



APRIL NEWSLETTER 2024 | ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

WHAT IMPRESSION DO WE WANT ST. JOHN'S KNOWN FOR?

Some of you are probably thinking that is a “strange” title. I will preface this message by stating this will be uncomfortable for some of you to read. However, unfortunately all the incidents revealed occurred at St John's. A couple of them were a few years ago. Regardless of when they occurred none of them displayed the phrase from our vision statement “Our love actions arise from our passionate displays of service and hospitality.”

- an 8-year-old child was attending Sunday School for the first time in her life. Her teacher chastised her in front of others for not knowing the ten commandments.
- a new member volunteered to help at a funeral and was told she cut the pan of bars wrong! She left and joined another local church.
- a gentleman who came to worship and was greeted with “what are you doing here” – are you a member? He has not returned.
- a lady received an anonymous letter signed “St John's member” telling her the clothes she wore to worship were not suitable for church. She and her husband no longer attend.
- children coming for Sunday School went to coffee hour for a cookie and were told unless they had attended the first service, they could not have a treat

All of us are responsible for our actions and our words.

Matthew 25: 35-36: *For I was hungry, and you fed me, I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me. When you did it to one of the least of mankind you did it to me.*

It is not about being a member – it is about being a Christian in thought word and deed.

Is it a hard job twenty-four -seven, of course it is because we are sinners influenced by a secular world that wants Jesus to fail!

If each of us pledges with God's help to try we will succeed. God does not fail – people do!



- President-Pat Mielke**
- V. President-Amy Bazile**
- Secretary-Mandy Malueg**
- Brian Sawall**
- Crystal Schwan**
- Dawn White**
- Linda Mielke**
- Mary Hoppe**
- Melissa Pfeiler**
- Ron Krueger**
- Wanda Tucker**
- Please contact the council members for any concerns.**

Pat Mielke
Council President

Pause Ponder Pray

**This month I am offering an entry from one of my favorite devotional books
“Treasures of the transformed life” by John Ed Mathison.**

I recently came across a list of reasons that somebody wrote about why he won't go to football games anymore. Now, don't take it too seriously. Just keep in mind that the person who wrote it was also quite a churchman, so you might see some similarities. Here are the top ten reasons he says that he stopped heading for the stadium.

The band always plays songs I haven't heard before.

I can stay home and watch the game on television.

I played when I was in junior high, and I disagree with the way they coach now.

My parents made me go to football games when I was a child. I'm going to let my kids decide for themselves.

They're always asking you for money when you go the stadium.

Sometimes you have to stay late because the game goes into overtime.

There might be someone at the game who's wearing the same thing I am.

I'm not going because it's too hot or too cold.

People at the game are unfriendly and don't speak to me when I go.

They keep changing things. They change the uniforms, the stadium, the plays, the coaches. I just don't like change, so I'm not going to go.

In the context of football these excuses all come across as ridiculous, don't they? But in the context of going to church? Unfortunately they are all too familiar.

Attending worship services, allows us to encourage each other, to lift each other up, teach each other, and praise God together.

The outside world pays attention to how committed we are to this church thing, and how serious we are about making our relationship with God a priority.

I recently met a man named Ken, whose life was a total mess just five years ago. He had been an alcoholic and a compulsive gambler, but God transformed his life. Ken shared with me part of how that happened.

Every year, their firm would send Ken and another man to Florida for a weekend of golf. "We always looked forward to those three days of golf." Ken told me.

It didn't take Ken very long to notice something. "I realized that the first time we were down there on Saturday afternoon, he got in his car and drove back home. So I asked him, "Where did you go? Is there trouble at home?"

He said no, so I asked him why he went home. And he told me. Tomorrow is Sunday, and I go to church on Sunday. I said, "You mean you'd give up a day of golf in Florida on the company to go home and go to worship?"

He replied, "That's right. That's important to me."

His friend's commitment to attending church had a profound impact on Ken's life. He started thinking about how his friend really believed in something. It was through that example, Ken said, that his own life was turned around.

So, what about you? Is your commitment to being at church so strong that other people would take note of it? If not, it might be time to figure out why.

Thoughts to ponder.

YEARS AGO...



If you recognize anyone in this picture. Please contact the church office so we can include the information in next month's newsletter. This picture was found in the *Diamond Jubilee of St. John's Lutheran Church*.



This picture was in last month's newsletter.

This was a picture of the Altar Committee who served the congregation in 1961. Left to right: Mrs. John Milbauer, Mrs. Harold Krueger, Mrs. Carl Rulseh, Mrs. F.R. Ohlogge, Mrs. James Milbauer, Mrs. Vernon Krueger.

Pictures like these can be found in our church library. There are also several new books, dvds, and cd's available to church members based on the honor system.

Church wifi be like

Wireless Network Connection

The Promised LAN



In His Image. 19th of March, 2024. https://www.facebook.com/iHiappare/photos/a.506876129499908/1200542996799881/?paipv=0&eav=Afa1qkrObMiBqJBHhSn1GjCCewxdsWCkZTsqWH84iFz2gSBX_e1WTcVqfFzmLPNBakw&_rdr



St. John's Church and School
1888

Puffy Pizza

1 can round biscuits, cut each biscuit in quarters
1 lb. hamburger, browned
1 (16-oz.) can pizza sauce
1 pkg. mozzarella cheese
1/2 tsp. oregano
Onions, chopped
Green peppers, chopped
Mushrooms

Mix together biscuits, browned hamburger and pizza sauce. Put into 9 x 13 glass pan sprayed with cooking spray. Add oregano, onions, green peppers and mushrooms. Top with mozzarella cheese. Bake 20 minutes at 400°

From: Ronda Radtke, pg. 75 of *Cookin' With St. John's* 2009 Cookbook

Month End: February 2024
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue \$ 36,059
Expenses \$ 31,815

**Financial Condition-
Balances as of February 29th**

General Fund \$ 35,969
Building &
Church Improvements 105,718
Benevolence Fund 2,549
Special Funds 46,478
Check EFT 1,039
Total \$200,151

Baptism

A baptism occurred on March 10th, 2024 at the 10:30a.m. worship service. Please welcome Brystal Burr, daughter of Adam & Shae Jozwiak to the congregation!



Crossways Camp Scholarships

Campership Scholarships are available through St. John's to help offset 75% of camp costs. The scholarship application can be found at <https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/information-forms/>. Crossways is also looking for staff to help this summer. For more information about Crossways, contact them at 920-882-0023; e-mail info@crosswayscamps.org or visit their website at www.crosswayscamps.org.

Prayers

- ◆ Becky Van Buren
- ◆ Bev Genskow
- ◆ Bonnie Elandt
- ◆ Braeden Mielke
- ◆ Clarence Fenner (Peggy Hammond's dad)
- ◆ Corrine Kroening
- ◆ Darla Dieck
- ◆ Dave Krueger
- ◆ Dave Schmidt
- ◆ David Soik
- ◆ Denise Pamperin
- ◆ Dorothy Arndt
- ◆ Jackie Suehring
- ◆ Jaden Stuhr
- ◆ James O. Krueger
- ◆ Jerome Portnoy
- ◆ Jerry Zimdars
- ◆ Kristy Overman
- ◆ Laura Moericke
- ◆ Nancy Helms
- ◆ Nathan Nick
- ◆ Patty (Fournier) Beck
- ◆ Rachel Fischer
- ◆ Will Wege



Prayer for Those In Assisted Living

- ◆ Karen Aschenbrenner
- ◆ Anne Erdman
- ◆ Jack Lozier
- ◆ Arnold Kriesel
- ◆ Gloria Krieser
- ◆ Mary Mengert
- ◆ Lois Miller

St. John's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 235
318 E. Garfield Ave.
Marion, WI 54950

Office Manager: Sheri Fuhrman
Financial Secretary: Mandy Malueg
stjohnsfinance@gmail.com
Phone: 715-754-5201
Website: www.stjohnsmarion.org
Email: churchoffice@stjohnsmarion.org
Finance Email: accounting@stjohnsmarion.org

St. John's Church Council Minutes – February 20, 2024

Council members present: Pat Mielke, Amy Bazile, Linda Mielke, Mary Hoppe, Melissa Pfeiler, Mandy Malueg, Ron Krueger, Dawn White, Crystal Schwan, Brian Sawall. **Also present:** Sheri Fuhrman **Absent:** Wanda Tucker

Meeting called to order by Pat Mielke at 6:45 p.m. Linda opened with devotions and prayer.

The Vision Statement was read by Ron.

Member Comments: None to report.

Secretary's Report: The meeting minutes for January 2024, were reviewed. A motion was made by Amy, seconded by Melissa, to approve the Council minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Mary, to approve the January 2024 financial statements as presented. Motion carried.

Vital Statistics: None to report.

Old Business: Items of Old Business considered were:

- **Call Committee Update:** The MSP has expired. Kay Tellock called Pastor Asher. Pastor Asher suggested the council review the MSP before renewing.

New Business: Items of New Business considered were:

- **Council Members Round Table**– Each council member gave a brief autobiography about themselves.
- **Guest Speakers at Church Services** – A member asked if a guest speaker, Tammy Borden, would be able to speak at St Johns. A suggestion was to speak after a Wednesday night service. Sue Conradt and Mary Hoppe will contact Tammy to discuss dates.
- **Newsletter and Devotions Schedule** – The schedule with distributed to council members.
- **Action Team Assignments** – This will be discussed at the March meeting.
- **Any Other New Business:**

Teenage Behavior Policy: The council will review St Johns current behavior policy/Code of Conduct and have the updated form(s) ready by August.

Action Team Reports: The following Action Team reports were provided:

- **Property**– On Sunday, March 10, after the 10:30 service, AED training will be held. Dave would like to paint hallways. A property five-year plan will be brought to council next month.
- **Worship and Music** - Pastor Nelson will be here April 21st. Good Friday script is being worked on. First Communion is April 14 at 10:30. Denise and Mary are teaching classes. May 19th one service at 9:30 in Parish Hall and Baccalaureate service. A picnic celebration will follow. Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts will be provided.
- **Community** – Soup supper proceeds will be credited to the Parish Hall update fund.

Closed Session: none

The next meeting will be on March 19, 2024 at 6:45 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•Camelot Worship

Camelot Worship service is typically the first Wednesday of each month at the Camelot Apartments at 3:00p.m. The Camelot Service is a community outreach program. It is an opportunity to worship and receive Holy Communion.

•Communion

The next time communion will be offered is Sunday, April 14th at 8a.m. and 10:30a.m. services, and Wednesday, April 17th 6p.m.

•First Communion Classes

For those who are not yet sharing in Holy Communion that are second grade or above, there will be two classes on Wednesday evening on April 3rd and 10th from 5-6p.m. A parent or guardian is required to attend. Please let us know if you want to attend these classes so we have enough materials. April 14th at 10:30a.m. will be the date to celebrate partaking in Holy Communion. Sponsors and families are encouraged to attend this service to support those taking this step of faith.

•Graduation Sunday

We will be honoring college and high school 2024 graduations during the 9:30a.m. service in the Parish Hall on Sunday, May 19th. Please email the church office via churchoffice@stjohnsmarion.org.

Please send your full name (including middle name), a picture of yourself, and your future plans by Monday, May 6th. If you would like to be recognized in the bulletin but will not be able to attend the service on that day, please let the church office know.

•Dartball Team

Congratulations to the St. John's Dartball Team for winning first place in the playoffs, second place in the league, and third place in the league tournament. Those who brought the trophy home are the following: Gene Barnick, Doug Plauster, Jamie Mielke, Brian Sawall, Ashley Fischer, Jeff Miller, Dale Mielke, Arlyn Fischer, and Ron Krueger. The Dartball team is looking for more team players. If you or someone you know is interested in being a Dartball player, please contact the church office.



SOUL OPPORTUNITES

•Food Pantry

Food Pantry needs for April are canned vegetables and canned fruit. The food pantry wants are toothpaste and toothbrushes. Thank you!

•Wanted

We are looking for Worship Leaders and Readers and members to give Home Communion. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Church Services

April 3rd-No Worship Service

April 7th, 28th-Worship at 8 in the Sanctuary & 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

April 10th, 24th-Worship at 6p.m. in the Sanctuary

April 14th-Worship with Communion 8 & 10:30a.m. with Pastor Bob Wilkinson

April 21st-Worship with Communion 8 & 10:30a.m. with Pastor Dennis Nelson

April 17th –Worship with Communion 6p.m. with Pastor Jill Meyer

Camelot Worship-April 3rd at 3p.m.

Confirmation Class-Confirmation Class resumes on Wednesday, April 10th
-Mentors, Parents & Confirmands Meeting May 1st after worship

Council-April 16th at 6:45p.m.

Dominos-Every Wednesday 1p.m.

Quilting-Every Wednesday 12:30p.m.

Yoga-NO CLASS on Monday, April 1st or on Thursdays;
Class is April 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 9a.m.



SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH

**FIRST
COMMUNION
SUNDAY**

CLASSES WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3RD &
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH, 2024 PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE
IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE CLASSES

The poster features a golden chalice on the left, a loaf of bread, and wheat stalks. The background is a textured, light brown surface.



**GRADUATION
& SUNDAY
SCHOOL
CELEBRATION**

May 19th, 2024
9:30a.m.

The poster is a colorful collage with a white circular cutout in the center containing the text. The collage includes various patterns, colors, and small decorative elements like stars and paper scraps.



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

P.O. Box 235 • 318 E Garfield Ave • Marion, WI 54950

**Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Marion, WI
Permit No. 13**

*Electronic Service Requested
Dated Material Please Do No Delay!*