members and guests. Pastor opened with prayer and entertainment was provided by Pat and Laurie Siegmund.

Door prizes were flower arrangements provided by Debbie Wissell. Games were also enjoyed.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 3 at 1:00 pm in the church lower level. The Ladies Aid will be hosting the Berlin Bloodmobile on February 22.

Divine Love



Human Care

You might not be lonely during the long winter months, but it is quite possible that you have friends who are.

The Bible says that we are not alone - not you, me or your friends. God is with us, and as we were reminded recently during Advent, God entered our human experience as a baby in the manger, known as "Immanuel," meaning "God with us."

King David experienced the closeness of God throughout his life. In his well-known Psalm 23, he writes, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me," verse 4. These words may be a reference to David's loneliness in his early days as regent of Israel. In another psalm he writes, "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit," (Psalm 34: 18).

For many people, especially those who are homebound or living in a life care center, one of the most distressing parts of the pandemic has been dealing with loneliness.

Visiting rules in many places have changed since the early days of the crisis in 2020. Even so, psychologists say that some of the most effective tools for helping people cope are pets, mindfulness and laughter therapy.

Believe it or not, robotic dogs have been used to combat loneliness in residents of care centers and hospitals. Yes! "Some of the most effective interventions in these settings involved weekly visits from an interactive robotic dog, which has proven to be as effective as a real dog in alleviating loneliness," according to one study of the subject.

But even better than a robot dog, or a real dog, are other therapies that include laughter, educational activities, some types of meditation and strategies to develop friendships.

A strong faith is a critical component to easing loneliness and often helps us to perceive the support that we had forgotten we had all along!

*Prayer: Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art; / Thou
my best Thought, by day or by night, / Waking or
sleeping, Thy presence my light. Amen. (from the hymn,
"Be Thou My Vision," att. to Dallan Forgaill)*



FEBRUARY

Birthdays

Jonathon Schilder	2/01
Jace Snow	2/01
Jonathon Bruss	2/02
Joseph Bertzyk	2/03
Lynette Wilde	2/03
Samuel Kettlewell	2/05
Dennis Winkler	2/05
Cathy Herbst	2/06
Adam Deibert	2/08
Marion Kobishop	2/09
Jeff Wasniak	2/09
Susan Wendt	2/12
Gabrielle Scheps	2/13
Liz Butterbrodt	2/14
Breanna Polk	2/16
Billi Jo Kaufman	2/17
Nicole Schumacher	2/17
Alan Boehlke	2/19
David Beardsley	2/20
Don Beier	2/22
Michael Brooks	2/22
Allison Marks	2/22
Jadon Vergin	2/24
Donna Dutcher	2/25
Dale Bruss	2/26
Jennifer Dewhurst	2/27
Hannah Kobishop	2/28
Keith Krenke	2/28
Karen Saunders	2/28
Darrell Mischka	2/29



From St. John Lutheran School

Greetings from your school. February is the month that is connected with love. We think of flowers and candy and romantic dinners. Real love is God sending His Son into the world to redeem us. Please join us in sharing this good news.

We just finished a week of celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week. We went bowling and sledding. We watched a movie in the gym. We had special dress-up days. One day we dressed like our favorite book or movie characters. On movie day we wore our PJ's. Wednesday, we dressed up extra nice for chapel. Thursday, we had jellybean day. Each class dressed in a different color. It was a fun week to take note of what is special about St. John Lutheran School. We thank this congregation for providing all the support to operate our school.

We will be participating in the Wisconsin School Choice again this year. Families, who qualify financially, can send their children to St. John tuition free. The application window opens on February 1 and closes on April 21.

This year we are opening this program up to 4K students as well. If you know of a family who might be interested in sending their child to a Christian day school, but didn't think they could afford the tuition, please let them know that they can call the school office for more information. 920-361-0555

We collect offerings at our weekly chapel service. We send those donations to a different mission project each quarter. We just completed the second quarter of our school year. This quarter we donated \$170.32 Phil's Friends. This organization provides Christ-centered support to those affected by cancer.

Our school Christmas program had been postponed from before Christmas break due to quarantining classes. Then it got postponed again for the same reason. As a result, we decided to do

the performance in church without an audience and record it. It is now on the church website. There are two performances there. One with the AM 4K class, and one with the PM 4K class. The rest of the classes are in both. We had some audio issues on the recording to work out before we ever try that again.

Our students are participating in two different reading challenges right now. In one they have set goals in four two-week periods. If they reach their goals they will earn a ticket, a hot dog, and a soda at a Timber Rattler game. Our school will have family day Sunday, May 22. The second challenge is to see how many Accelerated Reader points our classes can rack up each week. We are competing with a variety of other Lutheran schools from across the nation.

Our wellness committee is setting up a Walking Wellness Challenge this month.

We are hosting a basketball tournament at the high school on Saturday, February 19.

Our accreditation steering committee has been putting a great amount of time getting our documents ready for the validation team's visit on April 21st and 22nd. The committee members are Terri and Jennifer Billington, Tina Markowski, Pastor Mundinger, Amy Vetrone, Adam Ewald, Kevin Koch, Rebecca Mosier, Allie Henke, Amy Brooks, Melissa Linse, Curt Snow, and the backbone organizing everything and keeping us on track, Deb Schrader. Thank you to all of you for your time and effort.

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Cinthya Fibiger, school custodian, on becoming a US citizen. A great amount of time and effort is required to achieve this goal. Good job!

Have a great month. I am yours in Christ's service.





St. John Prayer Chain

Are you looking for a way to serve the Lord that can be done at home and at your convenience?

You may want to look into the possibility of becoming a part of the St. John Prayer Chain.

This requires a sincere desire to pray for those who are in need. You can pray at anytime and anywhere. If you would like more information please call me at 920-361-2451.

June Richter (Prayer Chain Coordinator)



Operation: Teddy Bear

Thank you to everyone who has donated Teddy Bears, new or used, to be distributed to ambulances, squad cars, abuses centers, or wherever there may be a child in dis-

tress, whose world may have fallen apart and could use comfort. The first part of December 40 bears were delivered to the Christine Ann Center in Oshkosh. Two weeks later 10 bears went to a foster home in the Milwaukee area. A couple there has been fostering children for 31 years, many time receiving children in the middle of the night because of drug problems or other traumatizing events. At the present they have a "preemie" baby who weighed 4 pounds at birth.

Bears are picked up at the Second Time Around Shop, sanitized, and made ready to be "adopted" wherever there may be a child in need of comfort.

A special Thank You to Carol Gelhar at the shop who gathers the teddy bears and brings them for preparation. You may leave bears there or in the Card room with my name on them. New or used bears are welcome..

If you know of anyone, anywhere, in need of the comfort of a Teddy Bear, please call me.

Thanks again for your participation.

June Richter
361-3451



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am reaching out to you today for help. A former principal and his wife who taught at St John are retiring this year. Karl and Carol Sattler are currently at Good Shepherd Lutheran in East Troy, Wisconsin and the congregation there is making a scrapbook of letters from families and students that have had them in the past. My sister is a member there and my niece/ Goddaughter is in his 8th grade class.

If anyone is interested in writing a letter or has pictures to contribute, it would be appreciated. It can be emailed to Jenniferdopke@gmail.com . It will need to be received by March 15, 2022 so it can be assembled.

God's Blessings, Mr. Pett



As you may have heard, the Berlin Area School District (BASD) is contemplating ending the 4K agreement with St. John Lutheran School for the 2022-23 school year.

Any decision made by the BASD has no effect on the current school year. Earlier in January, St. John School Board approved offering our own 4K program in our school beginning in the Fall of 2022.

More information will be forthcoming but rest assured that this will allow St. John School to offer a Christian based education for our youngest students. If you have any questions, please contact the school office directly at 920-361-0555.

This 4K program will qualify for the Wisconsin Private School Choice program, if you are eligible, you could send your child to school for FREE. The website to apply is: <https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/choice-programs/student-applications>

DID YOU KNOW



I'm sure most everyone knows that Julie and Curt Snow will be retiring when school lets out for the summer. The Snows came to Berlin in August of 1989 and have served their Lord here for 33 years. Julie has been the St John 4K teacher since the class was first introduced in the fall of 2009. She has done a superb job of teaching our little lambs. I asked what her favorite 4K activity is "The Gingerbread Hunt. We make and decorate the cookies, then take them to the school kitchen to be baked. When we come back to get them, they have mysteriously disappeared. There are, however, clues which we must follow and search through the school until we finally find our gingerbread men right back in our own classroom!" I also asked her how teaching 4-year-olds has changed since this pandemic began. "We don't sit together on the rug or at our old U-shaped tables anymore. Every child must now sit at their assigned desk and, of course, wear a mask at all times.

On March 6th 1959 Julie Kay Peterson was born during a good old Wisconsin snowstorm. It was so bad her parents, Leroy and Joan, had to pick up the doctor on their way to Sheboygan Memorial Hospital. Julie was the second child and first girl born to the Petersons. On March 29th, Easter Sunday, she was Baptized by Pastor Jagow at St John Lutheran Church in Fredonia.

When Julie was 6 months old, her Dad, an apprentice carpenter, bought a farm on Hwy 144 North of West Bend and the Petersons became dairy farmers. Julie's mother also worked at various jobs. Her favorite was managing the West Bend Co. Outlet Store.

Julie has 5 siblings: Rev. Roy Peterson works and teaches at Concordia University Wisconsin (CUW) James is a farmer and electrician, Tim; a carpenter, Janelle is a teacher at St Stephens Lutheran School in Horicon and is married to Rev. Mark Wenzel, Pastor at Grace Lutheran in Omro. The youngest girl, Dr. Jill Krell is a Nursing Professor at CUW.

Julie went to grade school at St John Lutheran School in West Bend. Like most of the farming community, she became very active in 4H. On May 20th 1973 she was Confirmed by Pastors H.Wm Jordan and Mumm.

Summers were busy on the farm. "We had a huge garden with lots of sweet corn and sold produce from our road-side stand. The first money I ever earned was for picking pickles. People wanted the 3-4inch size to make pickles so that is what we picked. We were paid a penny a pickle and spent our money at the Fireman's picnics and the County Fair. "Actually, Curt corrected me and said we were picking cucumbers. Who knew? My Mother never called them cucumbers until they were too big to pickle."

The fall of her Freshman year, Julie went to Milwaukee Lutheran High School for one semester: then transferred to Kewaskum High. "At Kewaskum, we were only allowed one sport. I loved cheerleading and as a JV cheerleader I cheered for football, basketball and wrestling which allowed me to get around the one sport rule. Varsity had basketball and wrestling cheerleaders and both those squads cheered for football," Julie was wrestling cheer leader captain her

senior year. She was also President of her Senior Class. Still very active in 4H, she won a Grand Champion Ribbon for a Batik project as a Senior in High School and was also runner up for the "Fairest of the Fair" competition that year. Julie graduated from Kewaskum HS on June 3, 1977.

"Growing up, I felt that as a girl, my career choices were limited to nursing, teaching or secretarial and my typing sucked!! I always wanted to be a teacher." Julie enrolled at Concordia Teacher's College in St Paul, Minnesota. There she got a lot more than she bargained for. Her Freshman year she met a cute guy from South Dakota named Curt Snow who was dating another girl in her dorm. By March they were a couple and by their Sophomore year they knew they wanted to be married. Julie, however, didn't want to get married until after graduation. In May of 1981 she graduated with a BA in Education and a Minor in Art and 3 weeks later, on June 27th, she and Curt were married at St John Lutheran in West Bend.

Their 1st call was to Macomb County Michigan; a county that had more Lutheran Churches and schools than any other county in the USA. Julie taught 2nd grade at St John Lutheran in Fraser and continued her studies at Saginaw Valley State University where she earned a MAT. (Master of the Arts of Teaching) It was a very busy time for her as their first son, Dean was also born there. Four years later, a call came from St Paul Lutheran in Truman Minnesota where Julie taught 3rd and 4th grade. After their daughter Cassie was born, Julie stayed home and ran a Licensed Home Daycare until the Fall of 1989 when the call came from Berlin. After moving to Berlin, she continued her

Licensed Home Daycare until 2004. Brent and Alexandra were born during that time.

Shortly after moving to Berlin, Julie's Dad died unexpectedly from a massive coronary. When he didn't show up for evening milking, friends and family began searching for him and found him in a field next to his truck. He was 52 years old. After a time her Mother remarried and now lives in Kewaskum in the summer and Florida in the winter.

Today, along with their 4 children, Curt and Julie also have 6 grandchildren: Ava, Isaiah, Satori, Sophia, Jace and Wayne. They are looking forward to having more time for spoiling grand-children, playing cards, working on puzzles, listening to audio books and spending time with their family

The Snows plan to stay in Berlin after retirement. "We love Berlin and our St John family. Curt and I both enjoy Pastor's Sunday morning bible class and I also manage the scrip account and sell script cards after services each Sunday morning. "In the past, Julie also served on the call committee for Pastor Munding.

Julie and Curt love to travel together. In 2019 they enjoyed a European cruise from Budapest to Passau. They are hoping to do the "Footsteps of Martin Luther Tour" plus the Oberammnergau Passion Play this coming September. We wish you happy travels. Thank you for all that you have done for St John throughout these past 33 years. God Bless you both.





From the Board of Education

The St. John Lutheran School Board of Education is pleased to announce that Melissa Linse will be the acting interim principal for the next school year after Curt Snow retires. She will serve as halftime principal and halftime Kindergarten teacher for the 22-23 school year.



LWML NEWS

There will be a LWML prayer lunch on Saturday, February 12th at Grace Lutheran Church in Omro. All ladies from the congregation are invited to join us. We will begin at noon with lunch followed by a prayer service. There will be no business meeting and a free will offering will be taken. If you would like to carpool with some of us, please contact Cynthia Schuett at 920-203-6763 or Deb Schrader at 920-539-5289.

Watch future newsletters and bulletins for an upcoming Ladies Event which we will be co-sponsoring with the Altar Guild.

Our Winter Getaway is on February 4th and 5th in Wisconsin Dells, and our South Wisconsin District Convention is on June 18th at St. Paul's in Grafton, WI.

LWML Magazine Available

I would like to bring to your attention the publication "Lutheran Woman's Quarterly" (LWQ). This is published 4 times a year: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter, by the Lutheran's Women's Missionary League (LWML). The mission statement for the LWQ is "Knowing Christ and Making Him Known".

This wonderful magazine is loaded with good Christian reading and information about what Lutheran women are doing to serve the Lord, their families and their communities. There are Feature articles written by very skilled writers telling of experiences and sharing the joys of being a Christian. In the current issue there is an excellent article on "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Another article is "Jesus Loves Me This I Know", which tells the story of a long-time Lutheran kindergarten teacher and her unique method of sharing Jesus' love with her students.

Each issue has a theme with columns written by pastors, the President's Page, a report on the current Mission grants supported by our mighty Mites, 3 Bible studies, as well as the LWML Shop where you can order resources and all kinds of things that reflect your Christian faith. There is no advertising to get through, but just wholesome reading about real people like yourself.

St. John LWML members receive the LWQ as a group, and we do order extras. Check the Resource Rack in the Narthex for past issues. If you would like to receive one for yourself, you can let one of the LWML officers know: Cindy Schuett (920-203-6763), Kelli Munding (608-797-9162), or Deb Schrader (920-539-5289). We will be submitting our yearly order at our February 21st meeting. Too much paper cluttering up your home? There is also an online e-Quarterly, which can be ordered by going to www.lwml.org.

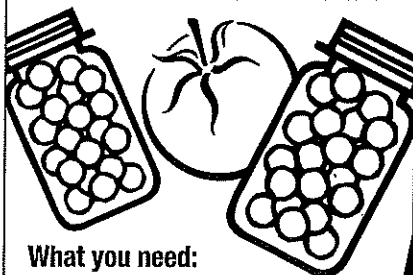
Verse to Remember

*Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has
done marvelous things.*

—Psalm 98:1

Friendship SOUP

Make jars of Italian barley soup to share love and warmth with friends.

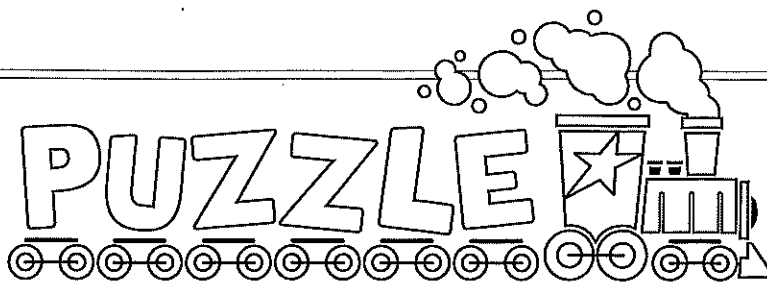


What you need:

- 1 cup pearly barley
- ½ cup sundried tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp dry minced garlic
- 1 Tbsp dry minced onion
- 1 veggie bouillon cube
- Glass pint jars with lids
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Pen

What you do:

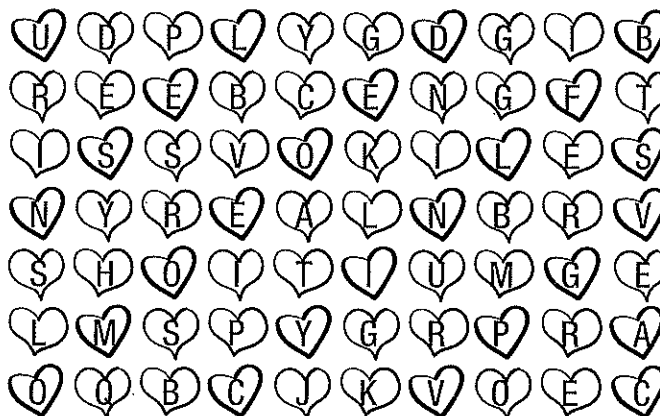
1. In order, layer the first five ingredients into the jar.
2. Trace the outline of the lid onto cardstock. Cut out.
3. On the card, write these directions: Remove wrapper from bouillon cube. Add contents of jar to saucepan. Add 4 cups water and a can of diced tomatoes. Bring to a boil over high heat, reduce to low. Simmer about 20 minutes, until barley is tender. Serve with parmesan cheese.
4. Place the card atop the lid. Screw on the canning ring to keep it in place.



The heart of a friend

Big-hearted friendliness comes from generously serving others.

Directions: Start with the first D and move according to the arrows beneath the blanks. Then fill in the letters to complete 1 Peter 4:8-10.



Above all, love each other D ↓ → ↑ → , because love

 ↓ → ↓ → ↑ → over a multitude of → ↓ → ↓ . Offer

 → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ to one another without

 → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ Each of you should use whatever

 → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ → ↓ you have received to → ↓ → ↓ others, as faithful

stewards of God's → ↓ → ↓ in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10, NIV

Answer: deeply, covers, sins, hospitality, grumbling, gift, serve, grace

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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 the undeniable existence of our Creator.

Penguins of Danger Islands

Scientists were concerned that the population of this penguin species was declining until a recent discovery on the Danger Islands.

Adélie penguins (*Pygoscelis adeliae*) live on the perimeter of Antarctica. They have a "follow the Sun" migration. During summer in the Southern Hemisphere, they remain on the edge of the land. As winter comes on and the Sun moves northward, the ice fastened to the Antarctic continent extends farther north. Adélie penguins migrate northward at that time, following the growing ice so they can stay in the sunshine. In the spring, as the ice recedes, the Adélie remain on the edge of the ice as they migrate southward to their breeding grounds on land. For many of the Adélie penguins, their annual migration can be 8,100 miles (13,000 km).



Adélie are well adapted to their environment. Because they are exposed to very salty water in the desert of Antarctica, they have unique adaptations. They eat krill, which has lower salt concentrations, and their stomachs alter the ion

concentrations to reduce sodium and potassium ions. They feed their chicks with regurgitated krill that they have partially digested and desalinated. The adults concentrate the salts in their waste, and they have nasal glands that remove excess salt, which the penguins eject from their nostrils.

But what about the discovery on the Danger Islands? The Danger Islands of Antarctica should not be confused with Danger Island in the Indian Ocean. These islands are located at the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. Explorers in 1842 gave them the name Danger Islands because they are

"guarded" by icebergs which are dangerous to ships. Scientists were concerned about declining numbers of Adélie penguins until they discovered 1.5 million of them nesting on the Danger Islands in 2018. That almost doubled the known population.

Scientists studied the Danger Islands population by using drones, which are not endangered by the icebergs. Human creativity, ingenuity, and curiosity have provided a way for us to study and care for these penguins that God has given the ability to survive in a hostile environment.



Scholarships Currently Available at St. John!

Eggert Family Endowment Fund Scholarship

Amount available: Varies depending on number of qualified students participating

and Fund income,

Open to: Students intending to go into full time church work.

Requirements:

1. Attend a synodical college, enrolled in a program leading to a career in fulltime church work.
2. Maintain a grade point average of 2.50 or higher,
3. Be a member of St. John.

Viola Stellmacher Music Scholarship

Amount available: Currently over \$3,000

Open to: Former Students of St. John's Lutheran School pursuing further education in music.

Requirements:

1. Student should demonstrate above average talent for playing the Organ or Piano.

There are no students participating in these Scholarship programs at this time. If you are interested in more information please contact Rich Wallner.

Thanks from the Seminary!



Peace be with you in the name of Jesus!

I am filled with joy and thanksgiving for all the support and encouragement that I have received! Thank you for your support! Praise

the Lord for all the good that we've seen!

I wanted to take this opportunity of thanks and introduction to give you a little bit of my story so that you might better know the great blessing that you have given to me.

I began my I came from engineering in Atlanta to begin the Master of Divinity program here at Concordia Seminary with the intention of serving as a parish pastor. Specifically, I was working as a structural engineer for about 10 years after graduating from the University of Florida. The career was going well, and I was even teaching swim lessons on the weekends, but I had a few folks ask me if I had considered being a pastor. The number of folks convinced me that I should take their question seriously, and so here am I to serve! After some careful consideration, I realized that pursuing this path seemed like a good idea for multiple reasons. Even as an engineer, I found myself-regularly training and counseling-younger workers. I realized a great passion for serving people in counseling, teaching, and a similar joy in community service. Over the past years, I volunteered for ever more positions at Rivercliff Lutheran Church in Atlanta. I was a member of the chancel choir, worship team, hand bells, church council, and I participated in mission trips to El Salvador. The more I got involved, the greater my passion grew, and I came to realize the fulfillment that I could see in serving our God and His people, especially as part of His Church.

I am amazed at the joy that I've known while walking this path toward ministry. Despite the challenges of moving from engineering to theology, I have seen no greater love and support. My home congregation has been very supportive and gave me a heartfelt farewell before Summer Greek. Singing

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing" with them is a memory I hope never to forget. The many cards that they have sent to me, even continuing today, has been a constant reminder of their encouragement and love. As an engineer, I had come to the point of comfortable independence, but the blessings of receiving support like yours and my congregation on this path has been far greater.

Thank you for investing the time of reading these words. I hope and pray that all I say and do may bring glory to God. May these words be a special comfort and support for your faith. To God be all the glory forever!

Your servant in Jesus Christ,
Matthew Wilson 1st year Seminarian
Concordia Seminary – St. Louis

To St John Lutheran Church in Berlin, WI,
Grace, Mercy, and Peace to you all!

My name is Zach Johnson. I am a First Year student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. I wanted to write and personally thank: you for your financial support.

I was given the gift you generously provided and it will definitely be helpful in my future studies. I am actually a returning student to the Seminary and I am glad to be back! I was at CTSFW from 2018 to 2019. I took some time off for personal reasons, but I began to see how much of a blessing the Seminary is.

I am redoing some of my first year courses from 2018, as well as taking new ones to relieve the second year course load. Even though it is hard work, I am loving it! I spent two years in the working world, doing laborious jobs, and I can honestly say that it is good to be home at the Seminary.

I am truly grateful to be back and I am truly grateful there are congregations like you to support students in their studies.

Thank you again!
God bless!
Zach Johnson



St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: January 19, 2022

The January meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Adam Ewald. Pastor Munding opened with prayer.
Present: Kevin Koch, Bob Radliff, Curt Snow, Paster Munding, Deb Thiel, Adam Ewald, Rich Wallner, Keith Krause, Amy Radliff.

Secretary's Report by Amy Radliff

Motion by B Radliff/Thiel to accept December minutes. Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>December 2021</u>	<u>December 2020</u>
General Fund	\$86,722.05	\$63,566.02
Children's Fund	\$ 1,664.82	\$ 1,469.05
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$15,990.98	\$ 1,525.96
Attendance	294 per week	234 per week

Motion by A Radliff/Krause to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account December 2021:

Beginning Balance:	\$1,493.37	Income:	\$ 173.55
Expenses:	\$ 173.55	Ending Balance:	\$1,493.37

Hot Lunch Account December 2021:

Beginning Balance:	\$5,130.19	Income:	\$6,058.80
Expenses:	\$5,492.14	Ending Balance:	\$5,696.85

Elderly Fund December 2021:

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

Children's Fund December 2021:

Beginning Balance:	\$117,377.84	Income:	\$ 1,664.82
Expenses:	\$ 2,541.71	Ending Balance:	\$116,500.95

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

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- 2 Boiler pumps have been replaced at the Church.
- Work completed on the teacherage bathroom, toilet and flooring replaced.
- Getting quotes for the replacement of an air conditioning unit at the Church.
- The church roof will be evaluated to determine timeline of existing shingle life.

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

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report

- List of delinquent members that have been inactive for 4+ years will be brought before the voters for approval to drop at the February voters meeting.

Motion by Ewald/Thiel to accept Elder's report. Motion approved

Official Acts:

Baptism (children not added to church roll) – Lincoln Daniel Parker, son of Lucas and Morgan Parker. Elana Louise Dawson, child of Ashley Hoppa and Trevor Dawson.

Transfer In – Conrad and Becky Nisiewicz, from Mt. Olive, Milwaukee. Richard Gehrke and children Jacob and Jenna, from Grace, Omro, WI.

Deaths – Kenneth Schuett. Wilfird “Bud” Polk.

Communicant Members 484

Baptized Members 571

Church Families 301

Board of Education Report by Kevin Koch

- Berlin School District is considering changes to classroom location of 4K. While a final decision is pending, St. John has been approved for an additional 14 seats as part of the School Choice Program. This will allow additional students within the 4K grade to apply.
- Mrs. Allie Henke has been contracted to teach 4K at St. John following the retirement of Mrs. Julie Snow at the end of the school year.
- Miss Melissa Linse's duties will be modified to include title of Interim Principal following the retirement of Mr. Curt Snow at the end of the school year.
- The board continues to review candidates for the open position of a called teacher for the 5th and 6th grades.
- Work continues in gathering information needed for the Accreditation. All reports will be submitted in February.
- Playground update: Preliminary renderings were on display in the Church narthex. Quote have been requested of the manufacturer with a target price not to exceed \$80,000. These updated estimates and ideas will be brought to the voters in February.

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

Old Business:

- Rich Wallner made a motion asking council to waive the internal audit committee. Second by Amy Radliff. Motion approved.

New Business:

- Rich Wallner explained the payroll reserve funds are currently sitting in a non-interest bearing account. Motion by Deb Thiel to move the payroll reserve funds to an interest bearing account. Second by Kevin Koch. Motion Approved.
- Agenda items for the quarterly voters meeting were reviewed: Playground, Board appointment, modifications to teacher roles and lawn mower purchase

Meetings next month: Trustees – Monday February 14th -6:30pm. Board of Education – Tuesday February 8th - 6pm.

Elders – Tuesday, February 8th - 6pm. Council – Wednesday, February 16th – 6 pm.

Quarterly Voter's Meeting – Sunday, February 13th, following worship service

Motion by Snow/Krause to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 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.*

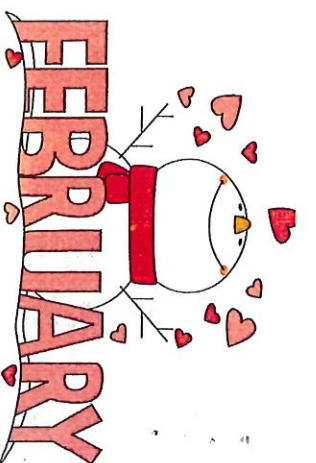
**AS CHRISTIANS, OUR MOTIVATION
IN LIFE IS LOVE FOR GOD AND
PEOPLE.**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind . . . Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:37-40).





February 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			3:45 Public Confirm 7 pm Sr. Choir	1 pm Ladies Aid 6:30 Worship/HC		
6 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 SS/BC	7	8 6:00 pm Bd. of Ed. 6:00 pm Elders	9 3:45 Public Confirm 7 pm Sr. Choir	10 6:30 Worship/HC	11	12 LWML Prayer Luncheon @ Grace, Omro. 12:00 noon
13 9:00 Worship/HC Voters Meeting after service	14 6:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm LWML	15 6:30 pm Altar Guild	16 3:45 Public Confirm 6 pm Council Mtg. 7 pm Sr. Choir	17 6:30 Worship/HC	18	19
20 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 SS/BC	21	22	23 3:45 Public Confirm 7 pm Sr. Choir	24 6:30 Worship/HC	25	26
27 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 SS/BC	28					

