

THE WELCOME

St. John's Lutheran Church

Juneau Salem-Lowell Horicon

December 2019

Download the St. John's App today!



*Glory
to the
newborn
King!*

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
First Sunday of Advent 1 Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM - J; 9:30 AM - SL <i>Bible Class and Sunday School</i> 8:30 AM - SL; 9:15 AM - J NO Catechism Christmas Decorating 10:30 - SL Elders 11:30 AM - J Organist Mtg Noon - J	2 B.C. 6:30 PM - SL Welcome Mailers 10:00 AM - J B.C. 10:00 AM - C Jesus Cares 1:30 PM - C	3 B.C. 8:15 AM - J Welcome Mailers 10:00 AM - J B.C. 10:00 AM - C Jesus Cares 1:30 PM - C	4 Catechism 5:00 - J Zumba 5:45 PM - J Joint Advent Service 7:00 PM with reception to follow - Good Shepherd BD	5 Ladies Aid 6:30 PM - J Worship with LS 6:30 PM - J	6 Worship 5 PM - H	7
Food Drive & Candy Bag Donations @ all Campuses						
Second Sunday of Advent 8 Worship w/ Communion 8:00 & 10:30 AM - J; 9:30 AM - SL <i>Bible Class and Sunday School</i> 8:30 AM - SL; 9:15 AM - J Catechism 9:15 AM - J Food Drive & Candy Bags Piano & Jr. Choir Recital 1:30 PM - Juneau Library Advent by Candlelight 6:00 PM - J	9 Pastor's at Cireuit in Lowell Cookie Deliveries 8:00 AM - J Salem Council Christmas Party 6:00 PM - SL Board of Ed 7:00 PM - J	10 B.C. 8:15 AM - J B.C. 10:00 AM - C Church Caroling 5:30 PM - J B.C. 7:00 PM - J	11 Catechism 5:00 - J Zumba 6:00 PM - J Trustees 6:30 PM - J Adult Choir 7:00 PM - J	12 Worship 6:30 PM - J	13	14 Sunday School Christmas Practice 9:30 AM - SL Worship 5 PM - H
Third Sunday of Advent 15 Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM - J; 9:30 AM - SL <i>Bible Class and Sunday School</i> 8:30 AM - SL; 9:15 AM - J Catechism 9:15 AM - J Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 AM - J	16 B.C. 6:30 PM - SL St. John's School Christmas Concert 1:30 PM & 7:00 PM - School Gym	17 B.C. 8:15 AM - J B.C. 10:00 AM - C Jesus Cares 1:30 PM - C Church Council 6:30 PM - J	18 Midweek Worship 9:00 AM - M 10:00 AM - C 11:00 AM - J Catechism 5:00 - J Sunday School Mtg 6:30 - SL Adult Choir 7:00 PM - J	19 Worship with LS 6:30 PM - J	20	21 CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS 10:30 AM - J Candlelight Christmas Worship 5 PM - H Euchre / BINGO Night 6:30 PM - J
Fourth Sunday of Advent 22 Worship w/ Communion and Kummerow Installation 8:00 & 10:30 AM - J; 9:30 AM - SL <i>Bible Class and Sunday School</i> 8:30 AM - SL; 9:15 AM - J Catechism 9:15 AM - J Kummerow Reception 10:30 AM - SL	23 Children's Christmas Eve Service 1:30 PM - J Sunday School Christmas Practice 6:00 PM - SL	24 Children's Christmas Eve Service 6:30 PM - J Sunday School Christmas Eve Service 6:30 PM - SL	25 Christmas Worship 9:00 AM - J Christmas Worship 9:30 AM - SL	26 NO Worship	27	28 Worship w/ LS 5 PM - H
Christmas I 29 Worship w/ Communion 8:00 & 10:30 AM - J; 9:30 AM - SL	30	31	BC- Bible Class J - Juneau Campus SL - Salem-Lowell Campus	C- Clearview LS - Lord's Supper	H- Horicon Campus M - Matthew's Place	

THE WELCOME

Pastors

David Brandt 608-343-2206
Paul Schupmann 920-344-9839
Joel Luetke 920-285-1351
Sr. Asst. Matt Hatzung 612-386-6131

Worship Services

(same service at all locations)

Thursday

6:30pm Juneau Campus

Saturday

5:00pm Horicon Campus

Sunday

8:00am Juneau Campus

9:30am Salem-Lowell Campus

10:30am Juneau Campus

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Television

Broadcast Times

St John's Service @
Cable 97 & 991
Mondays 11 AM
St John's Service @
Cable 97 & 991
Tuesdays 6:30 PM

Watch anytime on the
St. John's App

St. John's Locations

Juneau Campus

920-386-3313
400 S. Main St.
Juneau, Wisconsin

Horicon Campus

920-386-3313
716 Clinton St.
Horicon, Wisconsin

Salem-Lowell Campus

920-386-3313
105 Juneau Rd.
Lowell, Wisconsin

School Office

920-386-4644
402 S. Main St.
Juneau, Wisconsin

www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com

SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME

The word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. *Luke 3:2-3 NIV84*

REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM

What are some of the titles that you proudly bear? Is it mom or dad? Doctor or CEO? Student or athlete? American or Wisconsinite? What about Christian or child of God? I think it is safe to say that you're not going to be writing your name down as "Christian John Doe". Yet that is a title that many of us were first given when we were baptized. It is the most important name that we bear!

John the son of Zechariah also known, as John the Baptist, had the joy and privilege of baptizing many of the people that came to him at the Jordan River. His ministry was important as he shared the Word of God. He called people to repentance. He performed baptisms that actually did something about those sins. It gave the forgiveness of sins! It made people children of God through the power of the Spirit.

The same is true with us when we were baptized. God washed us clean from all our sins. God made us his children by bringing us to faith in Jesus. God declared us to be holy as he clothed us with Jesus' blood and righteousness.

While we may not remember that day when we were baptized or who did the baptizing the important thing is that were baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins. Because attached to those words are the promises of God. Promises that will not be broken. Promises of life everlasting to all of God's forgiven children.

While our baptisms may not be included in our signatures, but they are something to remember everyday of our life. This is especially neat to remember as we come upon the celebration of Jesus' birthday. We are able to celebrate the birthday of our brother. For we were adopted into God's family the same way that John baptized the people of his day.

Prayer: Dear Jesus thank you for washing me clean through the waters of holy baptism. Help me now to remember that I am your forgiven child in all that I say, think and do. Amen.

Christmas Schedule

Events & Worship

Joint Advent Service

December 4th at 7:00 PM – Good Shepherd B.D.

Piano & Junior Choir at Parade of Trees

December 8th at 1:30 PM – Juneau Public Library

WLS Christmas Concert

December 8th at 3:00 & 7:00 PM – Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Advent by Candlelight

December 8th at 6:00 PM – Juneau Campus

Cookie Deliveries for our Shut-Ins

December 9th at 8:00 AM – Juneau Campus

Church-Wide Caroling

December 10th at 5:30 PM – Juneau Campus

LPS Christmas Concert

December 15th at 3:00 PM & December 19th at 10:00 AM

LLHS Christmas Concert

December 15th at 7:00 PM

St. John's School Christmas Concert

December 16th at 1:30 PM & 7:00 PM

Mid-Week Communion Service w/ Children's Songs

December 18th at 11:00 AM

Christmas for Kids

December 21st at 10:30 AM

Candlelight Service

December 21 at 5:00 PM – Horicon Campus

St. John's School Christmas Eve Services

December 23 1:30 PM & December 24 6:30 PM – Juneau Campus

Sunday School Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 6:30 PM – Salem- Lowell Campus

Christmas Day Worship

9:00 AM Juneau Campus

9:30 AM Salem-Lowell Campus

Promoting St. John's School

By Teresa Stowell

Community members can expect to see more activities open to the public at St. John's Lutheran School as the school's promotion committee is becoming more active this year. Crystal Schultz, preschool teacher, is using her love of organizing events to help promote the school.



"We want to showcase our school and show other families in the community what we can offer," Schultz, chairwoman of the school's promotion committee, said. "We'd like to see our school grow."

Schultz has been teaching at the school for the last six years. She also taught a few years before 2013 but took time off to raise her children Emma, Owen, Autumn and Alyssa. She returned to teaching after they all entered school.



"In my earlier years here, there was a promotions committee but the committee took a break for a while," Schultz said. "We loved working with the committee and my husband, Steve, and I thought we should bring it back."

The committee led by Schultz includes school parents, teacher's wives and church members. Anyone is welcome to be a part of the committee. It has been active for the past few years, but is really pushing forward this year and hopes to do even more in the future.

The group kicked off the school year with Trunk or Treat, its first ever Halloween event.

"It was such a great success. The weather was perfect, compared to how much it snowed later that week. God was looking out for us," Schultz said. "We had a great turn out of people who came with decorated trunks and lots of children came through dressed up and we saw a lot of new faces."



The children collected candy at the trunks, then went in to have their picture taken, played games in the school and then did the raffle prizes.

Schultz said there were over 100 children that came to the event. As winter settles in, the committee is in its final planning stages for its Christmas for Kids event. While Schultz led the Trunk or Treat event, another committee member, Erin Krebs, is leading the Christmas event.

"The nice part of this committee is that there are other people who jump in to share the responsibilities," Schultz said. "I can handle leading one big event but it'd be tough to take on all the others. We all work well together."



CHRISTMAS for Kids

This will be the third year of the Christmas for Kids event that will be held at the school on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parents are welcome to drop their children off at the school where they will have a story time, snack, do a craft and a music activity.

Children ages 3 to sixth grade are welcome at the event and are divided into age groups for the program.

“Parents can go finish some Christmas shopping or even just stay home and wrap gifts all while the children are celebrating and learning about the birth of Jesus,” Schultz said.

Shortly after Christmas, the committee will start planning their Easter for Kids program. The Easter program is led by committee member, Char Lober, and is similar to the Christmas for Kids event. At this event the parents stay with the kids while they have a devotion at the school gym, an egg hunt and then activities in the school.

This will be the first year the committee has done all three events in one school year and they hope to continue that tradition.

“We also hope to add other events for the school that may help the families get to know each other,” Schultz said.



Register your child(ren) for Christmas for Kids on the St. John's app or on our website, www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com

You can also sign up to volunteer to help with the event on the St. John's app or in the narthex.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

Welcome to WELS' C19 program, an effort to reach more than a million souls with the gospel prior to and on Christmas Eve. That probably sounds ambitious. But, consider this: a year ago we set the goal of reaching a million souls through our C18 effort. The response from WELS congregations was remarkable. We estimate that as many as 1.2 million souls were invited to hear the Christmas message. This demonstrates just how large an impact the people of the WELS can have when our efforts are directed toward a common goal and those efforts are blessed by the Lord. But every congregation will want to find ways to encourage its members to be engaged in personally inviting their unchurched friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join them for worship this Christmas. Why? Because it has been shown by study after study that the unchurched are far more likely to accept a personal invitation to attend church. One final encouragement: A recent survey found that 80% of unchurched adults would seriously consider accepting an invitation, extended by a friend, to attend a Christmas Eve service. C19 seeks to encourage every member of our WELS family to do just that. We have extra postcards in the narthex you can use to invite your family and friends. Please take a few and share them.



Candy Bag Donations:

We are accepting donations of candy and/or money for the Christmas candy bags that are given to the children on Christmas Eve. If you would like to participate, there will be a free-will offering on the weekends of December 1 & 8. Members are also welcome to donate candy for the Christmas bags during that time. Thank you!



Thank you to all of the donors that came and gave blood during our blood drive on Friday, November 8, 2019. Our goal for the day was 60 units and we did 55 units, AWESOME JOB!

Thank you to Gretchen Last for getting all the blood drive signs up and all of the advertising put in the paper and on the radio.

Thank you to the volunteers that helped during the blood drive doing registration, canteen and assisting the donors.

Thank you also to all that donated food and treats for the drive.

I hope to see you all again at our next blood drive which is scheduled for **Friday**, March 6, 2020 from 1-6 p.m.

Thanks again,

Blood Drive Committee



Church-Wide Caroling

You are invited to join our **Adult and Junior Choirs** as they sing Christmas carols at various nursing homes in the area. Please meet in the church basement at 5:30pm on Tuesday, December 10th and we will travel by bus to our destinations. We will return by 7pm for a pizza party. The cost for the pizza is \$3 per person. Please join us!

Merry Christmas

Joint Advent Service



There will be a joint Advent Service on Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 PM with St. Stephen and Good Shepherd in Beaver Dam and our congregation. This year, it will be hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam. The service will be a special reflective Advent Service with special choirs and sermonettes. *Also, please come and join us for some desserts and fellowship after the service.* Please join us as we prepare our hearts for our coming Messiah.

Church Closing Information

inclement weather

How do I know if church is cancelled due to weather?

Please check these places

1. St. John's app notification
2. St. John's website homepage
3. NBC Madison
4. WBEV and WXRO Radio
5. WTMJ4 Milwaukee



Cookies Cookies Cookies

Calling all Bakers!!!

On Monday, December 9th, the Ladies Aid will be delivering cookies to our shut-ins beginning at 8:00AM in the church basement. We are looking for volunteers to assemble, package, decorate, and deliver the cookies for over 50 shut-ins. How can I help? We are accepting cookie and bar donations, soft homemade and soft store-bought candy (with no nuts please), and caramel corn, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Geraldine Bischoff at 386-3356 or Marianne Zastrow at 386-4465. Thank you so much and so do the shut-ins!

Also, if you know of anyone who would appreciate a cookie package this Christmas season who is not a shut-in, please contact Geraldine.





Christmas Concert

St. John's Piano & Jr. Choir Recital
December 2nd, 1:30pm
@ Juneau Public Library

St. John's School Music Concert

December 16th, 1:30 pm & 7:00pm
@ St. John's School Gym

ZUMBA K GROUP

Extended for 2 more weeks!!!
December 4 @ 5:45pm
December 11 @ 6:00 pm



Join us for fun and fitness with Zumba – beginner to advanced – everyone welcome!

Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.
We'll meet St. John's Juneau Campus's lower level.

If you have difficulty hearing, we have a hearing loop installed at the Juneau Campus. Simply turn your hearing aid setting to "T" and it should pick up the frequency. If you don't have that setting on your hearing aid or don't have a hearing aid but need help listening to the service, there are a limited number of listening devices that you can pick up in the narthex. An usher will be able to help you locate them.



The Ladies of St. John's and their friends & family are invited to join us for a special

Advent by Candlelight


Sunday, December 8th

6:00 PM



Table Hostesses for Advent By Candlelight
Sunday, December 8th at 6pm

We are looking for 6-8 ladies to volunteer to be a hostess at our upcoming Advent by Candlelight. A hostess will provide a table setting of dessert plates and napkins (cups are optional) for 8 ladies and provide a dessert to share. The tablecloths and the advent wreath centerpieces will be provided. Please sign-up in the narthex if interested and contact Heide Brandt if you have any questions 989-574-5976.



Snow Removal

Would you be willing to help with snow removal this upcoming winter? If so, this year our Trustees are looking to recreate a rotation of volunteers to be "on-call" for a few weeks during the winter season (similar to the lawn mowing schedule). If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up in the narthex.

Adopt a Seminary Family

The St. John's Ladies Aid will again be sponsoring a seminary family this Christmas and we want to invite you, the members of St. John's, to be a part of this special Christmas gifting! We have been given the name of a deserving family by the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary staff (this couple has 2 small children – 18 mos and 1 mos) and we asked them for a wish list. Below you will see the communication we received from the Welchs as well as their wish list. To participate, purchase any item(s) off the list, wrap it, include a card with Christmas wishes if you like or it can be anonymous, and bring it to church no later than Sunday, December 15th. There will be a drop box in the St. John's Juneau narthex. What a blessing it is to be able to help this young family working on their way into the ministry!

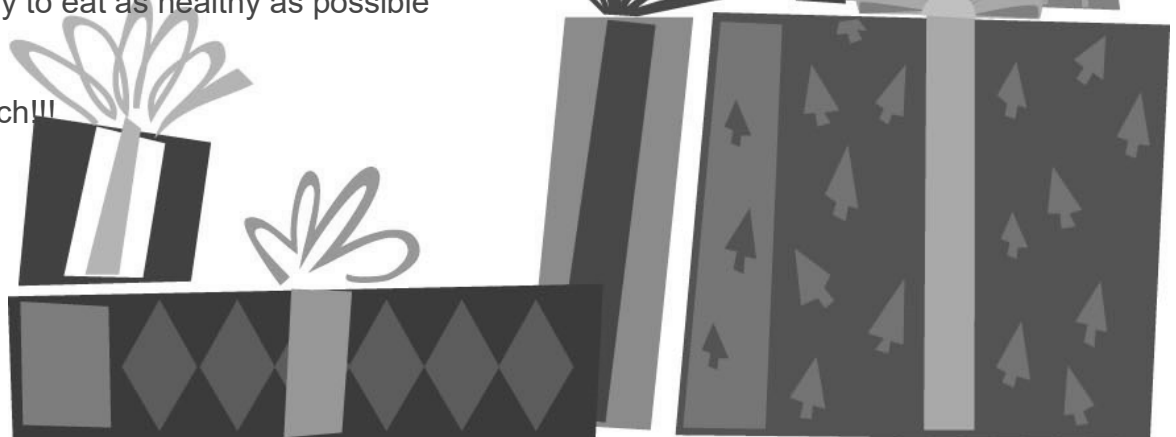
(Message from Thomas and Grace Welch)

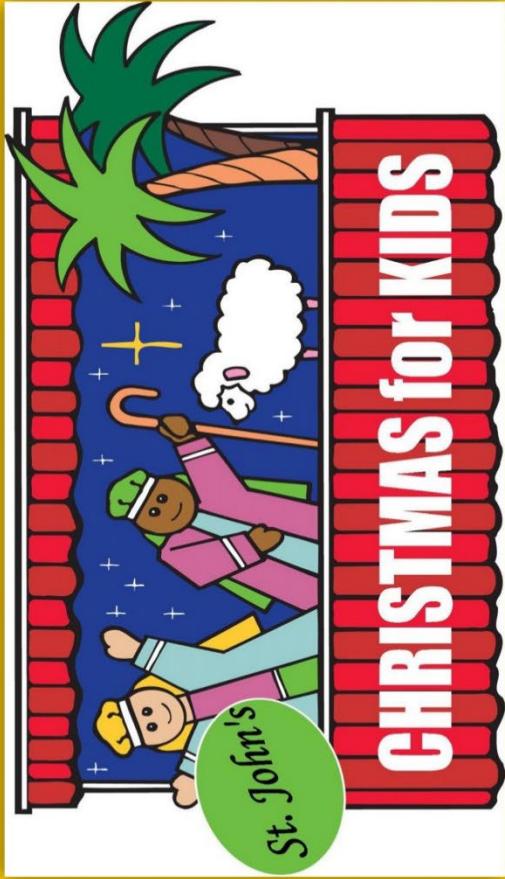
Thank you again for reaching out. We can't even tell you how much we appreciate it! We are so blessed.

Below is a wishlist!

- Disposable diapers (all sizes)
- Bum Genius Freetime All-in-One Cloth Diapers
- Double A batteries
- Art supplies (finger paint, pipe cleaners, stickers, foam, etc.)
- Glass food storage containers
- Tickets for fun activities (zoo, museum, etc.)
- iPhone chargers
- Mac Book charger
- Blue light blocking glasses (we've been getting headaches from looking at our computers while doing work)
- 18month boys fleece sweatshirt
- 3 month boys fleece sweatshirt
- 18month boys footie pajamas
- Size 5 toddler boys slippers
- Plastic storage bins for organizing toys
- a sled :)
- Children's CDs for the car
- Any sort of gift card, especially for groceries, helps a ton. We try to eat as healthy as possible on a budget!

Thank you so much!!!





Saturday December 21st

10:30-Noon

Ages 3-Sixth Grade

Free and open to the public

Join us for the true meaning of Christmas
Crafts, Music, Games, etc.

St. John's Lutheran School
402 S Main St, Juneau

Register online at
www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com

Remembering Our Heroes this Holiday

Our church office is collecting names and address of our servicemen. Please forward their contact information so our congregation can remember them this Christmastime.



920-386-3313 office@stjohnsjuneau.org

Helping those in Need

Do you know a family in need this Christmas season? Are you in need of some extra help this Christmas?

St. John's is making a "Giving Tree" this Christmas for those in need in our community. If you or someone you know would like some extra help to make this Christmas extra special, please contact Pastor Schupmann with the specifics of a gift, clothing sizes, etc. All requests will be kept confidential. In December, our members will have the opportunity to purchase those needed items and they will be delivered prior to Christmas. Please email your requests to Pastor Schupmann at pschupmann@stjohnsjuneau.org.



Would you like to help those in our community who are in need this Christmas? St. John's will have a Giving Tree during December. Needy members in our community have submitted gift requests and St. John's will place tags onto the tree specifying certain gift requests. Our members may take a tag from an anonymous family and purchase or donate money for the requested item on the tag.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40 NIV)

Would you like to show appreciation and give some encouraging words to our Called Workers this Christmas Season with a card? St. John's has a Christmas card box in the back of church to place your cards into. We thank God for all our called workers and all they do to share Jesus with us and our school children.

Who are our called workers? Pastor David Brandt, Pastor Joel Luetke, Pastor Paul Schupmann, Senior Assistant Matt Hatzung, Principal Rick Cody, Teacher Suzi Colantonio, Teacher Nikki Gunst, Teacher Michel Krebs, Teacher Matt Lober, Teacher Crystal Schultz, and Teacher Rebecca Zellmer.



*Christmas Cards
for our
Called Workers*

FOOD DRIVE

St. John's Food Drive

December 1-8

Juneau Salem-Lowell Horicon

St. John's is collecting food for the food pantries in our communities. Would you consider participating? If so, please bring your non-perishable food items to any of our St. John's Campuses between December 1-8th. We will distribute the items to the food pantries at St. Stephen's in Horicon and also to the Gathering Source in Reeseville.

Donated items could include *(from Gathering Source website)*

Sloppy Joe sauce, Ketchup, Mustard, Spices and seasonings, Soups – especially cream of mushroom and cream of chicken soup, Salad Dressings, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Meats, Side Dishes (seasoned rice, pasta, or potatoes), Canned Fruits, Individual servings of macaroni and cheese, Small cans of ravioli and spaghetti and meatballs, Cheese and cracker snacks, Granola bars, etc.

Food that will make a positive impact on the nutrition needs of growing children is the goal, so please refrain from donating candy, cookies, potato chips, etc. The food pantries kindly ask that you check the expiration dates on food items and not donate food that is more than 3 months past its "use by" or "sell by" date.

Tips for Less Stress during the Holidays



Christmas can be a very stressful time. It is a frenzied season full of expectations and obligations. Decorations need to be put up, baking has to be done, presents have to be purchased and relatives must be visited. It is

quite possible that in a season where you should experience peace and joy you may miss out on all of it. Here are some steps you can take to manage your stress this Christmas season.

1. Establish Your Priorities - This is the time when we celebrate the birth of the Savior of the world. Whatever else may beckon for your attention the most important thing is the spiritual. Because of Jesus we can know inner peace, joy greater than mere happiness and learn to love others as Christ loves us. We can have hope knowing God has a purpose and plan for our lives. All of this is because Jesus was born.

2. Have Realistic Expectations - We all want the season to be filled with happiness but the reality is that may not be possible. There are factors beyond our control that can negatively impact any Christmas celebration. Job loss, health issues, family problems do not disappear because it is Christmas. Be prepared that things may not turn out exactly the way you want or expect.

3. Keep Spending Under Control - Establishing a budget for Christmas is crucial to managing stress. Knowing how much you can afford and sticking to your budget will make your holiday a whole lot better. Spend only what you have saved for buying presents and avoid using credit cards.

4. Ask For Help - If you feel overwhelmed with all that you have to do ask others to help you. Being a martyr will not make your holiday better. Let the people who care about you know that your stress level is too high and ask for their assistance to get everything done.

5. Continue Healthy Habits - Your schedule can get pretty jumbled during the holidays. It is easy to let certain positive habits slip away. Exercising is a proven stress reducer and should be done consistently throughout the Christmas season. Getting enough sleep is crucial to looking and feeling your best. As tempting as it is, don't overdue it with too much eating or drinking.

6. Have Some Fun - Make sure to have time for the things you truly enjoy at Christmas. Do the fun stuff this season provides. Whether that is a favorite holiday movie, special tree lighting, caroling, feeding the homeless or trip to the city those activities should be highlights of your Christmas season.

7. Remember The Reason - After all the parties, shopping and events Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. His teachings and His example are what we should follow.

Showing God's love to others, serving those in need and giving is what Christmas really is. Wrap up your Christmas season at a Christmas service and you will truly experience a less stress Christmas. Article from www.christianpost.com

***Christmas Blessings from St. John's
Nurse Parish Ministry***

***Next date for Blood
Pressure checks is
Sunday, December
15th between services
at St. John's.***

St. John's Shut-Ins

Are you willing to spread some Christmas cheer? How about sending a card to our Shut-Ins? Feel free to send them some encouragement this Christmas Season.

Last Name	First	Address	City	Zip Code
Bleifuss	Mae	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Brown	Donna	351 N Hyland Street	Juneau	53039
Bruni	Leland	W6730 Willow Rd	Juneau	53039
Bublitz	Edward	Prairie Ridge Memory Care #18, 819 Wilcox	Waupun	53963
Burnett	Donald	The Charleston House, 104 Fakes CT	Beaver Dam	53916
Ebert	Deena	379 S Main St	Juneau	53039
Fehrman	Robert	133 W. Cross St	Juneau	53039
Fehrman	Ted	499 Arbor Drive	Juneau	53039
Fischer	Yvonne	140 W Lake St.	Horicon	53032
Friede	Ruth	5600 Mocking Bird Ln D105	Greendale	53129
Griepentrog	Lester	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Griepentrog	Della	502 S High Street	Randolph	53956
Griepentrog	Naomi	Landmark Charleston House, 129 Evergreen Ln	Beaver Dam	53916
Grosenick	Bette	215 Madison St. #3021	Beaver Dam	53916
Guderian	Lillian	N3752 O'Sixteen Rd.	Lowell	53557
Hammann	Edward	176 South Street	Juneau	53039
Hammann	Lorraine	176 South Street	Juneau	53039
Heuer	Constance	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Hundt	Delores	329 N Main Street	Juneau	53039
Hundt	Delmer	336 N Hyland Street	Juneau	53039
Hundt	James	329 N Main Street	Juneau	53039
Jahnke	Jane	329 E North Street	Juneau	53039
Klug	Dorothy	Matthew's Place, 713 Horicon St.	Horicon	53032
Knierim	Arlean	527 Park St	Juneau	53039
Kraut	Betty	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd.	Juneau	53039
Leetch	James	W4337 County Rd S #35	Horicon	53032
Leistico	Doris	Hillside Manor	Beaver Dam	53916
Lemke	Lawrence	N5345 County Rd Al	Juneau	53039
Livens	Lois	W4337 County Rd S #33	Horicon	53032
Mackey	Patricia	400 N. Main St. #9	Reeseville	53579

McMillan	Violet	202 McKinley St.	Beaver Dam	53916
Miller	Joann	298 N Hyland St	Juneau	53039
Mittag	Robert	307 Wayland St.	Beaver Dam	53916
Morrison	Sylvia	Prairie Ridge Assisted Living, 212 East Industrial Dr.	Beaver Dam	53916
Mountin	Marge	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Nehls	Lola	Hillside Manor, 803 S University Ave	Beaver Dam	53039
Neuberger	Vida	W7486 Cty Rd I	Juneau	53039
Ninmann	Harold	Stone Terrace, 819 S University Apt 310	Beaver Dam	53916
Pitzlin	John Jr.	110 S Harris Ave Apt 111	Waupun	53963
Pocius	Victor	Clearview Nursing Home, B2 218	Juneau	53039
Priebusch	Madaline	Bay Harbor Assisted Living, 911 S Center St.	Beaver Dam	53916
Przekurat	Crystal	520 S Fairfield Ave, Apt 104	Juneau	53039
Reчек	Lynn	311 E Maple Ave	Beaver Dam	53916
Rediske	Virginia	676 E Oak St	Juneau	53039
Rupnow	Marion	Matthew's Place, 713 Horicon St.	Horicon	53032
Sack	Audrey	W8282 Hwy 16-60	Watertown	53098
Schlafer	Mildred	645 Watertown St.	Lowell	53557
Schmidt	Charlotte	682 E Oak Grove Street	Juneau	53039
Schoeffel	Harold	Dycora Health, 410 Roedl Ct	Beaver Dam	53916
Schwoch	Dorothy	508 S. Finch St.	Horicon	53032
Soldner	Cheryl	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Strohbusch	George	819 Wilcox St Apt 23	Waupun	53963
Tallmann	Russell	N5457 S. Grove Rd	Juneau	53039
Tietz	Palmer	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039
Tillema	Carol	1104 S University Ave Apt 3	Beaver Dam	53916
Weiss	Allen	Eagle's Wings, 408 Stone St	Beaver Dam	53916
Wollinger	Frances	400 N. Main St. Apt. 12	Reeseville	53579
Wyss	Nelda	Clearview Nursing Home, 199 Home Rd	Juneau	53039

Campus Secretary, Salem-Lowell

St. John's Lutheran Church

Bev Gullickson

salem@stjohnsjuneau.org

Office Hours: Thursday morning 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the Juneau office

Other hours as needed

Hello to my fellow sisters and brothers in Christ! I am in my first year as the campus secretary for the Salem-Lowell campus. I originally started as a secretary for Salem Lutheran Church before the merge. Starting this past spring my duties were revised. What do I do now?

Worship Preparation and Attendance.

Unless there is an exception, such as holidays, I am in the Juneau office on Thursdays and pick up the worship folders and any other material for the Salem-Lowell campus. At the church I remove any past worship folders and set out the new ones, update the bulletin boards as necessary, set out Bible Class material, and make note of anything that needs to be replenished, such as The Welcome.

On Sundays I collect the sheets from the friendship registers at Salem-Lowell and record the attendance in Servant Keeper, St. John's church software program.

Liaison between the Juneau and Salem-Lowell campuses.

If someone needs to contact someone regarding the Salem-Lowell campus or find out information about the campus, I can assist. Conversely, I can also assist anyone who needs to contact someone at the Juneau campus or would like information regarding that campus.

Projects.

Sometimes projects will pop up that need my assistance, such as special mailings. (This is besides occasionally baking cinnamon rolls, brownies, etc. to sustain the energy of office personnel. ☺)

Other tasks as needed.

These tasks are determined by the pastoral or Juneau office staff. I'm there to help.



Photo: Gary and Bev Gullickson

Contribution Manager

St. John's Lutheran Church

Juneau Salem-Lowell Horicon

Jenifer Hirschfeld

contributionmanager@stjohnsjuneau.org

Hello! I am blessed to be serving as St. John's Contribution Manager. I joined the St. John's office team in 2018 and work 3-6 hours per week in the church office. I enjoy using my financial background to assist the members, employees and called workers of St. John's Lutheran Church. Some of my responsibilities as Contribution Manager include:

Entering Offerings:

Together with the Financial Secretary, we generate a weekly report summarizing all funds received by the church. The report includes monies received in offering envelopes, electronic giving, free will offerings, benevolences, memorials, special gifts, etc. As Contribution Manager, I enter the offering totals into our Church's database as well as the Church's accounting software.



Photo: Luke, Jen, Noah, Evan, and Isaac Hirschfeld

Preparing Contribution Statements:

At the end of each calendar year, I assist in generating year end contribution statements. Statements are also provided throughout the year to members of our congregation requesting an update on their giving.

Accounts Payable:

Each week, I assist the Church Treasurer by entering and organizing all bills and invoices received by the church.

Other Duties:

I also prepare various financial reports as needed. During the church audit, I provide documents and information requested by the audit team. Our office team is continually working together to ensure all three campuses are running smoothly.

Communications Director

St. John's Lutheran Church: Juneau, Salem-Lowell, Horicon
Rachel Tolkinen

church@stjohnsjuneau.org

Hours: Monday-Friday mornings at the Juneau Campus

Greetings! I have the privilege of being in my fourth year as St. John's Communications Director. I thoroughly enjoy working with the members of St. John's and the called workers. Well, you may be wondering what a Communication Director does? Look at the list below to learn more.

Announcements: As Communications Director, I am your one-stop place for advertising any announcements to our three campuses.

Newsletter: The WELCOME is the monthly newsletter for our congregation. It includes all the upcoming events, calendars, news articles, etc. It is available online, through email, on the St. John's app, and paper copies are available at our campuses.

Calendars: Our church monthly calendar and school monthly calendar are found in the WELCOME newsletter. The monthly church calendar and school calendar are available under the church tab and the school tab on our website and on our app. On our church website's homepage, (www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com) the google calendar combines both the church and school calendars.

Hymn Requests & Flower Donations: Would you like to request a special hymn or give flowers on the altar in honor of a special occasion or memorial? Please contact our Juneau Campus at least 2 weeks before the requested date for any special requests.

Worship Service Design (*liturgy, hymns, formatting - per pastoral approval*): A major portion of a Communication Director's position is to put together the weekly service bulletin. I insert into the bulletin the hymns, Bible readings, liturgy, etc. I check and recheck the formatting so that the bulletin is easy to read and contains all the parts of the liturgy. I also report the hymns we sing to our music licensing company and oversee our graphic's licenses so we are following all licensing rules in our communications. I give the bulletin to the organists and pastors so they can prepare for their services.

App: The new St. John's app is a whole new adventure! It is downloadable for free at your app store. Check it out! The app contains the latest bulletins, newsletters, calendars, numerous devotions including Vicar Hatzung's Family Devotions, signup sheets, online giving, sermons, staff contact information, etc. The purpose of the app is to keep all our members up-to-date and give them personal Bible Study opportunities no matter which campus they worship at.

Website: Our church's website is considered our "new front door". We want our website to be up-to-date and contain all the necessary information our members and visitors require. Many prospects will look at our website before they come into our building. Therefore, we want the information to be relevant and give our visitors an idea of what to expect in our services prior to their arrival.

Printing: Not only does a Communications Director put together the newsletter and bulletins and upload them onto our website and app, but I also print the paper copies as well. I, along with others in our congregation, work with our copy machine and its contract to be sure our materials are printed in a cost-effective way.

Promotion/Flyers: One of the creative aspects of a Communication Director's position is to design or oversee any promotion/flyer materials. There are a handful of people in our congregation who enjoy designing promotional materials, so we work as a team to design the materials and distribute them to our congregation and communities.

Other Duties: In a church office, other duties "pop up" regularly. We work together as a team to be sure that our members can rely on their office staff to help our church to run smoothly. Sometimes this entails organizing a closet or emptying a trash can, sometimes it is creating a signup sheet or an online registration form, sometimes it's relaying phone messages, assisting those who stop by the office or putting together a church directory. No matter what "pops up", I, along with all our St. John's office staff, are willing to serve in any way.



Photo: Nick, Rachel, Abigail, Anna and April Tolkinen

Campus Secretary - Juneau & Horicon

Becky Zimmerman

office@stjohnsjuneau.org

Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9:00 am - Noon; Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 - 3:00pm
At the Juneau Campus

Greetings everyone! I have had the pleasure of serving as the Juneau/Horicon Campus Secretary for just a little over a year now. That means I am no longer considered a "rookie" but I have quite a way to go before becoming an accomplished veteran!

A campus secretary's main focus is on the members of St John's:

- assist those who stop by, call or email the office
- prepare the friendship registers & record worship attendance
- update members' contact information
- compile the birthday and anniversary lists for the WELCOME
- record official sacred acts - 2020 we will start a joint system
- handle changes in membership at the direction of the Board of Elders and Pastors
- official contact for all prayer requests
- provide assistance to Elders & Pastors in caring for the flock



Photo: Gary, Becky, Jacob and Evan Zimmerman

Administrative services are also a part of the campus secretary's duties:

- manage the day to day office operations
- assemble reports for church council and voters' meeting packets
- maintain the congregation's business files at the direction of church leadership
- prepare synod and congregational statistical reports
- receive and process memorials, gifts and freewill offerings
- order office & worship supplies as needed
- write thank you notes/letters on behalf of the congregation
- assist pastors with schedules and membership visits such as hospital, shut-ins, funeral visits and other appointments as needed

I, along with all the St John's office staff meet on a regular basis to make sure we are prepared for all worship opportunities, upcoming activities and projects that occur throughout the year as directed by the church leadership and the Pastors. We support each other by using our God-given gifts and abilities to help our church run smoothly. We enjoy visiting with and serving you, our St John's family, as we work together to carry out the mission of the church.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving" Colossians 3:23-24

School Secretary

St. John's Lutheran School

Carol Leissring

school@stjohnsjuneau.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Fridays – All day.

Hello all! I am the School Secretary here at St. John's School. This school year is my 24th year of serving St. John's in this capacity. What started out as assisting Mr. Schultz with various office duties has grown into what I do on a daily basis now. I have watched my daughters graduate from St. John's School, high school, college, and get married in those 24 years. Time has flown! I do enjoy serving St. John's School and God has truly blessed me and my family!

Here is a synopsis of what I do in the school office:

Start of the School Year:

- ❖ Registration packets for home visits.
- ❖ Registration Day: Work with Mr. Cody collecting money, assisting parents facilitating installment plans if needed, and answering any questions.
- ❖ Work with Mr. Cody updating Power School to get it ready for the school year.
- ❖ Once all forms and money are collected from registration, all needs to be organized.
- ❖ Check the immunizations of our school children to make sure they comply with the State of Wisconsin regulations. Send notifications to parents if immunizations are needed.

During the School Year:

- ❖ Assist the teachers any way I can in the day-to-day running of the school. This may entail making copies, going into a classroom to supervise, making phone calls to parents, emailing parents, etc.
- ❖ Answer the phone, greet visitors, and talk to parents when they come into the office with questions.
- ❖ Monitor the entrance of school and screen the requests to enter the school (doorbell) during school hours.
- ❖ Assist with the practicing of fire drills, tornado drills, and school safety drills.
- ❖ Dispense medication to school children as directed by the doctor and the parents.
- ❖ Work with Mr. Cody on Power School items needed which includes report cards.
- ❖ Communicate the honor roll or any photos to the newspapers.
- ❖ Organize food or beverages needed for school concerts, or other school functions.
- ❖ Help the athletic directors in any way – organizing the basketball uniforms, rosters for the sports teams, concession money, admission money for the basketball games and tournaments. This includes being available for basketball games held at our school which includes the B team tournaments held on two Saturdays in January and February.
- ❖ Help the musical directors – print tickets and programs, sell the tickets, take photos, and any other help needed to put on the musical production.

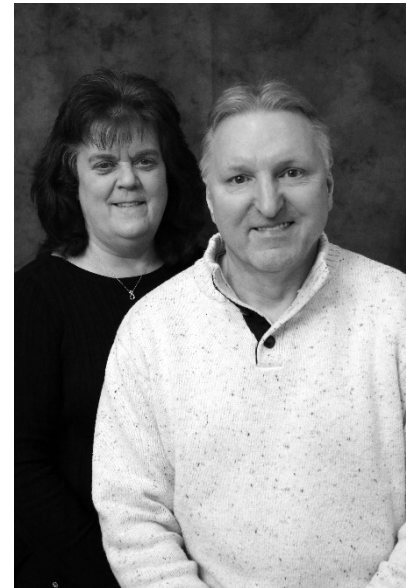


Photo: Rick & Carol Leissring

- ❖ Take photos and put the school yearbook together.
- ❖ Coordinate three Clothing orders – take the orders, payments and get the orders to our clothing supplier.
- ❖ Any other projects or tasks that need to be done.

End of the School Year:

- ❖ Organize the School Picnic – Get volunteers for grilling and serving the food. Getting the food and beverages.
- ❖ Print diplomas for the graduates.
- ❖ Awards Banquet – Take in the reservations, organize all the awards, print the certificates, programs, and help at the banquet.

Monthly:

- ❖ Mr. Cody and I work together taking in all the money that comes into school. This includes recording it into the various spreadsheets needed to keep track of everything. This includes school payments, Mission money, field trip payments, Eagle Care payments, Before and After School Care payments, lunch order money, gift collections for coaches, concession money, musical tickets, and any other money coming into school.
- ❖ School Calendar – in paper and electronic form which includes updating the Google calendar which can be found on our church website.
- ❖ Work with Mrs. Schultz tracking attendance, hours, and billing for the Eagle Care and Before and After School Care programs.
- ❖ Prepare monthly billing statements for those families who are paying school on an installment plan. This includes registration, family, preschool, Eagle Care, & Before and After School Care fees.
- ❖ Hot lunch orders. I send home the orders on a monthly basis, collect them along with the payments, tally them for each restaurant, deposit the money, get the orders to the restaurants, and dispense the food when it comes to school.

Weekly:

- ❖ Empty the Family Envelopes on Monday and collect all that is sent back to school from the parents.
- ❖ Fill the Family Envelopes on Fridays with any communication that is needed to go home to the families from hot lunch orders, classroom newsletters, sports schedules, and any other items needed to go home.
- ❖ I prepare the Eagle Claw on a weekly basis. This is our main communication tool we use to keep the parents up-to-date as to the schedules and events going on at school. The Eagle Claw goes home on Fridays in paper form and is also emailed to those parents who want it communicated to them in that form.
- ❖ Run off the Chapel items needed for the presenters and children.
- ❖ Weekly deposit of money on Fridays.

In closing, I do enjoy what I do here at St. John's School. It is never boring! We are a family of believers and our school centers around a Christ centered education. That in itself is why I love working here. I do work with great teachers! It is a wonderful place to work and it is a pleasure to serve the Lord and our families in any way I can!

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23,24

Special Events Director

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Juneau

Salem-Lowell

Horicon

Char Lober

volunteer@stjohnjuneau.org
920-386-4785 or 920-219-0122

Greetings! My name is Char Lober. I work 6 hours a week from my home. This is my first year as an official staff member serving as a Special Events Director. I enjoy helping people develop their volunteer skills in serving their Savior.

Below is a list of ways I have the opportunity to serve at St. John's.

Coordinate Volunteers: In the last 6 months, most of my time has been dedicated to creating a regular schedule for various volunteer positions. This includes ushers, greeters, communion assistants, Welcome mailers, nursery helpers, etc.

VBS: Over the past 12 years, I have enjoyed coordinating Vacation Bible School. I work with the pastor to recruit teachers and volunteers, advertise the date, arrange Dodgeland Summer School transportation, meet with the sub-committees, coordinate with the Juneau Rec Department for choosing a date for VBS, etc.

SCRIP Coordinator: I have served in a lead role in the St. John's SCRIP program since its creation in 2006. It is currently a volunteer position with numerous weekly and monthly duties. This program greatly benefits our church, school and school families.

School Promotion Committee: This committee creates awareness of our school in the Dodgeland community. We do this through Trunk or Treat, Christmas for Kids and Easter for Kids. My roles in these events range from being the coordinator to being an assistant and behind-the-scenes volunteer.

Various Events: In the past, I had the privilege of arranging and coordinating the District Pastors Conference, Ladies Aid parties, Lenten Reflections and numerous Lenten meals. I also organize or help to organize the Christmas Caroling, volunteers for canvassing (Praise & Proclaim), breakfasts for LLHS and LPS students and will assist various boards by finding volunteers for special projects.

Church Picnic/Meals: I have coordinated or assisted with various Church Picnics, New Member Dinners and Super Bowling, anniversary meals and our Welcome Home dinner.

I am thankful that God has given me the opportunity to use my God-given management skills and interpersonal skills to accomplish these tasks. I enjoy special events and strive for them to be well done and organized to the glory of God. Working with volunteers is a joy as is engaging and networking with local organizations in the community to create a St. John's presence. I work closely with our pastors, office staff, teachers, and volunteers so that events run as smoothly as possible. My prayer is that these events will allow our school and church family to grow as we walk this earthly life together.



Photo: Matt & Char Lober



Volunteers



A BIG thank you to all of our volunteers at all three campuses! St. John's wouldn't function if it wasn't for all of people who serve in both large and small roles! Below is a list of our volunteers for October. If you have any questions regarding this list or would like to volunteer yourself, please call/text Char at 920.219.0122(cell) or 920.386.4785(home) or volunteer@stjohnsjuneau.org.

***** Just a reminder that serving counts towards your high schooler's volunteer hours!**

Greeters @ Juneau Campus

12/1 8:00 AM Bob & Mary Rist
10:30 AM Gary & Jen Thiel
12/8 8:00 AM Bob & Karen Bischoff, Betty Schultz
10:30 AM Dan & Phyllis Wegener, Mohr family
12/15 8:00 AM Carol Soldner, Char Lober, Gary & Becky Zimmerman
10:30 AM Geraldine Bischoff, Elaine Cox, Brenda Saugstad
12/22 8:00 AM Bonnie Sell, Phyllis Wegener
10:30 AM Mel Saeger, Delores Gentz, Russ & Barb Ridge
12/29 8:00 AM Matt & Char Lober, Paul & Sharon Schmidt
10:30 AM Rebecca Rennhack and family, Earl & Diane Pamperin

Communion Assistants – Juneau Campus

12/8 8:00 AM Rick Cody, Harold Zastrow, Mike Krebs, Dave Meister
12/8 10:30 AM Earl Pamperin, Royce Cox, Steve Schultz, Luke Hirschfeld
12/22 8:00 AM Dave Gerbitz, Art Mittlestadt, Chuck Wolfram, Paul Schmidt
12/22 10:30 AM Randy Mohr, Russ Ridge, Marty Weinheimer, Mel Saeger
12/29 8:00 AM Ben Gentz, Matt Lober, Paul Schmidt, Tim Weisensel
12/29 10:30 AM Kevin Schultz, Nate Zank, Darris Wasmund, Paul Lepple

Nursery Helpers for Communicants

12/8 8:00 AM Michel Krebs, Emily Krueger
12/8 10:30 AM Miranda Mohr
12/22 8:00 AM Abigail Tolkinen
12/22 10:30 AM Miranda Mohr
12/29 8:00 AM TBA
12/29 10:30 AM Miranda Mohr

Altar Guild

Juneau Campus: Ginny Koch, Joyce Schmidt
Salem-Lowell Campus: 12/8 Susie Kohn, Pam Leistico
12/22 Dawn Becker
12/29 Bev Gullickson

Welcome Mailers

Shirley Luetke, Bev Weinheimer, Deb Wolter, Joan Klug, Teri Borchardt, Jim Bublitz

Ushers @ Juneau & Salem-Lowell Campus

12/1 8:00 AM Rick Bassette, Ralph Kaul
9:30 AM Kevin Schoeffel, Kevin Borth, Bill Borth, Ralph Guderian
10:30 AM Tom Selchert, Wayne Braunschweig, Connor Recklau
12/5 6:30 PM Neil Foch, Bob Gerbitz
12/8 8:00 AM Joel Pitzlin, Bob Sette, Bob Koch, Shaun Panetti, Jay Panetti
9:30 AM Craig Shoemaker, Kevin Borth, Bill Borth, Ralph Guderian
10:30 AM Jerry Stolzman, Bob Henken, Dennis Lisko, Mike Schall, Kevin Schall
12/12 6:30 PM Lee Weis, Dylan Stegner
12/15 8:00 AM Chuck Wolfram, Kevin Voigt, Bruce Soldner, Josh Soldner, Nick Voigt
9:30 AM Ken Leistico, Kevin Borth, Bill Borth, Ralph Guderian
10:30 AM Royce Cox, Pete Bischoff, Rick Leissring, Dave Schultz
12/19 6:30 PM Joel Bischoff
12/22 8:00 AM Bob Rist, Bob Sell, Steve Weinheimer, Bob Affeld, John Hoffman
9:30 AM Matt Yuenger, Kevin Borth, Bill Borth, Ralph Guderian
10:30 AM Keith Weinheimer, Andy Gentz, Eugene Gentz
12/23 1:30 PM Curt Ninmann team & Dale Marks team
12/24 6:30 PM(J) Curt Ninmann team & Dale Marks team
6:30 PM(L) Ken Leistico, Kevin Schoeffel, Craig Shoemaker, Donald Gibson, Matt Yuenger
12/25 9:00 AM(J) Curt Ninmann team & Dale Marks team
9:30 AM(L) Ken Leistico, Kevin Schoeffel, Craig Shoemaker, Donald Gibson, Matt Yuenger
12/29 8:00 AM Curt Ninmann, Art Mittlestadt, Tim Girioux
9:30 AM Donald Gibson, Kevin Borth, Bill Borth, Ralph Guderian
10:30 AM Dale Marks, Randy Mohr, Tom Schuster, Cole Schuster, Lyle Poch, Sam Marks, Tim Marks

This year, we at St John's, tried a different process for handing out the 2020 envelopes, commitment cards and time and talent forms. This process was made so much easier because of all our volunteers. We truly could not have done this without your expertise and we offer our heartfelt thanks for giving of your time and talents in serving the Lord and your fellow St John's family members. Whether you attended the training session, said "yes" to serving in some way, or committed to a specific day and time, we thank you! May the Lord continue to bless our congregation, as we as a family of believers, find other ways to "answer the call" to serve here at St John's!



The Month at St. John's

1. Thank you to all the St. John's Ladies Aid members (and friends) who helped with a service project for one of our Befriend a Missionary (BAM) churches (Illumine in South Carolina). St. John's helped by making blankets they pass out for the homeless in their community as an outreach project.

2. Our 1st Graders enjoyed Book Character Day.

3. Congratulations to Alyssa Zank (1st place) and Rich Ruder & Crystal Soldner (tie for 2nd place) on our St. John's Chili Cookoff. Thank you to all who brought chili!

4. Our school held a Veteran's Day program with a gun salute.



St. John's Lutheran School

402 S. Main St., Juneau, WI 53039

Richard E. Cody, Principal

rcody@stjohnsjuneau.org

School Phone 386-4644

December, 2019



“Walk by Faith” *“We walk by faith, not by sight.”* 2 Corinthians 5:7

Board of Education News

- Our school enrollment is at 105 students in Grades PK-8.
- We were able to have our first Trunk or Treat event here at St. John's, Juneau on Sunday, October 27. We had wonderful weather and a wonderful turnout for the event. Thank you to all the helpers and volunteers!
- We are putting the finishing touches on the school accolade sheet with the assistance of Mrs. Schupmann.
- Mr. Preskar is working and consulting with Nate Zank and the trustees on the storage for the back-hallway plan.
- The first draft for the teaching projections for 2020-21 was shared and discussed. No changes or shifting of teaching is planned at this time.
- Pertaining to the St. John's Church App, the BOE with the input from the teachers and parents of St. John's will be studying and planning what school related items will be placed on the app.
- With the merger preparations, the BOE is going to review their duties and responsibilities. We will be looking to see if we need more members on the board to complete these responsibilities and duties.
- The recommendations from LES Committee were reviewed for St. John's Student Assistance. A total of \$1,706.43 was extended to three families who applied for assistance.
- The PK and K Open House for March 1, 2020 will be moved to March 8, 2020 due to a scheduling conflict.
- The BOE had discussion on the SCRIP Program and the Christmas Eve Candy Bag planning. There will be more planning and discussions on these topics in the near future.

Some school information –

- Pastor Brandt is encouraging families with students in eighth grade and in high school to consider having their child attend the WELS International Youth Rally at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville on June 23-26, 2020.
- We had a very good collection of food donations that was taken to the Food Pantry in Horicon on Saturday, November 23. Thank you to the families who made donations to our November Food Drive!
- Please continue to keep our Sunday School Teacher Erica Thiel in your prayers. She is facing some difficult health challenges. May God give her comfort and strength.
- A special “Christmas for Kids” event is planned for Saturday, December 21.
- The Christmas Eve Service for this year will be shared on Monday, December 23 at 1:30 P.M. and on Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30 P.M.
- Please continue to save General Mills Box Tops and aluminum cans for school. Did you know that General Mills points can be accumulated by having your grocery receipts scanned and uploaded?
- Please see the school calendar for all the activities and programs that are planned for the month.
- The faculty and staff would like to wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas as we celebrate our Savior's birth! May the Lord continue to bless you and your family in the year ahead too!

Dear Families,

The Box Tops for Education program is changing the way we can earn cash for our school! Over the summer, participating brands have begun to change their packaging from the traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

Going forward, instead of clipping from packages and checking expiration dates, all Box Tops will be earned digitally by scanning your receipt. The Box Tops for Education team has worked hard to build a NEW-and-improved, user-friendly Box Tops mobile app, available now. The new app features state-of-the-art technology that allows you to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

If you still have traditional Box Tops clips at home, make sure to send them to school. We will still earn cash for all clipped Box Tops until they expire. Better yet, you can “double dip” during the packaging transition by clipping traditional Box Tops AND scanning your store receipt containing participating products.

This is a change that we are going to need your help with so boxtops can still be successful for St. John's. Thank you in advance for your help.

In Christ's Service,

Mrs. Rebecca Zellmer

**BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE NEW APP OR UPDATE YOUR EXISTING APP:
DOWNLOAD ON THE APP STORE OR GET IT ON GOOGLE PLAY**

Things to remember-

- Scan receipts within 14 days of purchase
- Check in with family members and friends to see if they need help scanning receipts
- Call or email Mrs. Zellmer at school with any questions- (920) 386-4644 or rzellmer@stjohnsiuneau.org
- check app for any bonuses
- See the website for participating products
- LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE CHANGES AT BTFE.COM

Memorials

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Fund</u>
Kim Daniels	\$ 1525.00	General
	\$ 10.00	Ladies Aid
	\$ 40.00	Missions
	\$ 20.00	Undesignated/Projector Screen
	\$ 30.00	School
Arletta Selchert	\$ 465.00	General
Charles Weinheimer	\$ 40.00	General

Gifts

A gift was given to the General Fund by Paul and Sharon Schmidt in loving memory of their spouses who have passed away, Rodney Doughty (11-8-13) and Judy Schmidt (11-20-12). Allen Weiss has given a gift to St John's School in remembrance of his graduation from the school in 1947!

Sacred Acts

Baptisms:

<i>Isabelle May Taylor</i>	<i>11/3/2019</i>
<i>Lillian Mary Taylor</i>	<i>11/3/2019</i>
<i>Evelyn Alice Kern</i>	<i>11/17/2019</i>

Funeral:

<i>Arletta Selchert</i>	<i>10/31/2019</i>
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New Members

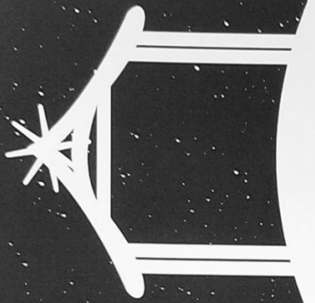
A warm welcome to these folks who have recently become members of our St. John's Family! Barb Watters comes to us from Frieden's in Randolph and Steve Groening came all the way from Emmanuel, Owatonna, MN! Dan & Alyssa Dogs and children – William, Benjamin and Samuel join us from St. Matthew's, Janesville and Brittany Binder and son Brantley join us from Immanuel, Farmington!

Happy Birthday!

12/1	Ellen Bassette	Mark Wolfram
12/2	Lorraine Beal Brody Behring Piper Panetti Robert Schemm Shirley Thieme	12/19 Mallory Kohn Wyatt Redecker
12/3	Tim Shramek Heather Stensaas	12/20 Kaiden Coombs Owen Gentz Lorraine Hammann McKenna Martin Austin Neis Roy Seifert Dennis Wagner Kiptyn Wolter Zachariah Yuenger
12/4	Makayla Kuehn Madyson Kuehn	12/21 Brooklyn Borchardt Kari Schmidt Jeff Weinheimer
12/5	Leah Hartman Yvaine Hills Brian Passig	12/22 Taylor Buelter
12/7	Sue Contreras Brieanna Manthey	12/23 Bob Lepple
12/8	Danielle Schilling Amanda Soldner Carol Yerges	12/24 Michelle Kutz Shannon Schmidt Justin Vinz
12/9	Brooklyn Borth	12/25 Mark Ockerlander Lee Weiss
12/10	Andrew Kolbow	12/26 Lee Fehrman Dennis Lisko Sandra Milfred Ken Schneiter Joshua Soldner Andrew Thomsen
12/11	Junis Belin Lila Wegener Kimberly Yuenger	12/27 Tim Wegener
12/12	Duanne Brandenburg Grace Cody Nolan Gentz	12/28 Max Brandt Brady Kohn Landon Roy Katie Schachtner
12/13	Micah Cody Jason Nehls Brandon Saeger Megan Schaalma Maya Soldner	12/29 Judith Kaul Audrey Reichow
12/14	Steve Day Clara Hilker Ty Stensaas	12/30 Tom Ebert
12/15	Ruth Hart Gail Hartman Mary Rist Katie Winter	
12/16	Tony Colantonio Mike Krebs	
12/17	Hope Krebs	
12/18	Holly Herbst Anna Knippel Leon Schmitt Ellexandria Stensaas	

Happy Anniversary!

- 12/01/2007 Tom & Cheryl Sahr
12/02/1951 Harlan & Hazel Werblow
12/08/1963 Harold & Dorothy Ninmann
12/12/1998 Randall & Frances Mohr
12/13/1986 Jerald & Brenda Schaalma
12/14/1996 Mark & Jaime Buelter
12/14/1986 Randall & Debra Voigt
12/20/1986 Jeff & Peggy Soldner
12/23/1988 John & Martina Stanton
12/26/2004 Curtis & Elaine Bening
12/30/1972 Don & Linda Behring
12/31/2003 Rob & Amy Feller



OUTDOOR LIVE NATIVITY

A TELLING OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

**FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 6
5-8 PM**

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 7
3-7 PM**

St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 301 Clark St., Watertown

Performances every 30 minutes

FREE admission & parking!

Includes live animals, indoor activities, and refreshments

Interpreter for the hearing impaired available Saturday, 3-4:30 PM

Presented by WELS Lutheran Churches of Watertown:
St. John's, St. Luke's, St. Mark's, Trinity

NEWS FROM OUTSIDE OF ST. JOHN'S

Christmas at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

The Seminary Chorus of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will present its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. The 62-voice choir will present a program featuring the great Lutheran hymns of the holiday season in traditional and modern settings. The concert is the thirty-fifth and last Christmas concert directed by Prof. James Tiefel. There are no advanced tickets sales; a free will offering is appreciated. The seminary is located 11831 N. Seminary Dr. in Mequon.



December 2019 Twice is Nice News

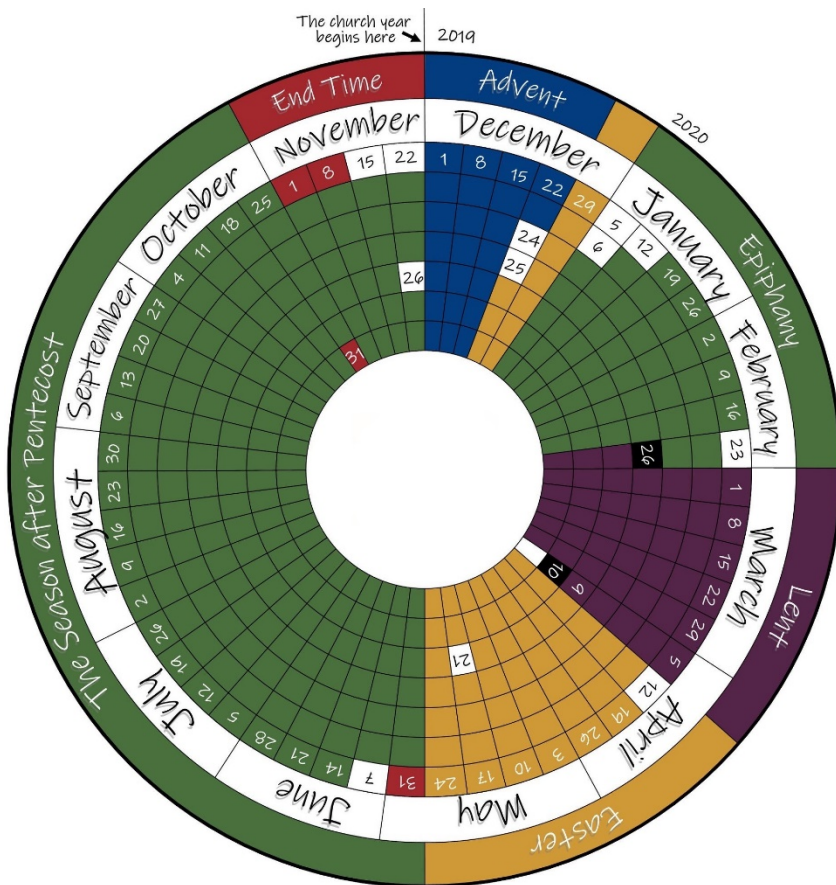
Volunteer: Twice is Nice is truly grateful to Bill Hirschfeld (St. Paul, Fort) who donates lawn mowing and other groundskeeping to the store with his Bill's Mowing business, and we thank Bob and Betty Cloute (Bethany, Fort) and their painting/cleaning/maintenance business, Cloute Inc., that faithfully keeps our windows sparkling. We also welcome new LLHS student vols: Lydia Buxa (Immanuel, Farmington), Caitlin Heinrich and Kendra Wilson (Eastside, Madison), AnaCristina Iglesias (St. Mark, Watertown), Mia Murray (St. Andrew, Middleton), Julia Neuberger (St. Paul, Lake Mills), Lillian Runke (Peace, Sun Prairie), Grace Seim (St. Stephen, Beaver Dam), Laura Zank (St. John, Juneau). Eagle's Pathway Program: Polly Felton, Evan Hardwicke, Braden Howard, Julian Ortiz, Theresa Smith, Kelly Weber. When might you stop down to see what it's all about? Call any day and ask for a day manager 920-674-6868.

Shop: We all know that the Reason for the Season is our Savior Jesus, yet it's the rare one among us who doesn't succumb at least a bit to the shopping fever around this time of year. We at Twice is Nice encourage you to not forget about us even as you are bombarded by the colorful flyers and catalogs from everywhere else – from decorating to gifts to warm and cozy or festive and fancy seasonal apparel, we are open 9-5 six days each week for you to find those merry bargains! We're easy-to-find just a minute east on the Hwy 18 exit off the 26 bypass at 907 W. Racine St., next to the Jefferson Piggly Wiggly.

The Ladies of Good Shepherd (LOGS) Lutheran Church, Beaver Dam, extend an invitation to the ladies of your congregation to attend our **Advent By Candlelight Service** on Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 2:00pm.

Advent by Candlelight is an opportunity for ladies of all ages to set aside the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations and focus on the birth of Christ. Our programs this year is "The Greatest Gift of All." Fellowship and refreshments will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Do you love working with children? Are you looking for an opportunity to share God's Word and serve His kingdom? St. Paul's Lutheran Child Care in Ixonia, WI is looking to hire **part-time help** for their Early Childhood Ministry. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and First Aid and CPR certified or willing to become certified. Prior experience with working with children a plus. Be a part of a growing ministry! Contact Cate Free at catefree@stpaulsixonia.org or (608)630-5114 for more information.



The Christian Church Year

Life has a rhythm to it. Winter, spring, summer, fall. Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veterans' Day. There's an annual rhythm to the seasons, to our national holidays, and to family traditions. We keep reliving the things that are most important to us.

Christians also have an annual rhythm in worship called the church year. The diagram shows the upcoming church year from December 2019 through November 2020.

You'll see the colors reflected on our banners and the pastors' stoles as a way of visually marking the changing seasons.

Every church year is a little bit different because the date for Easter changes from year to year, but the overall pattern is the same. The first half of the church year (from about December to May) relives the life of Jesus from his birth to his death, resurrection, and ascension. The second half of the church (June through November) has more of an emphasis on our growth in our faith and lives as the Holy Spirit works in us through God's Word. Those are the kind of things that are worth celebrating again and again.

The following **Luther Preparatory School** called workers will mark anniversaries of their service to the church this year.

40 years of service

Professor Thomas Lindloff

25 years of service

Professor Randy

Mensching

The Governing Board and faculty of Luther Preparatory School invite you to be present at a service of thanksgiving to the Lord of the Church. The service will be held on Sunday, November 10, at 7:00pm in the Luther Preparatory School auditorium.

Congratulatory messages may be sent in care of

Professor Randy Bode

Luther Preparatory School

1300 Western Avenue

Watertown, WI 53094

In Christ's service,
The Anniversary Committee

WELS Wind Ensemble

Invites you to its annual

Christmas Concert



Sunday, December 8

2:00 PM

**Fall River High School
Auditorium**

Ample parking - no stairs

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

As you prepare to send Christmas greetings to family and friends, please also remember to send a little Christmas cheer to our Befriend A Missionary families and the missions they serve! They love hearing from you and are ever so thankful for your prayers. As we all know, mission work can be challenging and a few words of encouragement can go a long way in renewing their zeal and commitment! Thank you!

River of Life Lutheran Church

Pastor & Jenni Albrecht – 3 children: Fiona, Ezekiel, Genevieve
17040 W Cocopah St.
Goodyear, AZ 85338

One Africa Team – Malawi Mission

Paul & Susan Nitz – 6 children: Joel, Frances still at home in Malawi
PO Box 30067
Lilongwe, Malawi

Grace Lutheran Church

Pastor & Alexandra Reeder – 1 child: Beck (his birthday is Dec 11th 2yrs old!)
11051 Phinney Ave N
Seattle, WA 98133

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

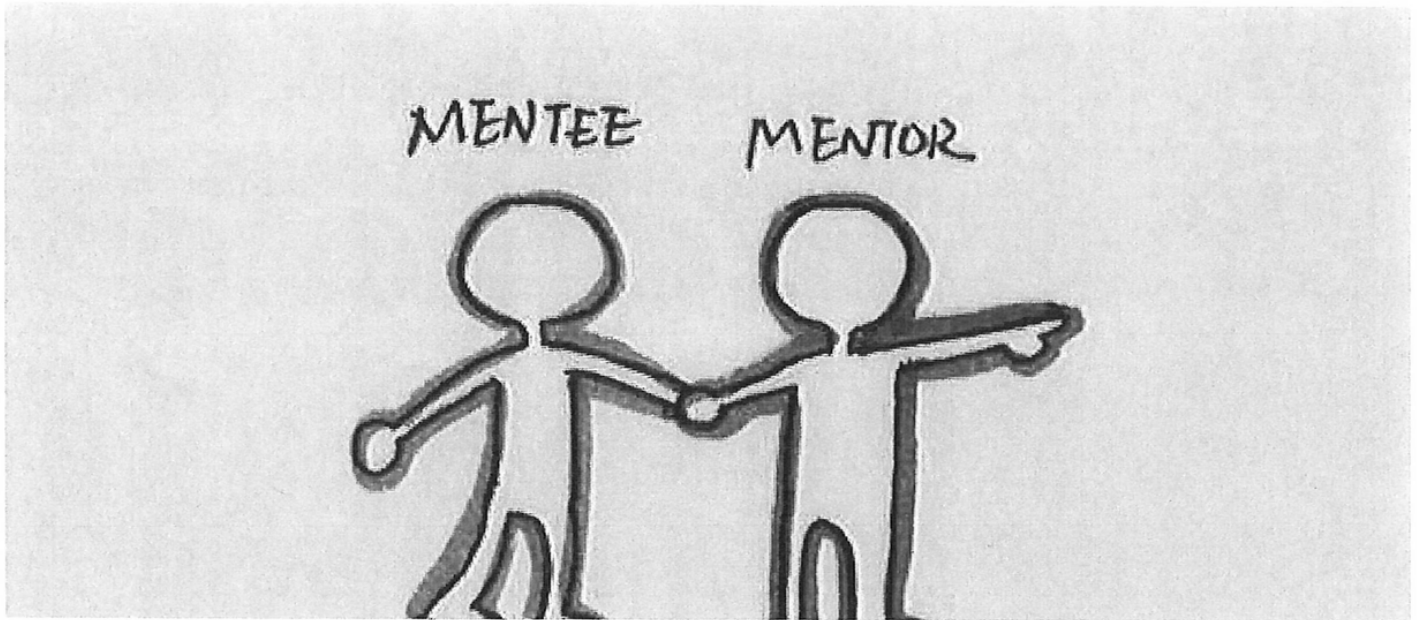
Pastor & Susan Wright – 3 children: all grown and living in Phoenix AZ
1549 Bridgewater Way
Mansfield, OH 44906



STRIVE

INVEST EMPOWER CHANGE

Dodgeland Middle and High School in Juneau has a new mentor program helping at risk students create positive change in their lives



Did you know that students who have a mentor are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 81% more likely to enroll in a secondary form of education and 90% more likely to become mentors themselves? That's the power of the positive ripple effect

AT RISK YOUNG ADULTS WANT A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL BUT DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO A MENTOR

STRIVE is seeking volunteer mentors to invest in a student's life, empowering them to make a change for a positive future.

If you would like to create a positive ripple effect in the life of a young adult, please contact Mrs. Landaal at Dodgeland High School, or stop in to the district office to pick up a volunteer application.

EVERY KID IS ONE CARING ADULT AWAY FROM BEING A SUCCESS STORY ~ JOSH SHIPP

Dodgeland Middle/High School 401 S. Western Ave Juneau ~ (907) 386-4404 ext. 1319 ~ landaal@dodgeland.k12.wi.us



LLHS FEDERATION CONNECTION

920-648-2321 • info@llhs.org • 231 Woodland Beach Rd. Lake Mills, WI 53551



Rich at Christmas

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).

By nature, humans are not giving. Often, we keep for ourselves what we have. The first words of many children—“no” and “mine”—easily fly out especially during fits of self-centeredness.

Each year, the media reports on Christmas spending. For 2018, the average American supposedly spent \$1,000 for Christmas gifts, decorations, food, and related non-gift items. Perhaps these reports amaze us—considering that we are not, by nature, giving.

At Christmas, however, we all would do well to ponder Paul’s words to the Corinthians, noting Christ’s giving nature and his reason for it.

Paul reminds us of Jesus’ grace, God’s unconditional gift. It is “unasked, unforced, [and] unearned” (*Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*, stanza 4). “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ” is God’s *gift* to all sinners.

Paul then illustrates grace. “That though [Christ] was rich, yet for your sake he became poor.” Christ set aside heaven’s glories to become human. Although he is true God, Jesus took “the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness” [Philippians 2:7]. He experienced pain, sorrow, and temptation firsthand. Yet, through it all, “he committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth” [1 Peter 2:22].

His reason for doing this was “so that you through his poverty might become rich.” Jesus lived to save sinners. Earlier in Corinthians, Paul states how Christ bore the world’s sin on the cross “so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). Unlike anyone else could, Christ humbled himself to offer forgiveness, peace, and eternal life—the most precious Christmas gifts of all.

There is nothing wrong with giving Christmas gifts. It is great to see Christmas decorations. Celebrating Christmas with family and friends can be joyful. But, for us, these simply point to the One who surrendered his riches “so that [we] through his poverty might become rich.”

God bless your Advent meditations and your joyous Christmas celebration. May he also bless your New Year.

Jim Grasby is principal of Lakeside Lutheran High. Reach him at 920.648.2321 or jgrasby@llhs.org



DECEMBER EVENTS

See full and up-to-the-minute schedule at [Calendar](#) under [Quicklinks](#) at [llhs.org](#)

- Dec. 1 FFA Alumni meet at Crawfish Junction, Milford | noon
- Dec. 3 GivingTreesday! See [llhs.org/apps/pages/givingtuesday](#)
- Dec. 4, 11, 18 Advent services in area churches
- Dec. 7 LES “B team” tip off games at LLHS | 8a
- Dec. 8 A Cappella @ Trinity, Watertown | 8 & 10:30a
- Dec. 10, 12 & 17 Home Boys Basketball games | 6 & 7:30p
- Dec. 15 Christmas Concert | 7p >>>>
- Dec. 17 Review Day: classes dismiss at 12:05p
- Dec. 18-20 Semester Exams
- Dec. 21-Jan. 5 Christmas Break: no classes
- Dec. 27-28 V Boys BB (Home at LL) tourney
- Dec. 27-28 JV/V GBB (LMills) tourneys
- Jan. 6 Classes resume/Second semester begins

Luminaries for Loved Ones...

Help us let His light shine as you remember loved ones and help beautify the December 15 Christmas Concert. Supporters help let His light shine by making a \$5 donation to Lakeside in memory or in honor of a loved one. (Names are also published in the program.) Please remit by December 9 and enclose a minimum of \$5.00 per memorial name.

Include the following info with your donation:

Name(s) in Memory: 1) _____
 2) _____
 or in Honor of: 3) _____
 4) _____

Your name: _____

Church/City: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Return to: LLHS Development Office (address on back)
to donate online, go to: [llhs.org/apps/form/luminaries](#)



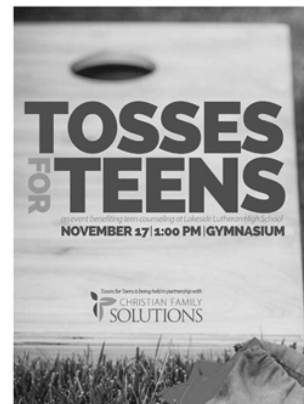
TWICE IS NICE RESALE STORE

Support while you shop~ Stop in for fabulous Christmas decorations and gifts!
907 W. Racine in Jefferson • 920-674-6868
Monday-Saturday 9 AM-5 PM

LAKESIDE GOOD NEWS *and* NOTES

- Teens for Christ kicked off the third year of hosting an afternoon of *New Friends*, when Warriors and young adults with special needs gather to play games, make crafts, decorate pumpkins, and enjoy an interactive devotion. More afternoons are planned for January 19 and March 8, 2020.
- Your Warrior Dance Team rocked it at the October Saber Showdown in Franklin, earning a 1st place in D3 jazz & 2nd place in D4 pom.
- At the fall sports awards night, we recognized the efforts of the six fall sports teams as well as 22 athletes who received 25 all-conference awards. A total of 10 athletes received first team all-conference spots, 8 to second team, and 6 honorable mention. In addition, two Warriors received Capitol Conference North Athlete of the Year honors in their respective sports—*Ella Collins* (St. Paul, Lake Mills), for volleyball and *Maya Heckmann* (St. Andrew, Middleton), for golf. *Abigail Minning* (St. Luke, Watertown) and *August Gresens* (Peace, Sun Prairie) advanced to the State Cross Country meet. The Warrior football team reached the Level 3 as underdogs, defeating higher seeds in both levels one and two of the playoffs. The Warrior volleyball team won the conference championship for the seventh year in a row. They also were regional champs and sectional runners-up. The volleyball team also presented a check for \$2,966 to Tomorrow's Hope, raised during Volley for Hope night raffles and concessions. Warrior golfers *Kaylea Affeld* (St. Mark, Watertown), *Maya Heckmann*, and *Lauren Lostetter* (St. Paul, Lake Mills) were named to the Academic All-State team.
- Teens for Christ also served their Savior by assembling freezer meals to support area foster families in October. In November, several members also served fellow pro-lifers at the Alpha Resource Center Gala while others worked at Second Harvest Food Bank in Madison.
- Eleven Warrior FFA students attended the 92nd annual National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis along with almost 70,000 others from across the country the last weekend in October.
- Junior *Lydia Buxa* (*Immanuel, Farmington*) was the featured author for Teen Talk in the October issue of *Forward in Christ* with her article titled "Jesus is Our Home." Read it at wels.net/teen-talk-jesus-is-our-home.
- The annual fall band concert featured our Elementary Cadets, Swing Choir, and our majestic Warrior Band for a movie-themed, Star Wars meets Lion King afternoon of fun music.
- The 15-member Academic Bowl team placed 4th out of nine teams at the annual Conference competition.
- The Warrior Swing Choir joined for a total of 515 student singers for National Choral Fest at Winnebago Lutheran Academy. See the Pops and Sacred concert archives at welsfinearts.org
- 11 Operation Go teams have been announced. Next year, 82 Warrior-witnesses will be headed out to share the gospel and shine their light across North America from Mexico to Alaska, Cali to New York, doing canvassing and VBS, sports, STEAM and art camps.

- We welcomed 86 guests—veterans who represented more than half a century of military service—to our annual Veterans Day breakfast, including State Senator Scott Fitzgerald.
- Several teens, selected by teachers or coaches for the leadership skills, attended the Lake Mills Optimists' Breakfast and had the honor of hearing Roger Goers, at NASA during the Apollo program and who was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1970 by President Richard Nixon for his work in saving the Apollo 13 crew.
- Senior *Alex Ryan* (St. Paul, Lake Mills) signed a national letter of intent to play baseball at Valparaiso University in Indiana next school year.



The Lakeside Lutheran National Honor Society, in partnership with *Christian Family Solutions*, hosted a cornhole tournament called "Tosses for Teens" on Nov. 17 that had a two-fold purpose— to raise funds and to bring awareness to the growing need for mental health support for teens. Statistics show that one in five young adults live with a mental health condition!

Currently, through the Member Assistance Program and CFS, Lakeside students qualify for up to five free sessions with a licensed Christian counselor. Many meetings take place via a secure video program, allowing students to receive these services at Lakeside in a private location. CFS

"Giving Treesday" December 3
 We are looking forward to seeing green on #givingTREESday (aka Giving Tuesday)...
 Please say YES to joining us!

On December 3, 2019, your donation toward our #givingTREESday campaign directly impacts outdoor campus beautification! Our primary goal is to replace 16 campus trees that were destroyed by the emerald ash borer and needed removal last summer. Together, we can do great things! Mark your calendar. Create a reminder. Celebrate HIS blessings and Christian education with a gift of thankfulness for campus greenspace at LLHS.

Mail a donation or give online on 12/3 at:
llhs.org/apps/pages/givingtuesday

serves 28 high schools and prep schools with this Christian counseling.

With more than 60 teams paying to participate and sponsorship and donations from Lang Group Realty in Lake Mills, a Thrivent Financial Action Team, Kwik Trip, WalMart, and an anonymous \$1,000 matching donor, well over \$3,500 was raised for WLCFS and Christian Family Solutions. The team of LL teachers Eric Dorn (*Trinity, Crete, Ill.*) and Nate Sievert (*St. John, Watertown*) took the tournament! Our prayer is that the awareness raised will continue and grow the support to provide needed services to our teens and others across the state and nation.



1 in 5! See eye-opening video at bit.ly/LLnhs



CONTACT INFO: Call 920-648-2321 • Email office@llhs.org
 Visit 231 Woodland Beach Rd. Lake Mills, WI 53551

There is not just one way

There is not just one way. . .

. . . that people come into contact with the gospel. There are lots of different ways, and we are seeing many of them in play at your home mission congregation in Macomb, Michigan. The picture above proves that.

From left to right, we begin with Bill and Amanda. Bill was an inactive WELS guys engaged to Amanda, who had no church home. They came to us because they wanted to get married, but also because they wanted God in their marriage. They took our pre-marriage course, then took our adult instruction course, and are now every-week worshipers and regular volunteers. Next to them is Bill's mom, Andrea. She came because she now has family ties to the mission. Next to Andrea is Kay. Kay is a solid, life-long WELS lady who transferred in because she and her husband moved closer to Ascension. Her husband, Paul, has now completed our adult instruction class and, together with Kay, is a valued member and volunteer. Next to Kay is Gary and a few folks to right of him is Mary, one of our most senior members. They came to us because their WELS church in Detroit closed. Along with them came several others – all who know what it is to stay and serve to the end. Gary's wife, Gloria, came along, too! Gloria is now our organist – on the very organ that their former congregation donated to our mission. The little girl next to Gary is Jillian, and that's her mom, Joanne, next to her. They are other-Lutherans who moved into our neighborhood, visited us, liked what they heard, and stayed. Joanne's husband (Jillian's dad) is Jason who has also taken our adult instruction class and become a member. Behind silver-haired Mary is Mike, ex-military and one who has been - quite literally – battle-tested in the good fight. He lives in the neighborhood, too. The four folks to the right of him are Rod and his three children. They are former-WELS who bounced around for a while before visiting Ascension and enrolling those three great kids in our confirmation instruction class. Rod's wife Cori has also taken our adult class and established membership.



What's the point of all of that backstory? There is but one gospel that the Holy Spirit uses to gather people to Jesus, but there are lots of different ways that he brings that gospel to people. Did you hear them in all that backstory? Proximity to a church that proclaims that gospel, family members who become transmission lines for the gospel to others in their family, people who have had a long association with the gospel and who knew exactly where to find it and serve it in their new community, people searching for a place where they can have a meaningful relationship with God through Word and Sacrament, people drawn by authentic friendships to hear the gospel, and people reached through outreach efforts by one of your WELS home missions. If you look, you will find those same ways at work in your congregation, too. That is what makes every WELS church a mission!

P.S. - The guy in the back row under the cross is your home missionary, Dan Simons. I have the best seat in the house to watch the Holy Spirit reach out with the gospel in many ways, but with the same result: souls are added to the kingdom!

Written by Rev. Dan Simons, home missionary at Ascension Lutheran Church in Macomb, Mich.

Learning about God's timing

2019/09/30/in FIC News, Forward in Christ

In April 2018, WELS Board for Home Missions approved funding for a new mission in Joplin, Mo. In May 2019, Jordan Bence was assigned to serve as the home missionary in Joplin, Mo. What did the core group in Joplin do as it waited for its first pastor?

"Well, the first thing we had to learn was patience," says Wendy Wright, a member

of the core group. "This was God's timing, not ours! We learned a lot about the divine call process, as we extended ten calls during this year."

Wright adds, "The waiting would have been much harder had we not started a weekly Bible study last July, led by Pastor Aaron Schumann, who serves at Faith, Pittsburg, Kan."

The Bible study began as a way for the core group to enjoy fellowship and biblical encouragement together. "But then, several of the group invited guests . . . and they came . . . and they stayed!" says Wright. "We were excited to have three guest families join us, and two have continued regular attendance." One of the guests even offered space at her real estate office for the group to meet.

"My role was every pastor's dream—I showed up and taught them and their friends God's Word every Wednesday evening for one year," says Schumann. "The core group took care of all of the details, filled out all of the necessary paperwork, put together the proposal to synod, and invited their friends and their coworkers to the Wednesday night Bible study. They were awesome. My role was to bring them Jesus on a weekly basis and to encourage them in what they were doing. Their motivation to serve their Lord and tell others about Jesus is what has driven this mission."

So what was it like to find out that a pastor was assigned to them from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's graduating class of 2019?

"On Call Day the whole core group was waiting anxiously to find out who would be assigned to our home mission," says Wright. "We were all watching on our laptops or phones at work and at home. When we saw that at the top of the list Jordan Bence was assigned to our mission, we were ecstatic!"

And Bence's reaction? "I guess it was just pure shock," he says. "You try to prepare yourself for that moment, but you really can't. When President Schroeder read my name and assignment, I was just overwhelmed. Overwhelmed with the fact that God had chosen me for such a task. Overwhelmed with the opportunity that God placed before me to love these people by continually building them up in his unconditional love. It's truly a humbling moment of God's grace. It was something I had been dreaming of since kindergarten."

Bence continues, "The training program of our synod has given me many experiences to not only build my own faith but also prepare me to serve the Joplin, Mo., (JOMO) mission. I have helped out multiple mission churches throughout the United States going all the way back to high school."

Finally, Bence says, "When it comes to the JOMO mission, I guess a summarizing statement for this group might be—ambitious to serve. These people are filled with the spirit and are ready to go out and proclaim the good news!"

To learn more about the JOMO mission and other home mission congregations, visit wels.net/missions.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

A HISTORICAL RECONSTRUCTION

It is a common motif in sermons, art work, hymns and carols of Christmas that the Christ child was born in a barn because there was no room in the inn. How often is Jesus pictured being born in a stable and laid in a feed trough? However, while these images are not meant to be false, we have to a certain extent read into the words a modern western meaning that perhaps is not as intended.

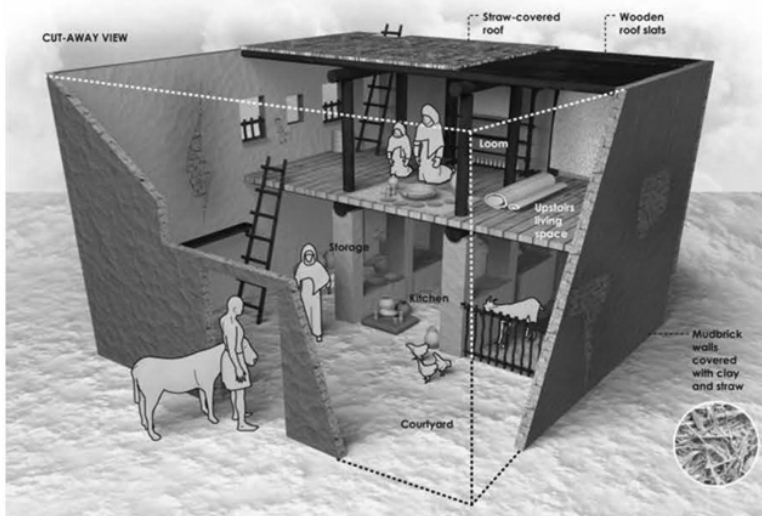


Certainly, it is hard to imagine that Joseph and Mary, given their reputations and given the fact that this was the ancestral home of both, that there was no relative in whose care they could go. It is further too much to believe that common ethics and compassion would allow a young woman to bear her child in a common cattle stall. A more likely scenario occurs when we understand the Greek word for “inn” as well as the lay out of a common Jewish home in the first century AD.

The word for “inn” in Greek is *Kataluma*. This is the same word is uses in Luke 22:11 and Mark 14:14 in connection to the celebration of the Passover before Jesus’ crucifixion. “The Teacher says, ‘where is my guestroom (*Kataluma*) in which I might eat my Passover?’” Perhaps the more likely scenario is that due to all the guests who had arrived for the taxing, the comfortable guestroom had already been filled up and so Mary and Joseph were relegated to the family room or living room for the duration of the stay. (This still happens today. Grandma and Grandpa, Aunts and Uncles get the bedrooms, kids and others sleep on the couches in the living room).

But what about the animals and the manger? Here is where our modern sensibilities cloud our view of ancient realities. The donkey, the goat, or the few domesticated animals used for the house were taken in for the night to protect them from theft or wild animals.

(Remember that even the Passover lamb dwelt inside the house for three days before slaughter).

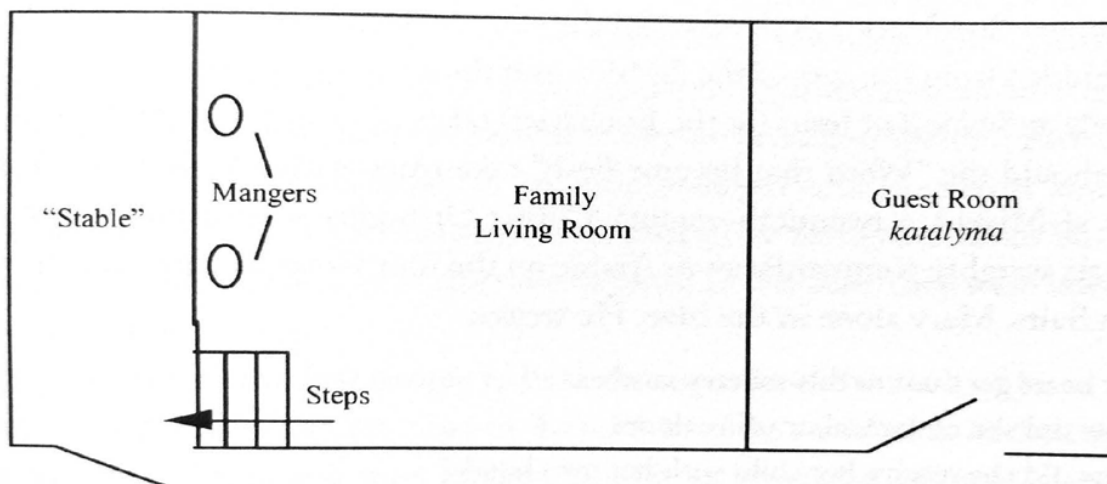


Remember the story of Jephthah in the Old Testament (Judges 11)? Before his battle with the Ammonites, he pledges to the Lord, "If you indeed give the Ammonites into my hand, then whoever or whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites will belong to the LORD, and I will offer it up as a whole burnt offering." He was obviously expecting an animal, a sheep or goat or cow to come out of the door, not, as it turned out, his daughter!



So when the time came for Mary to deliver, she is delivering in the lower, general trafficked area of the house. When she gives birth to Jesus, she lays him in the manger, the feeding trough that is used by the animals. The manger could have been raised off the ground, like the one pictured above, or, the animals could have been placed in a lowered level in the house, with depressions cut into the earthen floor for the animals to feed in (see below).

In summary, the cherished imagery and artistry from Christmas is not wrong per se. Jesus was born in poverty, amidst animals, and laid in a manger. It is just that it was in a more familial setting than perhaps we first think of. The problem is not Luke or the Bible, but that sometimes an unclear translation leads to placing modern ideas into a text that were not there before. Either way, it does nothing to detract from the main point: The messiah is born in Bethlehem just as it was promised!





St. John's Lutheran School



December 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4-5:30 P.M. Open Gym	2 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. Toy Drive Ends Hot Lunch: Village Garden Pizza 3:15 P.M. Faculty Mtg. AGB/BGB	3 ABB/BBB/CHEER	4 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. CHAPEL/MISSION OFFERING Hot Lunch: McDonald's AGB/BGB	5 ABB/BBB/CHEER	6 CEF Stamps A Teams Tip-Off @ LPS B Teams Tip-Off @ LLHS	7 A Teams Tip-Off @ LPS B Teams Tip-Off @ LLHS
8 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.: Jr. Choir Sings in Juneau 1:00 P.M. Piano Performers & Jr. Choir Parade of Trees @ the Juneau Public Library	9 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. Hot Lunch: Wendy's AGB/BGB BB Here vs. Zion, Columbus 5:00 P.M. B Girls 6:00 P.M. B Boys 7:00 P.M. Board of Education Mtg.	10 ABB/BBB/CHEER 5:30 P.M. Adult & Jr. Choir Caroling	11 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. CHAPEL/MISSION OFFERING Hot Lunch: Dominos AGB/BGB	12 ABB/BBB/CHEER	13 CEF Stamps BB Here vs. St. John's Pardeeville & Zion, Columbus 5:00 P.M. B Girls 6:00 P.M. B Boys 7:00 P.M. A Girls 8:00 P.M. A Boys	14 BB Here vs. Eastside, Madison 9:00 A.M. A Girls 10:00 A.M. B Boys 11:00 A.M. B Girls 12:00 P.M. A Boys
15 9:30 A.M.: Jr. Choir Sings in Lowell 4-5:30 P.M. Open Gym	16 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. Hot Lunch: Village Garden Breakfast 3:15 P.M. Faculty Mtg. AGB/BGB 1:30 & 7:00 P.M. Christmas Concert in the School Gym	17 ABB/BBB/CHEER	18 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. Hot Lunch: SubWay CHAPEL/MISSION OFFERING 11:00 A.M. Children's Christmas Eve Service for Mid-Week Communion AGB/BGB	19 ABB/BBB/CHEER	20 CEF Stamps BB Here vs. St. Paul's, Ixonia 5:00 P.M. B Girls 6:00 P.M. B Boys 7:00 P.M. A Girls 8:00 P.M. A Boys	21 10:30 A.M. to Noon Christmas for Kids
22 10:30 A.M. Sunday School Sings in Juneau	23 7:00 A.M. Faculty Mtg. Hot Lunch: St. John's 1:30 P.M. Children's Christmas Eve Service in Juneau All Children Sing	24 Christmas Eve 6:30 P.M. Children's Christmas Eve Service in Juneau All Children Sing	25 Christmas Day 9:00 A.M. Worship Service in Juneau 9:30 A.M. Worship in Lowell	26 No School—Christmas Break	27 Christmas Break	28
29	30 No School—Christmas Break	31 New Year's Eve	Pastor Paul Schupmann: 920-344-9839 Pastor David Brandt: 608-343-2206 Pastor Joel Luetke 920-285-1351 Senior Asst. Matt Hatzung 612-386-6131 Principal Richard Cody: 920-933-0869 Church: 920-386-3313 School: 920-386-4644 E-mail: school@stjohnsjuneau.org			

Don't forget to download our St. John's App!

The app contains the latest devotions, sermons, bulletins, events, links, newsletters, calendars, sign-up sheets, etc. Check it out!

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St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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