



# *Spirit Alive!*

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2020

*From The Desk of*

*Pastor Roald Hartzwick*

*?When?*

As the Christian faith community of St. John's Lutheran perhaps the question asked most frequently is ?When?: When will we be able to gather for corporate worship? Other questions asked with the first: How will we, and what must we do, to get back to "normal" worship.

To help provide the answers for us your church council has appointed a task force to consider and make recommendations for us to use as we move towards being able to worship in person with each other.

Council discussion about this topic (via-phone conference call) indicated that we should not rush into "opening" and thus put many who, due to age and/or chronic illness, are at greater risk.

Many additional questions and concerns about singing, joint speaking, and the sharing of our Holy Communion, etc. Also need

to be answered. (Think about masks, disinfecting, numbers at worship and you soon realize it will NOT be like turning a switch on.)

On Sunday, May 31st, we observe Pentecost Sunday and celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to God's people in Christ. This is considered the birthday of the Christian Church.

It is the Holy Spirit which keeps us united in our worship even as we do not physically gather together. The spirit is God in action, empowering, present, and life-giving. In the spirit God is with us in dynamic fashion. In the spirit we have the reminder that we are not alone whatever our circumstances within our walk of faith may be. Let us, in all things cry out: Thanks be to God!

Rejoice in the Spirit's Blessing,  
*Pastor Roald*



Church  
Council

**President—Kelly Trebus**

**V. President — Tom Pamperin**

**Secretary — Liz Fischer**

**Sue Conratt**

**Nancy Helms**

**Mary Hoppe**

**Curly Krueger**

**Carol Polzin**

**Shirl Tischauser**

**Wanda Tucker**

**Please contact the council members for any concerns.**

## A Word from Council

Recently, I have been doing an online daily devotional. For the past couple of weeks, the focus has been on community. Titles have all started out as "Community is..." and then vary to words like Encouragement, Trust, Unity and a number of other examples. They are all quite relevant during this time when "community" is confusing to many of us. Do we stay home or do we go out and about? Do we continue worship as we have been or do we open up the church? Do we believe the Republicans or the Democrats or the media? So many questions and way too many different answers. It seems like everyone has an opinion, but none of knows for sure what is right or what will happen. What I do know is that no matter what, we as a community need to stand together, whether we agree or disagree, with whatever decisions that are made. One of the catch phrases of the Covid-19 Pandemic has been, "We are in this together." How appropriate for our St. John's community as we looked toward our future. When we will open and run things as they had been? When will we get a new minister and what will that individual bring to our plate? This standing together brings to mind an English lesson I do with some of my students. Aesop's Fables have been around for many, many years. A favorite of mine is "The Bundle of Sticks." It is the story of an elderly man on his deathbed, who has gathered his sons around him. He asked one to pick up a stick from the nearby hearth and break it. The son does this easily. He then asks a second son to pick up one of the bundles of sticks and instructs him to break it. The son cannot. The father then tells his sons that individually, they can all be broken, but as a group, they will remain strong and unbreakable. We do not know what the future will bring. We know things will return to being somewhat normal and that we will have a new full time pastor some day. We also know that "Community is a Reflection of God Within Us" and that we, as a congregational community are up to the challenge. We are all in this together and I am looking forward to a great future for the St. John's community.

God Bless and take care until we meet again.

Wanda Tucker

*(A member of church council has been invited to share their thoughts with you via the St. John's Newsletter)*



## Prayers

- \* *Deb Mielke*
- \* *Hayden Miller*
- \* *Tami Osman*
- \* *Gary Schuelke*
- \* *Mitch Tischauser*
- \* *Grace Riedinger*

**NEW:** To be in compliance with HIPPA laws, the church will only be adding names of those who you have asked permission to add to the prayer list.

## Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes & Assisted Living

- ◆ *Ray Arndt*
- ◆ *Edna Arndt*
- ◆ *Jeanette Hauser*
- ◆ *Ken Mielke*
- ◆ *Joyce Kopitzke*
- ◆ *Carol Hakala*
- ◆ *Cy Gruenster*
- ◆ *Evelyn Rieckmann*
- ◆ *Doris Aderman*

## For Comfort In Time of Sorrow

- *John Knitt*
- *Hugo Mielke*
- *Marlea Mikulski*
- *Gordon "Bud" Papendorf*



Remember to keep your *Econo Foods* receipts. Drop them in the basket in the *Great Room* or by the *Car Port*. Please make sure when you turn your receipts in they are in-tact. Any money collected goes to our Building Fund. Ask your friends and family if they are willing to collect their receipts too. We receive 1% of the total.



Econo Foods will no longer be selling Our Family foods. St. John's Lutheran Church will still be collecting these product labels. Econo Foods will be selling Best Choice and Clearly Brand product labels. The Best Choice and Clearly Brand have a very similar program. Save only the UPC symbol from Best Choice and/or Clearly Brand products. Cut the UPC symbol from labels or cartons (cut around the UPC symbol. It's not necessary to send in the whole label). St. John's Lutheran Church will be collecting the Best Choice Save-A-Label/Clearly Brand program. This program helps raise money for non-profit organizations. For every 1000 labels saved, St. John's Lutheran Church will earn \$30. The collection spots will be near the other label baskets in both the "Great Room" and "Carport".



Even though Tadych's Econo Foods is no longer selling the *Our Family*® brand, there are many other local groceries stores still selling this brand. St. John's will still be collecting *Our Family*® barcodes for Sunday School. For each barcode collected 5¢ is earned.



Are you interesting in volunteering? If so contact Mama's House of Hope at (715) 754-6262 and ask for Bev or Clara.



June needs are cereal, peanut butter, tuna and soup. The Food Pantry is accepting donations in the drop box outside. For more information call Pat Leach at 715-754-2665.



## Flower Beds

If you have a green thumb and are interested in volunteering at the church, the flower beds could use your assistance.

# St. John's Finance Report

**Month end:** **April 2020**  
**Year to Date**

**General Fund:**

Revenue \$ 55,437  
Expenses \$ 66,540

**Benevolence:**

Revenue \$ 3,550  
Expenses \$ 2,300

**Financial Condition-  
Balances as of April 2020:**

General Fund \$ 18,703  
Building Fund (22,736)  
Church Improvements 45,711  
Benevolence Fund 1,250  
Special Funds 101,384  
Check EFT 214  
Total \$ 144,525

**Current Loan Balances Due:**

Endowment \$ 91,772  
Student Fund 1,768  
Sanctuary Remodel 144,916  
Total Debt \$ 238,456

**Loan Payments:**

Endowment \$ 1,724  
Student Fund 495  
Sanctuary 5,000  
Required Payments \$ 7,219

## Offerings Needed

During these days when regular worship times have been suspended, St. John's continues to function. This means we continue to have bills to Pay and financial obligations to meet. Please continue to support St. John's by getting your offering to us on a regular basis.

We know that some may have been laid off, etc. and are out of work with limited, if any, income. We understand this and do not seek to put any pressure upon you.

During this time, **St. John's will continue to be in need of your offerings.** Please consider one of the following ways:

- 1) Sign up for online giving through filling out the application on our website under: Publication>Information&Forms>Stewardship and click on online giving or if you are able, click on the link below for the application: [https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/hp\\_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Online-giving.pdf](https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Online-giving.pdf). After you fill out the application email to [stjohnsfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsfinance@gmail.com).
- 2) Use the offering envelopes assigned, put a stamp on it, and send it in the mail.
- 3) Set up Bill Pay through your Financial Institution.
- 4) Donate on the website on the Home page scroll down past Church Events to Donate. Enter the amount to donate and under which Fund is desired.

## Memorials

A special thank you to all those who have given in memory of

- John Knitt
- Shirley Mielke
- Hugo Mielke, Jr.
- Marlea Mikulski
- Gordon Papendorf
- Gary Strehlow

Memorials were given to the Altar Guild, General, Building and Sanctuary funds.

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
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**Marion, WI 54950**

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## Recognition of Graduates

Normally at this time of year St. John's holds a baccalaurean service to honor our high school, technical college, and college graduates. While this may happen, it may be different from the past. If you would like to be recognized or know of someone would, please contact the church office at 715-754-5201 or email [churchoffice@st.johnsmarion.org](mailto:churchoffice@st.johnsmarion.org). If you are willing, please share a picture and where you are graduating from as well as degree(s) earned and "What are your plans are for life?"



Shop through the AmazonSmile Foundation and donate 0.5% of the purchase to St. John's Lutheran Church at: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0911397>

## Father's Day

On Father's Day, June 21st, St. John's will be sharing a Vande Walle's candies with fathers. We invite you to use the car port during 9:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. Enter the church parking lot from East Ramsdell Street/County Road S, drive over to the car port-lower your window-and the candies will be given. When you have received your candy, please drive away. Due to the current pandemic we will not be engaging in conversation at this time. A blessing to all dads (and moms, and all families) on this special day.



Sunday June 21st, 2020

# Happy Father's Day

### Proverbs 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; <sup>2</sup>for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you. <sup>3</sup>Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup>So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people."

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.  
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Happy  
*Father's*  
Day

*Electronic Service Requested*

*Dated Material Please Do No Delay!*