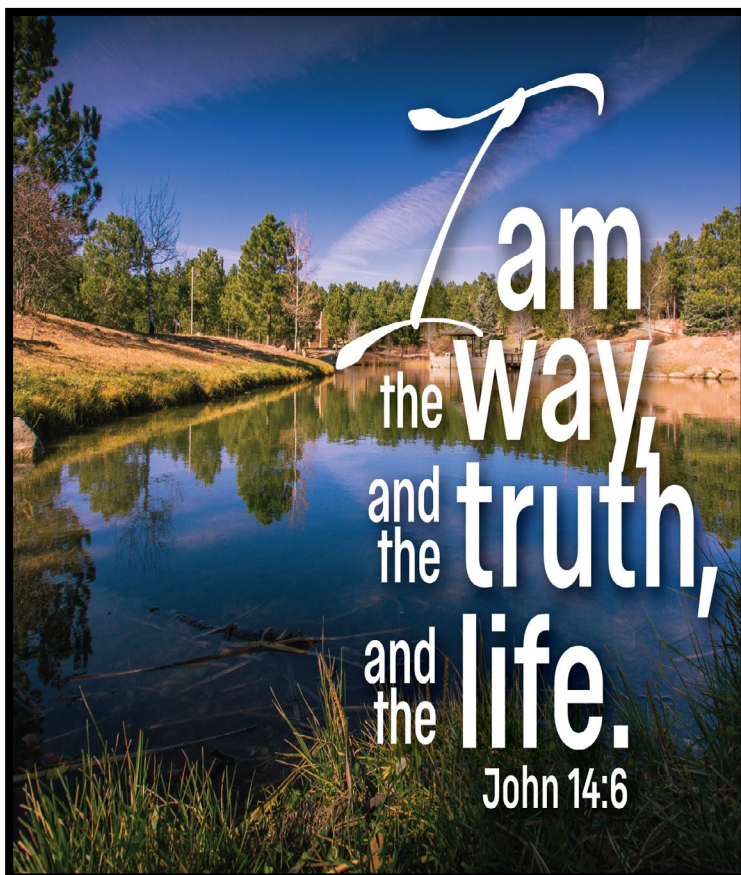


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



**April 30 and May 3, 2026
The 5th Sunday of Easter**

**Serving Us Today:
Pastor Rob Schrader-Thursday
Pastor Arthur Callies - Sunday
Organist: Nancy Wallner
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org**

Large Print Bulletin

PREPARATION

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**

- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

- 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1809–81,
alt. Text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences *Psalm 27:1; 147:11; 104:24a, 31a; Isaiah 2:5b*

P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

C The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

P The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him,

C in those who hope in His steadfast love.

P O LORD, how manifold are Your works!

C In wisdom have You made them all.

P May the glory of the LORD endure forever.

C Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Confession and Absolution

P As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy.

P Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy

Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.

P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1

P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!

**C I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,
and You have healed me.

**C O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
You restored me to life from among those who go down to
the pit.**

P Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,
and give thanks to His holy name.

**C For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a
lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with
the morning.**

P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!

Kyrie

LSB 204

**C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven

men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

²And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed

into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

St. John Cherub Choir sings on Sunday

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and

"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

**1 "Come, follow Me," the Savior spake,
"All in My way abiding;
Deny yourselves, the world forsake,
Obey My call and guiding.**

**O bear the cross, whate'er betide,
Take My example for your guide.**

**2 "I am the light, I light the way,
A godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day;
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
How you must sojourn here below.**

**3 "My heart abounds in lowliness,
My soul with love is glowing;
And gracious words My lips express,
With meekness overflowing.
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,
To God I yield, on Him I call.**

**4 "I teach you how to shun and flee
What harms your soul's salvation,
Your heart from ev'ry guile to free,
From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul
And lead you to your heav'nly goal."**

**5 Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,
And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word,
In suff'ring be undaunted.**

**For those who bear the battle's strain
The crown of heav'nly life obtain.**

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Thursday Sermon

Pastor Schrader

Sunday Sermon

"Only Jesus" John 14: 1-14

Pastor Callies

Apostles' Creed

Nicene Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering

SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

P "Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, let us now and evermore praise God's glorious name, singing:

Sanctus ***LSB 208***

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;**

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim

shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,

**hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

**C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,**

And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution Hymns

746 Through Jesus' Blood and Merit

1 Through Jesus' blood and merit

I am at peace with God.

What, then, can daunt my spirit,

However dark my road?

My courage shall not fail me,

For God is on my side;

Though hell itself assail me,

Its rage I may deride.

2 There's nothing that can sever

From this great love of God;

No want, no pain whatever,

No famine, peril, flood.

Though thousand foes surround me,

For slaughter mark His sheep,

They never shall confound me,

The vict'ry I shall reap.

3 For neither life's temptation

Nor death's most trying hour

Nor angels of high station

**Nor any other pow'r
Nor things that now are present
Nor things that are to come
Nor height, however pleasant,
Nor darkest depths of gloom**

**4 Nor any creature ever
Shall from the love of God
This ransomed sinner sever;
For in my Savior's blood
This love has its foundation;
God hears my faithful prayer
And long before creation
Named me His child and heir.**

Text: Simon Dach, 1605–59; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing

**1 Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."**

**2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding**

**In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.**

**3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursèd tree.**

**4 God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.**

**5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.**

**6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.**

**God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
Makes my wounded spirit whole.**

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960

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Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray. Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your church from every evil, to teach it to love You perfectly, and make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior Jesus Christ and the wine was drawn from the fruitfulness of many grapes. Grant us to ever abide in the Word, Christ Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

801 How Great Thou Art

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain**

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain**

**3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain**

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"**

Refrain. Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989 Text: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust, admin. EMI CMG and Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

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Attendance Last Week: 262
General giving last week: \$6007.00
Budget giving needed: \$7500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

7 Thursday	Ladies Aid Spring Luncheon	1:00 pm
7 Thursday	Thursday Evening Service/HC	6:30 pm
10 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
10 Sunday	Bible Class	10:30 am

DOOR COLLECTION FOR HUMAN CARE: Today a free will collection will be taken at the door. All funds collected will be used by the St. John Human Care Committee to assist in the various ministries they are involved in.

THERE WILL BE BIBLE CLASS ON SUNDAY! Pastor Callies will be doing a study entitled "Who Is Stephen. Come and learn about the life of the 1st Martyr of the Church.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: The Altar Guild meeting is Tuesday, May 19th at 6:30pm. New members are welcome!

MISSION IN BERLIN: The Board of Elders invites you to a presentation on May 12th at 5:45 in the church basement to hear

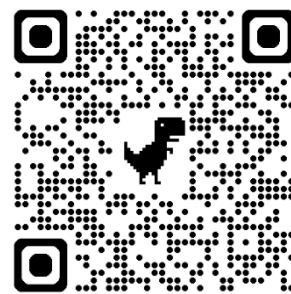
some insights about our community and some ways that we can better reach out to them as a church. We hope to see you there!

OPEN GYM: PICKUP BASKETBALL: Join us for some fun, casual pickup basketball! When: Wednesday, May 6, 6–7 PM. Where: St. John Lutheran Gym. Bring your friends and come play! For more details or questions, text 920-658-3029.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS: St. John is conducting a food drive in May benefiting the Berlin Food Pantry. In March we donated 742 lbs of food to them! We are accepting non-perishable food, paper products and monetary gifts. Please bring your donations to church and place them in the large blue bin.

BIBLE STUDY ON REVELATION: We'll be studying selections from the book of Revelation using Lutheran Hour Ministries' "Explaining All the Scary Stuff in Revelation" in our post-Sunday Service Bible Study. This will hopefully be a jumping off point to go a little deeper into the book for the rest of the year. I hope you'll join us!

PLEASE TAKE THIS SURVEY: In an attempt to understand where we're at and realize God's mission for us, our church is asking those affiliated with it to take a quick survey. Whether you've been a member for years or are brand new to our church - your response will be very helpful! When you get a chance, please take a few minutes to fill out the survey by typing in this link or scanning the QR code (<http://lcms.cadds.alchemer.com/s3/&cong=C76148>) (if prompted, enter the code: C76148) or pick up a paper copy in the



back of church. Responses are required by May 3. Your responses will be anonymous. You can skip questions you don't have an answer for. We need your help - please fill out a survey! Thank you!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY CONCERT: The St. John Lutheran Church Evangelism Team is hosting Randy Peterson as part of St. John Lutheran School's participation in National Screen-Free Week. The Concert is Tuesday, May 5th starting at 6pm in the church. This evening concert gives students and families an engaging alternative to screen time and encourages meaningful time together through music.

MEN'S MINISTRY: Monday May 4th we will be meeting at 139 S Swetting Street in Berlin for a cookout and bonfire, rain or shine. Any man over the age of 16 is invited. We hope to see you all there!



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE SPRING CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK:

Thursday, May 7 at 1:00 pm in the Church Basement. This is hosted by the Ladies Aid; no need to bring anything.

Join us, bring a friend, and enjoy Food, Fun, and Fellowship.



CHURCH PICNIC ACTIVITIES: We'll be hosting our church picnic on July 19 and we're looking for someone to plan some activities for kids and adults. If you're interested, please talk with Pastor Rob. THANKS!



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN DINKS FOR DONATIONS PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Join us for a fun 2v2 pickleball tournament on Saturday, July 11, starting at 8:00 AM at 344 Broadway St, Berlin, WI 54923.

Entry fee is one paper bag full of nonperishable food items for the Berlin Food Pantry. It's a double-elimination tournament with 15-minute games (most points wins) and best-of-3 for the final three matches. Concessions and a 50/50 raffle will be available. We're partnering with the Tri-County Area Boys & Girls Club. Prizes will be given to the top 3 teams. Sign up by messaging 920-658-3029.

All skill levels welcome — come play and support a great cause!

THIS WEEK IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: This Sunday, May 3, is our last Sunday School class of the school year! Our lesson will look ahead to Mother's Day and Father's Day, since we won't have class on those Sundays. We'll be focusing on Luke 2:41–52, where we learn about Jesus growing in wisdom, love, and obedience within His family. It's a special reminder of how God places caring adults—parents and others—in our lives to help guide us as we grow. We're looking forward to a great final class together! Come and join us for crafts, games and food. Thank you to everyone who made it a productive year.

OPENING ON BOARD OF EDUCATION: The St. John Board of Christian Education is seeking a new board member due to a recent resignation, creating an open position. If you are interested in serving—or would like more information—please contact the school office or speak with any current board member. A list of current

board members is printed on the back of the monthly newsletter. Thank you for considering this opportunity to support Christian education at St. John.

WE'RE HIRING AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL!

St. John Lutheran School in Berlin is seeking to hire:

- **An additional Middle School Teacher**
- **An additional Preschool Aide**

If you are interested—or know someone who may be a great fit—please contact the school office for more information:

Phone: 920-361-0555 **Email:** school@stjohnberlin.org

We would love for you to help us spread the word!

TITUS 2 WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Titus 2 is a women's group dedicated to building Christian relationships between different generations. Their next gathering is May 2nd from 5:00-8:00 at River Shores Church. For details and to RSVP call/text Rachel Cassidy at (920) 290-4459.

BERLIN BIKE RODEO – JOIN THE FUN! On May 16, 9:30–11:00 AM at Grace Lutheran (384 Oak St., Berlin) there is a free event for children ages 4–10 to build bike safety skills and will include prizes, games, and giveaways. Bring your own bike and helmet, and come enjoy a morning of fun! Adults must accompany children. Register by May 9 by calling (920) 279-7899. Along with other churches in Berlin, St. John is sponsoring it.