



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 27, No. 7

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923
August, 2022

With all that is going on around us in our society --- crimes, drug abuse, sexual immorality, gender confusion, sanctity of life issues, marriage confusion, etc., etc., etc., --- it becomes very clear that we must teach our children a better way of life than what the world is prepared to teach them.

I read that the Canadian Department of Agriculture, after long years of testing, reported that a single week's delay in planting wheat beyond the earliest possible date results in a 30% loss in the crop; two week's delay brings a 40% loss; four week's delay a 50% loss. I guess all we really have to do is look at the corn in the fields around Berlin that get planted later due to a wet spring to see the truth in this concept. The point, however, is quite clear: The earliest sowing yields the best harvest. Parents, make the application for yourself! Childhood is the time for planting, and the sooner we start, the better the results. The Bible assures us, ***"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is older he will not depart from it."*** (Proverbs 22:6)

The \$64,000 question is this: Who is going to do this teaching of a better way of life? Some people would say that it's the schools responsibility to make sure our children and educated properly. And that's true to a degree. And parents have many options when it comes to their children. We have a wonderful parochial school at St. John. We have loving, caring teachers who want to see your children succeed academically and spiritually. We have a school environment which adheres to Biblical values and encourages students to become responsible, caring young adults.

I strongly encourage all parents with young children to consider sending your children to St. John. They will receive a top notch education and they will receive a well rounded, spiritual based curriculum in which God's values will be instilled in them through their teachers and pastor on a daily basis. This kind of educational experience is invaluable, I

believe, to the long term benefit of our young people.

Some parents make the decision to homeschool their children. That takes a great deal of commitment and dedication and I applaud those who choose to go down this path. Public school remains an option for many parents. Now more than ever it's important to know what your kids are being taught in public school.

Get to know the teachers personally. If you are unhappy with some aspect of your child's education, speak up! Understand the curriculum your kids will be taught and be willing to speak up when you see something that is contrary to your Christian values. Teachers are concerned people (as well as usually parents) too. They like their students to succeed. They like to work with concerned parents to improve the education of their students.

Churches are also a significant source of help. When your children see you at worship and participate with you as much as they can in praising God, they are helped to see that life is to be lived in relation to our heavenly Father. Sunday School provides an excellent way for children to learn more about God's interaction with His people down through history - and focus on ***"...the life and death and rising of the One to make the Father known to us."*** VBS will help in the efforts of our church to get this message out not just to our kids, but also to the many children in the area who don't have a church home. Through these efforts, children will learn not just "a better way of life," but the Way of faith in Christ and love for Him and others that is the **real** Life!

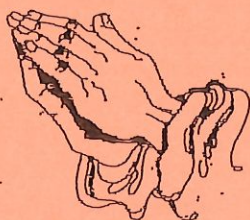
But you know what? We still haven't focused the most important answer to our \$64,000 question. The answer is **parents!** **Parents** are God's primary representatives in the lives of their children. He speaks to them through what **you** say to them. Even more, he asserts His influence in their lives through **what they see you do!**

Continued...

It's been said, "Example is not just one way to teach, it is the only way!" The faith, the Christian way of life -- these are "caught" much more than they are taught. Are you up to the challenge? Honesty should cause all of us parents to respond with a resounding "NO!" But there is one excellent help to make us better parents. That's God Himself. Our children are His even before they are ours. What better way to teach our kids than to be committed to Bible study on Sunday morning while our children are in Sunday School? What better example can we establish than to have a devotion each day with our families? Parenting is challenging enough on our own. Why make it any harder by leaving out the One who promises to help us? God bless you in the all important task of *"Training up your child in the way he should go!"*



Pastor Mundinger



+In Our Prayers

The Family of Rena Pett

Muriel Kroening

Kathleen Thom

Ralph Van Dellen

The Family of Walter Schmudlach

Laura Touray

Bonnie Simson

Joan Parsons

Orville Behm

Deb Schubert

Jaden Schubert

Minnie Blackmore

Tyler Schubert

Carolyn Schmudlach

Duane Schmudlach

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF RENA PETT

For Playground

From Rich & Nancy Wallner

.....\$20.00

Our Shut-In and Homebound members

DONATIONS

For Playground

From Schram Farms.....\$200.00

From Aimee Vergin.....\$334.00

From Arden Patchett.....\$200.00

From St. John Srips.....\$ 99.48

From Brat Fry.....\$553.09

From Crossroads/Rooster Round-Up

.....\$906.54

From Lemonade Stand.....\$525.20



In the Hospital

Ralph Van Dellen

Sending Our
SYMPATHY

Walter Schmudlach

Died - July 18, 2022

Funeral - July 21, 2022



From St John



Lutheran School

Welcome to August. You will soon see the teachers hard at work gearing up for the new school year. School enrollment numbers are being finalized. Classrooms are being setup. We are still waiting on getting the floors waxed so the final cleaning can get underway. We are very grateful to the trustees and the countless volunteers for their hard work this summer.

We have used EANS funds to purchase new teacher laptops and additional laptops for our students. We have also purchased some curriculum, a SMARTboard, some document cameras and helped pay for the compressor for the boiler, plus other things with the EANS funds.

The Board of Education is pleased to announce that our school will be returning to normal this year. We look forward to being all back together again.

We are thankful to Egbert Excavating for helping to move our playground project one step closer to completion. We are still hoping for our playground installation in early September. We are excited to announce we were the recipient of a \$10,000.00 grant from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. We thank everyone who helped at the Crossroad Brat Fry and the 2 Lemonade Stands that helped raise money for the playground project, also thank you to everyone who supported these events.

Please remember our Vacation Bible School is being held on Saturday, August 13 from 9am – 3pm.

We are planning our School Kickoff party on Sunday, August 28 starting at 11am. Students can drop off school supplies and families can get reacquainted. There will be food and games for everyone to enjoy. Please join us and bring a dish to pass. Watch your e-mail for more details.

Our first day of school is set for Thursday, September 1 at 7:50am. Everyone is invited to our opening Chapel service at 8:15 that day.

The school office continues to be open Mondays through Thursdays from 8am to 1pm in case you wish to drop off payments, fill out paperwork, or have any questions.

Enjoy the month of August as the summer winds down.

In service to Christ,

Miss Melissa Linse



Pray for Our Students

St. John School **Back to School Kickoff!**

**Plan to join us as we
"Kickoff"
the 2022/2023 School
Year.**

**When: Sunday, August 28th
at 11:00am**

**Where: St. John Lutheran
School Grounds**



**The PTL will provide
Brats, Hamburgers,
Hotdogs, Chips, Drinks
and Tableware.**

****Please bring a Dish to Pass.****

There will be *games* for the kids!

**Meet your teachers and
bring your school sup-
plies to set up your
desk for the new school
year.**



**Any Questions, please contact
Brianne Hess, Amy Vetrone or
Nancy Wallner**



LWML News

The South Wisconsin District LWML is having their Fall Retreat on September 23rd and 24th at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Fond du Lac. You don't need to be a member of an LWML to attend. The theme for the convention is *Empowered by God's Grace* based on Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Karol Selle will be the guest speaker, she is the editor of *The Lutheran Witness* and a substitute teacher. Attendees will also have opportunity to participate in servant events. If you are interested in going, please see any LWML member for a registration form.

Mark your calendars, we are hosting the Fall Rally on Saturday, October 29th. Registration will begin at 8:30am and the rally will start at 9am. We will have a Bible study and a light lunch will follow. More information will be coming.

Our LWML does not meet in August so our next meeting will be Monday, September 19th at 6:30pm at church.

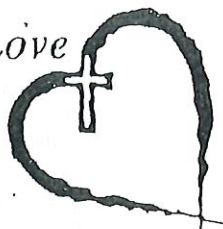


New Members

**Eric, Amy and Easton Vetrone
Redgranite, WI**



Divine Love



Human Care

Once upon a time, there was a young orphan girl who was feeling abandoned and alone. She was out walking in a meadow one day when she looked up and saw a small butterfly trapped in a thorn bush. Freeing the butterfly from its captivity, she was astounded to see it transform into a magical fairy.

"For your kindness," said the good fairy, "I will grant you any wish you would like."

Without hesitation, the girl replied, "I want to be happy!"

"So be it," said the fairy, and vanished.

As the little girl grew up, she realized there was no one else in the land as happy as she. Others marveled at her contagious sense of joy. When people asked her where that joy came from - what was her secret? - she would only smile and reply, "The secret of my happiness is that I listened to a good fairy when I was a little girl."

As she grew older, the parade of visitors only increased. Everyone was afraid that, when she died, the secret to true happiness could die with her. "Tell us, please," her neighbors begged. "Tell us what the good fairy said."

"It's very simple, really," said the young-woman-now-grown-old. "The fairy told me that all people, without regard to education, no matter their age, rich or poor, had need of me."

Think about this for a few moments. Do you think it is a universal truth, or one that might apply only to certain individuals? Does it apply to you? *Are you happiest when you are needed?*

Perhaps you do not feel needed, and it makes you sad. But think about what people need, and you might realize that you are needed more than you thought.

A frustrated woman in a counseling session explained to the therapist what she wanted from her husband: "All I want is not much more than my dog wants from him. When my husband comes home, our dog barks and runs to him, tail a-wagging, waiting for three things to happen: first, a kind look; second, a friendly word; and third, a loving touch. A look, a word, a touch; that's all I really want in this relationship."

That's all most people need and want. And you can offer it, every day! Notice people. Speak to people. And in these days of Covid-19, instead of a touch or hug, give someone a fist bump!

They will love you for it!

Prayer: Lord, You need me, and I need You. Now I realize that others need me as well. Help me to sense their need and respond to it. Amen.



ANNIVERSARIES *to Celebrate*

August 3, 2007 – Michael & Kristy Herbst
August 4, 1973 – Bob & Jayne Kersten
August 5, 1995 – Richard & Lori Ryckman
August 15, 1981 – Pat & Laurie Siegmund
August 18, 2012 – Adam & Allie Henke
August 18, 2000 – Jerrod & April Lueck
August 20, 1976 – Harry & Gladys Nimmer
August 20, 2016 – Jonathon & Payton Phelps
August 22, 2015 – Joshua & Katie Weisensel
August 24, 1974 – Ray & Vickie Clark
August 25, 2012 – Ryan & Megan Draeger
August 26, 1995 – Ed & Brenda Marks
August 26, 1989 – David & Laura Stertz
August 27, 2021 – Dillon & Anna Scheer
August 29, 2020 – Lucas & Morgan Parker
August 31, 1979 – Robert & Marie Chellow

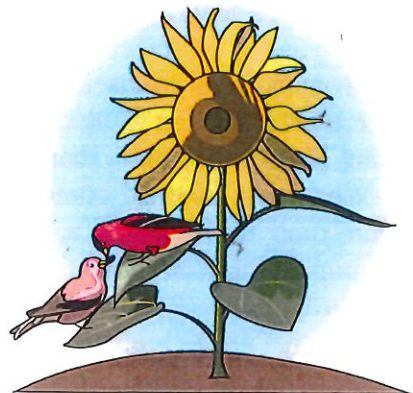




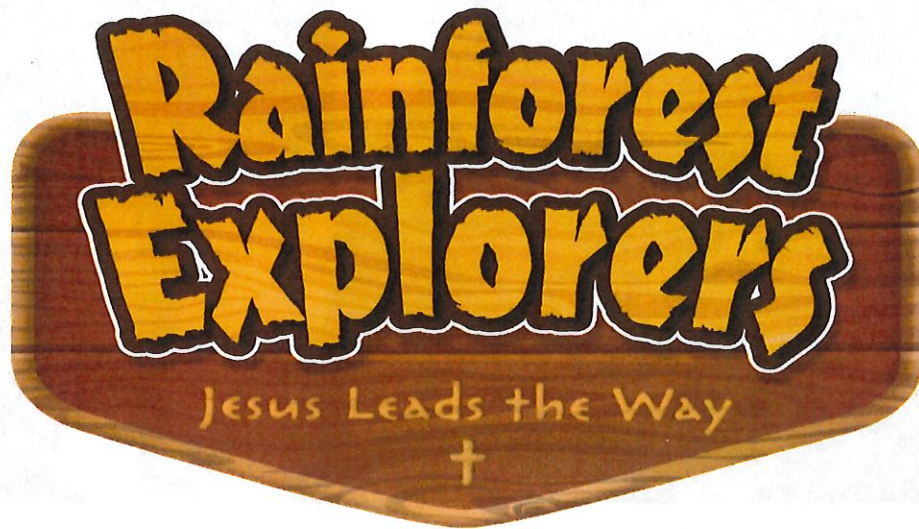
August Birthdays



Tim Achterberg	8/02	Joan Hardel	8/21
Diane Gable	8/02	Mark Putzke	8/21
Ann Henriksen	8/02	Elissa Ewald	8/22
Marleen Hobbs	8/02	Shawn Kaufman	8/22
Owen Maas	8/02	Joshua Piechowski	8/22
Watson Vergin	8/02	Luke Piechowski	8/22
Sullivan Billington	8/03	Gary Olson	8/23
Maurice Gallup	8/05	Mark Schubert	8/23
Leitha Kraus	8/05	Anna Stertz	8/23
Joann Behm	8/06	Brody Weisensel	8/23
Bridget Block	8/06	Adam Wilson	8/23
Nolan Stauske	8/06	Steven Brooks	8/24
Terri Van Dellen-Rausch	8/06	Brian Hartzke	8/24
Laura Langenhorst	8/07	Gwendolynn Draeger	8/25
David Stertz	8/07	Missy Gravunder	8/25
Jacob Gehrke	8/08	Gloria Larson	8/25
Jacob Henriksen	8/08	Jace Schilder	8/27
Amy McCormick	8/09	Bradley Thiel	8/27
Silas Gilmour	8/10	Dana Ballard	8/28
Blaine Hartzke	8/10	Evion Larson	8/28
Autumn Hartzke	8/10	Yvonne Wastrack	8/28
Konnor Mehn	8/11	Ruth Eggert	8/29
Kathleen Rodencal	8/12	Linda Nitz	8/30
Paul Maas	8/15		
Charlee Scheps	8/17		
Mason Nighbor	8/18		
Tyler Radke	8/18		



St. John Lutheran Church VBS



WHO: Kids Age 3 thru Grade 6

What: Vacation Bible School

**Where: 168 Mound Street
Berlin, WI**

When: Saturday, August 13th.

9:00 am -3:00 pm .

Lunch Included

**Why: To learn about God's love
for us in Jesus!**



Let's make an impact and fight hunger in our community as we partner with the Berlin Food Pantry!
For every non-perishable food item donated, your Thrivent Member Network East WI & Upper MI will donate \$3 per item up to \$3,000.*

Thrivent 'Cans' Hunger Food Drive

Riverside Coffee Company
170 W. Huron Street - Berlin

Wednesday, August 10th
11am - 1pm

What items are needed?

The Berlin Food Pantry is most in need of canned meats, canned meals, pasta, canned pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned soup, mac n cheese, and cereal.
All donations are welcomed!

Drop off details

Join the Mascoutin Valley Associates - Thrivent to support the Berlin Food Pantry.
Bring your donations and join us for sandwiches and cookies.
Questions? Contact:
Jim Cariveau at (920) 361-4800 or james.carriveau@thrivent.com



In the event of rain join us inside Riverside Coffee Company.

No products will be sold. *One Generosity Multiplier per organization, up to a maximum of \$3000.



Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity

St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: July 20, 2022

The July meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Rich Wallner. Pastor opened with prayer.

Present: Debra Thiel, Rich Wallner, Bob Radliff, Amy Radliff, Keith Krause, Kevin Koch, Melissa Linse and Pastor Mundinger.

Absent: Adam Ewald

Secretary's Report by Amy Radliff

Motion by Koch/B Radliff to accept June minutes. Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>June 2022</u>	<u>June 2021</u>
General Fund	\$48,710.26	\$44,469.98
Children's Fund	\$ 4,837.36	\$ 40.69
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$ 7,255.66	\$ 2,268.68
Attendance	212 per week	163 per week

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

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account June 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$45.62	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$45.62

Hot Lunch Account June 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$11,172.77	Income:	\$ 4,072.66
Expenses:	\$ 3,385.58	Ending Balance:	\$11,859.85

Elderly Fund June 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$7,702.28	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$7,702.28

Children's Fund June 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$158,735.53	Income:	\$ 4,837.36
Expenses:	\$ 2,394.49	Ending Balance:	\$161,178.40

- With transfers and donations to date (7/3/22) playground funds raised is \$74,175.82.

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

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- Floor waxing date has been delayed by the vendor, in process of rescheduling.
- Computer software that controls the HVAC system at the church is erroring out. Replacement program is in process.
- Lundt Electric changed church's east side and northwest corner light fixtures to LED, some fixtures had broken glass due to weather related exposure. Cost of replacement, \$1,800.00.
- Playground update: some fencing would need to be removed but not all as previously expected. Egbert is scheduled to excavate the area of the playground by late July. Dale Bruss is providing hay to cover the dug out area to prevent soil erosion.
- The air compressor has been replaced at the school.

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

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report

Official Acts:

Baptism (not added to church roll) – Zachary David Stracy, son of Justen & Kristin Stracy.

Deaths – Delores Rose Clark.

Transfer Out – Melanie Arthurs, to St. Mark. Lutheran, Sheboygan, WI.

Communicant Members 480

Baptized Members 567

Church Families 294

Motion by A Radliff/Koch to accept Elder's report. Motion approved

Board of Education Report by Kevin Koch

- New teachers (Allie Henke and Jayne Kersten) have signed contracts for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Lemonade stands raised \$1,000 for the playground project.
- School handbook is being finalized with any changes or updates.
- Voters will be asked at the July 31st meeting to approve to begin Phase II of the playground project. Project estimated costs are \$35,000. This approval will lock in price for next year's installation.
- Day School teacher installation will be August 28th during the worship service. Kick-off picnic will also be held on this day.

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

Old Business:

- Kevin Koch reported with St. John contribution of \$1,500 plus other supporters, the Church Planting goal of \$25,000 was met by the South Wisconsin District.

New Business: :

- Auditor required for participation in School Choice Program will be conducted August 17th and 18th.

Meetings next month: Trustees – Monday August 8th – 6:30 pm. Board of Education – Tuesday August 9th - 6pm. Elders – Tuesday, August 9th - 6pm. Council – Wednesday, August 17th – 6 pm.

Motion by Linse/Thiel to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Radliff, Secretary

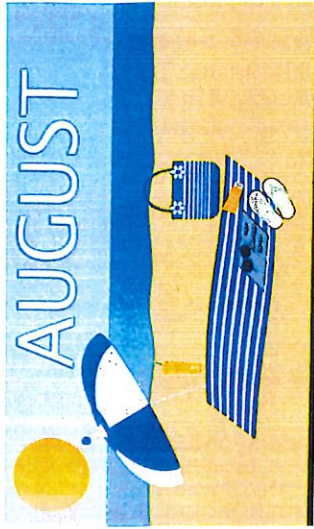
****Note:** These minutes have not yet been reviewed by the Council and are subject to revision and correction at the next meeting.

New seat, new perspective

In older sitcoms, family members, especially parents, each had their own chair in the living room. No one else sat there. If its "owner" wasn't present, the on-set chair remained empty. Church can be like that too, with people claiming the same seat week after week. Our view of the service and of fellow worshipers is familiar and comfortable.

Recently, our family was "bumped" back a bit, which felt surprisingly different at first. But we interacted just the same with the service. As a bonus, I talked with different people. And after church we stayed to visit a bit longer.

I'm glad church seats don't have nameplates. And I'm thankful that God nudges me out of my comfort zone from time to time, giving me a new perspective.



August 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7 9:00 Worship/HC	8 6:30 pm Trustees 6:00 Elders 6:00 Bd. of Ed.	9 10	11 6:30 Worship/HC	12 6:30 Worship/HC	13 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—3:00 PM	
14 9:00 Worship/HC	15 11 am Prayer Group	16 17	18 6 pm Council Mtg.	19 6:30 Worship/HC	20	
21 9:00 Worship/HC	22 23	24 25	26 6:30 Worship/HC	27		
28 9:00 Worship/HC Back to School Kickoff 11 am at school	29 30	31	6:30 Worship/HC			

