



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 27, No. 11

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923
December, 2022

If I told you there is peace on earth, you might call me crazy. Where is peace? Nearly every man-made institution grapples with the illusive longing for world peace. Natural disasters like typhoons and tornadoes wreak havoc across the globe every day. Conflicts and wars erupt so consistently they bleed together in our history books. Families are falling apart, crime runs through our streets like the angel of death and we find no recourse to stop the madness. Where is peace?

I promise you peace is here, but like the restless nation of Israel 2000 years ago, we are looking in all the wrong places. A song by Casting Crowns illumines that ancient mysterious peace with words that reach into our own generation:

Oh little town of Bethlehem
Looks like another silent night
Above your deep and dreamless sleep
A giant star lights up the sky
And while you're lying in the dark
There shines an everlasting light
For the King has left His throne
And is sleeping in a manger tonight

Oh Bethlehem, what you have missed while you
were sleeping
For God became a man
And stepped into your world today
Oh Bethlehem, you will go down in history
As a city with no room for it's King
While you were sleeping

Christ's birth was the pivotal moment in history; world peace became not merely an abstract idea, but a tangible promise robed in human flesh. That night in Bethlehem God sent the

Prince of Peace. **"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."** Isaiah 9:6

That night, very few people recognized Peace. Only a handful of shepherds came to claim Him as their own; weeks later a few wise men acknowledged this gift of God. But most of the world went on as usual. Most of the world remained ignorant of prophecy's fulfillment, of God's reconciliation, of God's extension of Peace to the world. Even as the angels declared it from the heavens, the world slept. **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased,"** Luke 2:14.

The next morning, oblivious to the arrival of Peace, men resumed their struggles for personal power, political advancement and temporary truces. For the next 33 years, the known world beheld Peace in flesh and blood. A few recognized Him, spoke to Him, listened to Him and followed Him as He taught them the ways of peace. **"To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."** Luke 1:79

His peace surpassed all their understanding, because unlike the world's temporary peace, His would never leave, dissipate or disappoint. **"And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."** Matt. 28:20. And He gave them His own peace, **"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."**

+In Our Prayers

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. John 14:26-27

The Prince of Peace physically came to earth about 2000 years ago. When He ascended to the Father, He left His peace and promised to never forsake us. But often in the chaos and pursuit of the feeling of peace, we ignore the Person of Peace who resides within those who believe in Jesus Christ.



Today, even many Christians search for peace in the change of policies, powers and principles. We assume peace will accompany morality, movements and more godly men. If we could only feed the hungry, fuel the planet and fund the church, then we might find peace. But we are missing the presence of the Prince of Peace is among us.

In John 1, Jesus is also called The Word. Every day, we have the choice to linger with Him, follow Him, proclaim Him, know Him and experience the Prince of Peace. The evidence of His presence in our lives is our love for each other. ***"A new commandment I give to you: Love one another as I have loved you. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*** John 13:34

Peace walks the streets of our cities. Peace pervades the air of our homes. Peace for the world lives in the hands and hearts of Christians. When we love as Christ loved, the world will recognize Him. Only the revelation of the Prince of Peace will restore peace to the world. ***"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*** Romans 15:13 Have a blessed and merry Christmas as we celebrate once again the birth of the Prince of Peace!

Pastor Mundinger



Gary Eggert
Hannah Kobishop-Lare and her
newborn baby Girl

Deb Schubert

Dave Chappa

Alice Janes

Sylvia Wells

Jackie Albert

Cathy Steinke – daughter of June
Richter

Donna Dretske

Carolyn Schmudlach

Duane Schmudlach

Gladys Hall

Mark Selzler – Grandson of Ken &
Shirley Keenlance

Willy Brisky's son Blayne

Joan Parsons

Orville Behm

Gerald Krause

Frank Weiss

Mark Podoll



Our Shut-In and Homebound members

In the Hospital

Gary Eggert

Deb Schubert

Dave Chappa

Joan Parsons

Gerald Krause



From the President...

Members and Friends,

2022 is almost over. It has been a busy year at St. John, with many changes, challenges, and accomplishments.

The Board of Christian Education has managed the retirement of two teachers and a principal, finding two new teachers and helping one existing teacher take on the added role of interim principal.

The School Staff has adapted to their new roles and duties well and continue to provide an excellent Christ centered education for all our students.

The Board of Trustees has repaired, replaced, or improved so many things over this year that it is hard to list them all. Air compressors, church boiler upgrades, landscaping, lighting, flooring, carpet cleaning, and more. Many of these projects have been completed by the Trustees and volunteers, saving the Church thousands of dollars.

The members of the Congregation have consistently supported the Church with their regular offerings and special giving for Human Care, Missions, and our School. Most amazing has been the overwhelming amount of donations for the new Playground Project. All of this despite increasing costs for virtually everything.

Next year we will face more changes and challenges. There will be more staffing adjustments at the school. There will be more things that need repair or replacement. There will be more bills for regular expenses, and someone will probably come up with another special project like the playground that sounds out of reach but somehow exceeds all expectations and gets done.

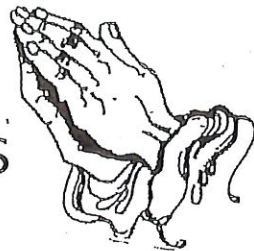
We will call a new Pastor.

We will meet these new challenges and accomplish more things the same way we always have. **"With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."** Mark 10:27

Thank you for your support and your prayers for our congregation in 2022. I look forward to seeing what miracles God gives us in 2023.

Rich

MEMORIALS



IN MEMORY OF WALTER SCHMUDLACH

For Playground

From Edgar & Janet Bender.....\$25.00

IN MEMORY OF MINNIE BLACKMORE

For Human Care

From St. John Altar Guild.....\$25.00

From Bob & Betty Dewhurst.....\$20.00

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD BOENING

For School

From Mike & Deb Schrader.....\$25.00

For Playground

From Bill, Debra & Jeremy Wissell...\$25.00

From Don & Donna Dretske.....\$50.00

IN MEMORY OF GARY MOSHER

For Maintenance & Repair

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



Richard Boening

Husband of Connie Boening

Father of Chris Dretske



Thank You!

I wish to thank everyone for their prayers cards, and get well wishes shown to me during my recent surgeries. We feel blessed to be members of St. John Lutheran Church for all the love shown to us.

Donna Dretske

From St John Lutheran School



Welcome to December! This is a favorite time of year for many. The gifts, lights, parades, decorations, family gatherings, traditions, Christmas caroling, and travel to name just a few things about this season that get us excited. There is a real danger that we can get caught up in these things and forget the true meaning of the season.

Our focus needs to remain on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. God sent His only Son to be like us and pay for our salvation. We can enjoy the other things, but we need to keep Jesus at the center of all we do.

As usual, there is a lot of activity around our school at this time of year. We finished our pizza sale to support our 7th/8th grade class trip. The fruit sale has finished and will be ready for pick up on December 19th. Thank you for all your support.

Our "drive-through" live nativity will be on December 3rd from 4pm until 7pm. We are once again holding a food drive in conjunction with this event. Please plan to join us (and think about bringing some food items for us to donate to the Berlin Food Pantry).

Again, this year, our classes are donating money to purchase gifts for our Angel Tree children. It is a good object lesson to teach the children about sharing the love of Jesus with those who are less fortunate by sacrificing something of ours.

Christmas program practices are also in full swing. This year we will be presenting "An Out-of-the-Box Christmas" on December 16th at 6pm at the Berlin High School Auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We are also hosting a "Cause of the Mondays" fundraiser on December 5th at Vines and Rushes Winery. The event will be from 4pm until 8pm. The school will receive 25% of all food sales from the event. We will also have a silent auction. Vines and Rushes is located at 410 County Rd E, Ripon, WI 54971.

Our schoolwide shoe fundraiser has also drawn to a close. The class that was able to collect the most shoes during the last two weeks of collection will get to pie me in the face on December 2nd. Watch the Badger Bytes on December 2nd or ask a St John student at church which class had that honor.

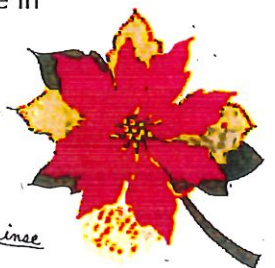
Our basketball teams and cheerleading squad have begun their practices. The first game was November 29th.

Playground installation has officially begun. As I am writing this, they are outside drilling holes for footings and hope to have the concrete poured for the swings this week. A big thank you to Kettlewell Construction for coming out again to remove an old foundation that was discovered while the footings were being drilled.

Have a great December as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem.

I am yours in Christ's service.

Miss Melissa Linse



**St. John Lutheran
Church and School
168 Mound Street Berlin**



**Wednesday Evening
Advent Services**
will be held on
Wednesday nights,
starting at 6:30 pm:
Wed. November 30
Wed. December 7
Wed. December 14

Saturday, December 3rd 10 am - 2 pm

Bethlehem's Workshop in Lower level

Saturday, December 3rd 4 pm - 7 pm

Living Nativity Drive-thru
St. John School Soccer Field

Friday, December 16th 6:00 pm

St. John School Pageant
At Berlin High School

Sunday, December 18th 9:00 am

CANTATA by Sr. Choir during service

Saturday, December 24th

Children's Christmas Program
at 4:00 pm

Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve
at 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 25th

Christmas Day service
with Holy Communion at 9:00 am

Saturday, December 31st

New Year's Eve Service
with Holy Communion at 6:30 pm

**Practice for the Children's
Christmas Program**

The 3 practices will be held Sundays, December
4, 11, and 18, after the 9:00 worship service.
Practices will be held in church.

**The Children's Christmas
program will be held on
Saturday, December 24th at 4:00
pm in the church.**

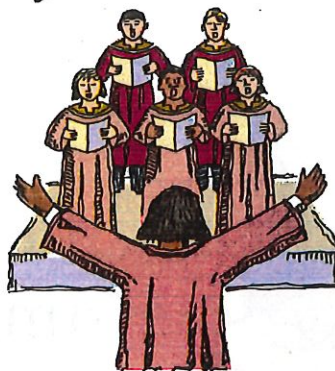


Please Join Us...

The Senior Choir is
decorating the church
on **Saturday,
December 17th
at 9:00 am.**

Please come and help out – the more
hands, the easier the load.

See you there!



**CHOIR
CANTATA**

***Sunday, December 18th
At 9:00 am service***

Remember Our Shut-Ins This Christmas!



SHUT IN LIST, Dec. 2022

1. Susan Fink
315 Broadway, Berlin
2. Elaine Gates
412 N. Capron, Berlin
3. Gladys Hall
277 Jackson St. Apt. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, Berlin
4. Jean Hoffman
335 Center Street, Berlin
5. Laura Langenhorst
600 West Packer Ave. Apt. 320
Oshkosh, 54901
6. Margaret Retzlaff
8476 County Road E Omro 54963
7. June Richter
147 Eastridge Dr. #10. Berlin
8. Caroline Schmudlach
708 Broadway #3, Berlin
9. Cliff and Darlene Strey
274 N. Wisconsin, Berlin
- 10.. Ray Stumpner
412 N. Washington, Berlin



METTA HOMES

W3490 Forest Trail, Montello 53949

LuAnn Johnson

BROWN WILCOX; 347 E Huron, Berlin

Jarold Barth

JULIETTE MANOR 482 Oak Street, Berlin

Duane Schmudlach

HEARTSONG 123 S. Pearl St., Berlin

Dennis Hoffman Room 04 – 2nd Floor

David Brown

PATRIOT PLACE ASSISTED LIVING

609 Broadway, Berlin, WI 54923

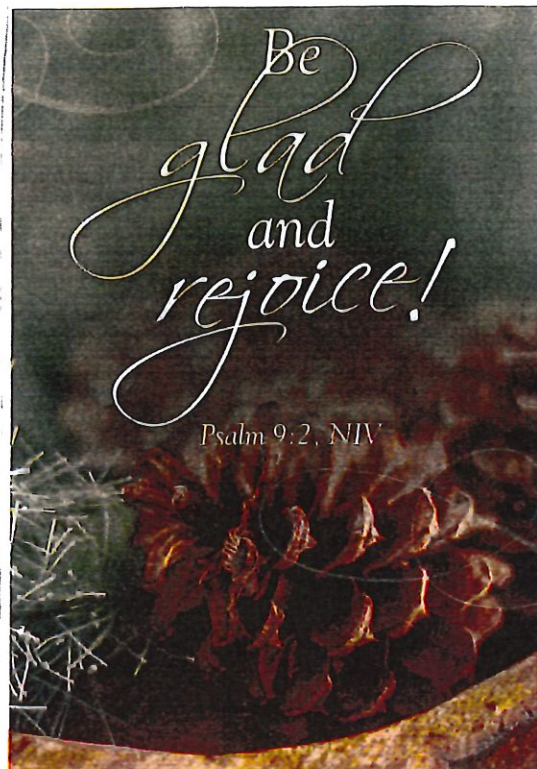
Carol Kosterman Apt. 4

Alice Janes Apt. 48

EVERGREEN RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

1130 N. Westfield, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Ruth Eggert Room #72





December

BIRTHDAYS

Jaden Schubert	12/01
Adeline Voigtlander	12/01
Case Kaufman	12/02
Timothy Phelps	12/02
William Rowen	12/04
Ethan Schubert	12/04
Ollin Draeger	12/07
Jon Brisky	12/08
Kevin Koch	12/08
Janet Bunn	12/10
Bill Thoma	12/10
Braxton Henke	12/11
Tedd Henriksen	12/11
Ralph Ewald	12/12
Ryan Stauske	12/15
Rebecca Ewald	12/16
Andy Ryckman	12/17
April Ryckman	12/17
Alice Janes	12/19
Lyle Schrank	12/19
Rebecca Hubatch	12/20
Karen Jari	12/20
Owen Markowski	12/21
Michael Radke	12/21
Marshall Mehn	12/22
Cathy Young	12/22
Stacey Hansen	12/23
Karisa Wiese	12/23
Julie Behm	12/25
Robert Dewhurst	12/25
Bruce Kobishop	12/25
Karson Kaufman	12/27
Bill Wissell	12/27
Amy Radliff	12/28
Marie Chellow	12/29
Dillon Nighbor	12/29
Megan Draeger	12/30
Caroline Schmudlach	12/31



Ladies Aid News...

President Robin Henriksen opened the November 3 meeting with a devotion on "everyday is a day to give thanks."

The secretary's and treasurer's report were approved as read. Guests were welcomed: Janet Bunn and Diana Minster.

Election of officers were held and Robin will remain the president and Luci will remain the treasurer.

It was decided the Ladies Aid would again make breads for the Thanksgiving Eve service on November 23.

After discussion, the Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 8. Members will bring a dish to pass and cookies for the shut-in bags which will be assembled that day. Nancy and Linda will get the bags and cards.

The Ladies Aid/PTL Cookie Walk will be Sunday, December 11 after church in the lower level. Members are to make 6 - 10 dozen cookies.

The birthday song was sung to the November birthday gal, Robin. Thanks to Leitha and Robin for the refreshments and games.



COME AND JOIN US!

You are invited to the St. John Ladies Annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 8 at 1pm in the church lower level

Come for lunch and to celebrate the holidays!



The Reason
for the
Season





CHRISTMAS DECORATING SCHEDULE FOR CHURCH

2022 - Senior Choir
2023 - PTL
2024 - Ladies Aid
2025 - Altar Guild
2026 - LWML



On a snowy November 15, 2022 Amy Radliff began our meeting with prayer. Eleven members heard and approved the secretary's and treasurer's reports. Sandy Gregor read a thank you from the family of Minnie Blackmore for our memorial gift.

We were reminded for Sunday services to fill the individual communion trays full and on the top two trays to include 2 cups of juice. Because Thursday services have fewer guests fill only 3 trays in every other space and only 1 juice per tray. Remember when the choirs sing there are more guests. Also only 1 gluten free wafer is now needed.

A sign up sheet was passed around for next years serving committees.

There was a discussion on the purchase of new acolyte robes with hoods in 3 sizes as youth grow fast. Amy will check into this as well as a new cloth for under the communion ware.

In elections Betty Dewhurst will continue as treasurer and Sandy Gregor as Vice President and sunshine chairman.

While cleaning the storeroom some batting was found. Deb Schrader will see if it can be used at the school.

Sandy Gregor will prepare the Christmas cards for the shut in bags in conjunction with the ladies aid gift bags. She was also thanked for the advent wreath she prepared.

A new sheet for communion set up will be put up in the guild room. The ones there are outdated. We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Judy Mehn

Christmas is coming.....a reminder about the Angel trees at Christmas. There are two trees in the Narthex of church at Christmas and it is filled with angel ornaments in memory of loved ones.

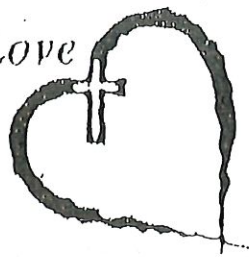
If you need to purchase and make an angel in memory of a loved one, please have it in a marked box and put it in the card room at church before December 8.



Thanks from the Seminary!

St. John has been assigned a new seminarian from Concordia Theological Seminary - Fort Wayne. His name is Joshua Benish. Joshua is from Tomah and belongs to Good Shepherd Lutheran in Tomah. His wife's name is Talitha. We should be hearing from Joshua soon. Look for letters from him here on this page.

Divine Love



Human Care

Have you ever made a phone call to the hospital or clinic, or perhaps a large retailer, and heard the following recorded message? "This call may be monitored or recorded for quality assurance or training purposes." The voice is not asking for your consent. It is just stating a fact that puts you on notice. Maybe the warning helps some customers be polite; perhaps it protects the business from false claims. Maybe both.

When I read the Bible, however, sometimes I sense that I am the one listening in on a conversation! I hear voices in distress, heated arguments, calls for help and strident questions. I also hear the voices of holy men and women offering encouragement and warning. I hear, too, the voice of God thundering in earthquakes, mountains that shake, wind that roars and prophets who speak. What interesting tales I hear.

Since God walked into the garden seeking conversation with Adam and Eve, God has always enjoyed chatting and interacting with creation. God seems to yearn for conversation.

What better proof than that God visited the world in human form, beginning life as a baby in a manger! The birth of this baby was foretold in prophetic conversations, including today's reading from Isaiah 11. What does this passage say about this child?

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

-Isaiah 11:2-4

This is a great conversation to monitor! God is at work comforting those who are in distress. Listen as God offers wisdom, knowledge, justice and righteousness to the poor and the meek. Listen as God speaks! During Advent, we realize that God is still speaking!

Prayer: Ever speaking God, thank You for conversing with us, Your humble and lowly creation. Thank You for listening to our cries for help. Thank You for sending the Christ of the Cradle, the spirit of wisdom and knowledge, to guide us in the paths of righteousness. Amen.



December 6, 1975 - Cliff & Darlene Strey
December 8, 1990 - Russell & Lanette Pomplun
December 13, 1997 - Gerald & Carol Krause
December 23, 1961 - Russ & Robin Henriksen
December 23, 2000 - Matt & Kristen Mertens
December 31, 2009 - Nicholas & Christine Carriere
December 31, 2010 - Paul & Michelle Gabor
December 31, 1989 - Pastor & Kelli Munding
December 31, 1999 - Conrad & Becky Nisiewicz

COOKIE
WALK!



Sunday December 11, 2022
Ladies Aid/P.T.L.

COOKIE WALK

After the 9:00 am worship service in the church lower level.

Come and choose your Christmas goodies from the large array of beautiful homemade cookies!



Confirmation Display

Be sure to check out our new Confirmation Display in the Narthex. Here you will find the name of every person ever Confirmed at St John since the first Confirmation in 1868. The very first photograph of a class was taken in 1902. This was a very special occasion as it was the first class to be Confirmed in the brand-new brick Church. It took 14 more years before the tradition of a professional photograph of each class began in 1917.

In 1923, no picture was taken of the Confirmation class. Even though church members and Confirmands arrived at church with no problem in their horse-drawn sleighs, a snow storm prevented the photographer from getting to Berlin. A picture was taken by the school at a later date.

In the beginning, all children were Confirmed in the German language. The church began introducing English worship services in the early 1900's and the Class of 1921 was the first to be Confirmed in English.

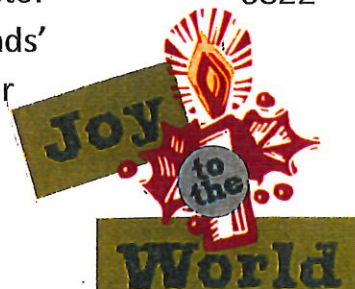
Our display is missing only one picture: The Class of 1937. This was a small class Confirmed by Pastor Martin Strassen. Confirmands' included Pastor Strassen's daughter

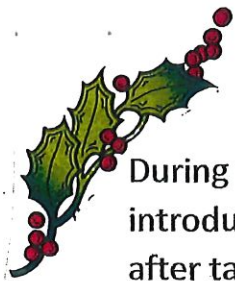
Ruth, Margaret Pratt, Hester Seidler, Vernon Ross and Orville Rucks.

Early pictures were taken at the photographer's studio. Excluding the 1902 class, the 1959 class was the first to have their picture taken in the church. Color pictures were introduced in 1965 and the red stoles worn today, made their first appearance in 2001 while Pastor Wurm, a vacancy Pastor, served at St John.

On March 28 1976, during Pastor David Meyer's time at St John, a Special Needs Class, having received instruction, was Confirmed. Members of the class were Dennis Lee Hoffman, Richard Schweder, Duane Donald Payne, Adam Willy Simson, Patsy Ann Simson, Ned John Simson, Susan Jane Simson and Raymond James Simson. Assisting Pastor Meyer were Jeannette Kretzmann Mitchelly and 2 other adults we have not been able to identify. This picture will be added to the display in the near future.

- If you notice any misspelled names or other errors please contact Karen Wendt: 920-369-6822





During the Christmas season of 2004, a new tradition began at St. John with the introduction of the Angel Tree. Deb Johanknecht suggested we do an Angel Tree after talking with a friend who was the Secretary at a Lutheran Church in Northern Wisconsin. At this church, members could remember loved ones who had already gone to their heavenly home by donating an Angel ornament in their memory. The ornaments could be purchased or handmade; they could be simple or very intricate. Some angels had a theme that had special meaning to the one being remembered. A Saint could also be remembered by more than one person and often there was more than one Angel on their tree with the same name on it. We loved Deb Johanknecht's suggestion and Nancy Wallner became the little angel here at St John who got our Angel Tree Program started.

With Nancy's guidance over the past 18 years, our Angel Tree has grown from one tree into two and the number of ornaments increases every year. Each ornament is labeled with the remembered angel's name and a walk around the trees is bound to bring back memories of dear friends and relatives who are spending Christmas with Jesus in Heaven. If you would like to donate an Angel, please include who you are remembering and give it to Cathy in the church office, to Karen Wendt or to Nancy Wallner. The angels on our two trees have been given in memory of the following people whose names are listed below.

Emma Albrandt	Clarence Braun
Donald & Ginny Barnes	Joan Brisky
Barbara Kretzmann Bates	Ervin & Vera Buchholz
Michael Beier	Darlene Butts
Mr. & Mrs Silas Beltz	Marvin & Alice Carpenter
Ruby Block	Sally Carpenter
Kathy Bly	Ritchie Clark
Therese Bolen	Ryan Clark
Brian Bogustke	Elmer Cluppert
Brian Borgens	Mary Daul

Edward Dehn
Josephine Dehn
James Brian Dietz
Howard DeLapp
Ted Demous
William & Gert Dewhurst
Jerry Lee Dietz
Ward Durrant
Elmer & Effie Erickson
Gary Gelhar
Herbert Gelhar
Pearl Gerth
Timothy Gregor
Sherrie Grieggel
Ruth Groskreutz
Ollie Gustke
Arlene Haase
Clifford Hardel
Dan Hardel
Jess & Lona Hardel
Aunt Bev Helling
Donald Hertzberg
Loretta Hoeft
Karly Hoffman
Betty Hopka
Angela Hoyt
Elaine Humphrey

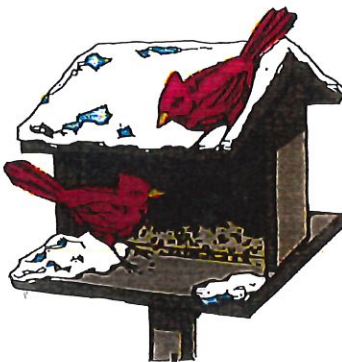
Don & Lois Erler
Edwin & Dorothy Ewald
Judith Ewald
Robert & Olive Fondow
Berk & Emma Fredrick
Norman Fredrick
Harry & Kathryn Froelich
John Gallup
Norma Gaylord
Harold Janes
Clarence & Helen Johanknecht
Marilyn Johnson
Warren Johnson
Charles Johnson
Christina Jung
Joseph H. Kamirski
Tom & Patti Kohl
Otto & Hedwig Korwitz
Janet Koscher
Paul & Lenora Krause
Trina Krause
Donna Krebs
Arnold Kretzmann
Norman & Lily Kretzmann
Albert & Emma Ladwig
Armand Lewis
Ed & Louella Lichtenberg
Patti Lewellyn

Nancy Lichtenberg	Neil & Kathleen Parsons
Edith Londowski	Jason Perr
Frank Londowski II	Helen Podoll
Frank Londowski III	Arthur & Clara Polk
Arnold & Anna Lunow	Helen Prachel
Paul Marschall	Elmer & Esther Prachel
Alfred Marschall	Walter & Ardene Prien
Gerhardt & Esther Marschall	Doug & Leola Raebel
Rose Mathe	Walter & Louise Rodencal
Linda Matzke	Justin Rohde
Don Mehn	Toni Bushcott Rooptai
Elaine Mehn	Rex Rosner
Henry & Emma Mehn	Tom Rowen
Willie Mehn	Ted & Janet Ryerson
Rev. David Meyer	Glen Sasada
Dan Mitchelly	Georgianna Schackow
Jeannette Kretzmann Mitchelly	William Schackow
Betty Mittelstaedt	Merlin & Diana Schoppenhorst
Bill & Donne Moldenhauer	Ed Schram
Edna Moldenhauer	Ed Schram, my Dad
Clair & Edna Mueller	Victor Schram
Rev. Fred & Robin Mueller	Victor Schram, my Grandpa
Melvin & Marion Neitzke	Howard & Shirley Schroeder
William (Bill) Nowicki	Suzanne Schroeder
Cheryl Nigbor Oshiem	Ed & Lorraine Schubert
Caroline Parsons	Matthew Schubert
Donald & Alice Parsons	Kenneth Sr. & Lorraine Schuett

Ken Schuett
Alice Seeliger
Mr & Mrs Julius Selchow
Edward & Arlene Simson
Emil & Adeline Simson
Ned Simson
Nettie Simson
Henry & Elsie Simson
Leona B. Sloan
Alfred Smasal
Hazel Steffen
Kathryn Stoffs
Mr & Mrs Herman Tesch
Lewis & Lelah Tesch
Gary Teske
Leroy & Janet Teske
Beverly Thersain

Steven Thom
Chad Tindall
Myron & Lucille Toll
Arla Trampf
Ethel Wasniak
Jane Watkins
June Watkins
Jean Wegner
Arlene Weiss
Alfred & Edna Wendt
John Wendt
Joanne Wendt
Lawrence & Clara Wentlandt
Judy Wenzel
Robert Weyman
Judy Williamson
Charles & Grace Wissell

*One angel was given in hope of an international adoptive grandchild in 2016



St. John Quarterly Voters Meeting

November 6, 2022

The Quarterly Voter's Meeting was called to order at 10:31 am by Chairman Rich Wallner. 36 voting members present. Pastor Mundinger opened with prayer.

Reading and Approval of Minutes (July Meeting)

Motion by Bill Brooks to accept the minutes. Second by Bob Radliff. Motion approved.

New Voting Members: (none)

Board of Education Report – by Amy Brooks

- Teachers recently attended National Missouri Synod Convention
- School is operating as normal, no Covid-19 restrictions
- Playground work will begin in the coming weeks.
- Shoe Drive and Vines & Rushes Monday for the Cause fundraisers will be put toward playground cost
- All day 3K/4K class will be offered in the 2023-2024 school year
- Live Nativity will be held Saturday, December 3rd
- Policies and Program updates have been made
- The enrollment is increasing, may be looking at splitting classrooms to keep student to teacher ratio in check
- Looking for replacement teacher. Candidate names are now available from Concordia.
- Miss Linse is continuing with her onboarding to principal role. The board continues to evaluate progress.

Motion by Bill Brooks to accept Board of Education report. Second by Jackie Lewis. Motion approved.

Trustee Report – by Keith Krause

- New trees have replaced diseased Ash tree on the south side of the church.
- The teacherage has been repainted
- The storage shed located near the school parking lot was repaired by Bill Brooks
- Plumbing in school bathroom has been repaired
- Striping and waxing of the church's lower level will take place within the next week

Motion by Amy Brooks to accept Board of Trustees report. Second by Kevin Koch. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report – by Debra Thiel

Square Account Q1 FY 2022/2023:

Beginning Balance: \$ 45.62
Total Expenses: \$8,472.93

Income: \$8,538.90
Ending Balance: \$ 111.59

Hot Lunch Q1 FY 2022/2023:

Beginning Balance: \$11,859.85
Total Expenses: \$ 2,873.08

Income: \$69,414.48
Ending Balance: \$78,401.25

Elderly Fund Q1 FY 2022/2023:

Beginning Balance: \$7,702.28
Total Expenses: \$.00

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

Children's Fund Q1 FY 2022/2023:

Beginning Balance: \$163,622.99
Total Expenses: \$ 22,474.43

Income: \$ 32,301.29
Ending Balance: \$173,449.85

Motion by Bob Radliff to accept Treasurer's report. Second by Gordy Lewis. Motion approved.

Elder's Report - by Rich Wallner

Official Acts:

Baptisms (children not added to church roll) – Emma Achterberg, daughter of Lyle Jr. and Megan Achterberg (non-members).

Affirmation of Faith – Dennis Munro.

Adult Confirmation Class – Nicholas Williams

Transfer In – Eric and Amy Vetrone and son Easton, from Trinity Lutheran (WELS), Redgranite, WI. Paul and Michelle Gabor and sons Nathan and Theodore.

Transfer Out – Michael Stertz, to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Greenville, WI.

Deaths – Walter Schmudlach. Minnie Blackmore. Billi Jo Kaufman.

Released by Request – Allison Marks. Justice Keller. Blaine Hartzke. Payshence Kettlewell and son Samuel.

Communicant Membership 478

Baptized Membership 567

Church Families 294

Pastor's Report (none)

Motion by Bill Brooks to accept Elder's/Pastor's report. Second by Bob Radliff. Motion approved.

Reports of Committees

A. Reserved Fund Report – by Rich Wallner

- Money to cover the playground and fencing project is shown in the children's account.
- School Endowment value lost a little ground due to current markets
- Total reserve funds available at the end of the quarter is \$416,993.99.

Motion by Cathy Young to accept the Reserved Funds report. Second by Jackie Lewis. Motion approved.

Old Business (none)

- Keith Krause presented a proposal to replace the fencing around the school, separate from the playground project. The quote for 6' height would match the fence around the playground. Quote of \$9,500 also includes fence posts and gate. Bill Brooks made a motion to accept the quote and proceed with the fence project at a cost of \$9,500. Second by Bob Wendt. Motion approved. Work will take place in the Spring of 2023. Total funds collected toward the playground project is \$118,000 with \$10,000 having been donated toward the security fence.

New Business

- Nominations and elections of: **Officers** Vice Chairman, Adam Ewald. Treasurer, Debra Thiel. Secretary, Amy Radliff. **Board of Elders**, Tyler Kettlewell, Brian Thiel and Stan Hartzke. **Board of Education**, Kevin Koch and Terri Billington. **Board of Trustees**, Bill Brooks and Betty Dewhurst. Motion by Melissa to accept nominations and elections as stated. Second by Karen Wendt. Motion approved
- Council has discussed and will be working on updating a "tickler" file to better plan for upcoming events such as a nominating committee.
- Meeting December 6th with Pastor Wille and Pastor Fritsch to review call committee process.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jackie Lewis, second by Allie Henke. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:01 am, closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Radliff, Secretary

****These minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision and change at the next congregational meeting****

St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: November 16, 2022

The November meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Adam Ewald. Pastor opened with prayer.

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

Secretary's Report by Amy Radliff

Motion Krause/Wallner Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>October 2022</u>	<u>October 2021</u>
General Fund	\$113,265.10	\$111,584.75
Children's Fund	\$ 18,47.60	\$ 5,763.30
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$ 223.96	\$ 7,556.67
Attendance	190 per week	182 per week

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

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account October 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$111.59	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$111.59

Hot Lunch Account October 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$78,401.25	Income:	\$ 4,114.56
Expenses:	\$68,276.74	Ending Balance:	\$14,239.07

Elderly Fund October 2022:

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

Children's Fund October 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$173,449.85	Income:	\$ 18,147.66
Expenses:	\$ 1,590.11	Ending Balance:	\$190,007.40

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

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- Lights on the east side of church by the stained glass windows have been replaced with LED
- Security Fencing will be installed in Spring, down payment not required
- City Hall was contacted for additional school zone signage on Mound and Franklin streets
- Cable will be run from the school to church to connect and provide better wifi connection
- Main controller of church's PC for HVAC and lighting is not properly functioning. Rich Wallner made a motion to recommend at next voters meeting to replace the controllers. Estimated cost is \$4,900. Second by Deb Thiel. Motion approved.

Motion by Wallner/Koch to accept Trustees report. Motion approved.

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report by Rich Wallner

Official Acts:

Affirmation of Faith – Clayton and Haley Webb with children James, Sawyer and Hudson.

Weddings – Megan Marks and Jonathan Huser. Benjamin Piechowski and Emily Cottelo.

Non-Member Funeral – Ruth Pellerino, mother of Mitzi Putzke

Communicant Members 480

Baptized Members 572

Church Families 197

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

Board of Education Report by Kevin Koch

- Kevin read a resignation letter from Mrs. Anna Cargin, St. John 3rd/4th grade teacher. Mrs. Cargin will finish the balance of the school year, leaving June 15th. Due to change in family matters she has decided to step down from classroom teaching. Kevin made a motion for council to accept the resignation, seconded by Deb Thiel. Motion approved. The Board of Education is actively accepting applications for a replacement.
- The school has begun advertising for 3K/4K all day classes next school year 2023-2024. Currently there are 5 students already on the wait list.
- Fundraiser will be held December 5th at Vines and Rushes Monday For The Cause event. 25% of pizza sales will be donated toward the playground project.
- The playground equipment is onsite with anticipated installation to begin the week of November 21st.
- The school will have a float in the Berlin Holiday Parade

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

Old Business:

- Annual duties of council and boards was reviewed with edits made. Council Secretary will be responsible for maintaining the duties list and notifying the appropriate boards/individuals of due dates.
- Rich Wallner is working on updating the scholarship application form and language

New Business: (none)

Meetings next month: Trustees – Monday Dec 12th – 6:30 pm. Board of Education – Tuesday Dec 13th - 6pm. Elders – Tuesday Dec 13th – 6pm. Council – Wednesday, December 21st – 6pm.

Motion by Linse/A Radliff to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 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.





December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Council?			1	2	3 10am—2 pm Bethlehem Workshop 4 -7 pm Live Nativity
4 ADVENT II 9 am Worship/HC 10:15 Bible Class SS Program Practice	5	6	7 3:45 Confirmation 6:30 Advent Service Senior Choir after	8 1:00 pm Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon	9	10
11 ADVENT III 9 am Worship/HC Cookie Walk after NO Bible Class SS Program Practice	12 6:30 LWML 6:30 Trustees	13	14 3:45 Confirmation 6:30 Advent Service Senior Choir after	15	16 6:00 pm School Christmas Pageant at High School	17 9 am Church Decorating
18 ADVENT IV 9 am Worship/HC CHOIR CANTATA 10:15 Bible Class SS Program Practice	19	20	21 3:45 Confirmation 6 pm Council Mtg.	22	23 No School	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4 pm Sunday School Christmas Program 6:30 Candle Service
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9 am Worship/HC	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 NO THURSDAY CHURCH Resumes next week No School	30 No School	31 6:30 New Year's Eve service/HC

