

From Pastor Maggie

God's Beloved & Members of St. John,

Grace and peace to you all. It is my joy to extend a heart-felt gratitude to all of you, for officially installing me as your pastor at St. John! The installation service and the following Sunday service and potluck were truly special.

Thank you to all of you who were able to bring a dish to pass (such yummy food), for those who were able to attend the service(s), to those who watched online, to those who helped with set-up and or clean-up, the acolytes, the altar guild, readers, ushers, communion assistants, bell ringers, musicians, live-streamers, our volunteer teachers, and for all who have prayed, supported, and welcomed me here at St. John. Thank you also to all who served on the call committee, the church council, the advisory committee, and for our administrative assistant, Mary, all of you have guided and helped me in so many ways. As Pastor Asher said in his sermon, behold the Body of Christ! You are all indeed the body of Christ. I am filled with joy, humility, gratitude, and love to be part of this body with you.

As it is in Christ where we find our stronghold and our life. And so, I leave you with John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." I look forward to the fruit that all of us will bear together, with Christ as our center.

And as always, if you ever need any one to talk to, my door is always open. Please feel free to call or text me 608-345-9616. Or if you would simply like to meet up for coffee or tea, I would love to share that time with you.

“Council Corner”

Lane Bahr, Evangelism

As summer withers away and the leaves begin to change a new season is upon us, and with it, brings new opportunities for our congregation!

The new, 2022/23 Time & Talent sheet is ready for you to select area(s) that you would like to help share your time and talent with your church! There are so many options, and the wonderful thing is that most have very little time investment for you, but the benefit is great to our church! Please take a moment to look over the Time & Talent sheet, it is divided into different areas of service, with the council chairpersons contact info listed, for you to reach out to with any questions you may have. Please fill out and return your sheet in the offering plate on any Sunday in October, leave in Mary's (secretaries) mailbox, or even call / email me and we'll get you signed up!

Another exciting new thing to our church is **God's Work, Our Hands!**

Throughout the year, we will be organizing Gods Work, Our Hands events of outreach, to those in our congregation and in our community. To share God's grace and love, lend a helping hand, support those in need, share our talents, and enjoy in fellowship and bonding with others.

Our 1st Gods Work, Our Hands act of service will be a Leaf Raking Outreach.

November 6th, Starting at 12:30p

We'll gather to rake leaves at the homes of a few members of St. John, to lend a helping hand and have some fall fun while serving others. This is a family friendly event, and all are welcome to join! Bring your favorite rake, a pair of gloves and let's have some fun! There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in the narthex or feel free to call / email me directly to sign up! Snacks and beverages will be provided.

For the old saying of “many hands make for light work” is so very true! If we all give a little, we reap a lot!

Wishing you each a blessed fall season!

Council Members. Here is a list of Council Members. Please contact them with any concerns or issues you may have. Council meets once a month and welcomes input from the congregation.

President: Jennifer Schwede – 715-432-6079; jenniferschwede@aol.com

Vice President: Barb Paulsen – 715-845-9884; ericbarbp@aol.com

Treasurer: Perry Kufahl – 715-675-1383; pnskufahl@outlook.com

Secretary: Shelley Kufahl – 715-675-1383; pnskufahl@outlook.com

Trustees: Curt Cooley – 715-571-4057; usfcool@gmail.com

Jim Borelli – 715-803-8282; jimb.newlife@gmail.com

Evangelism: Lane Bahr – 715-297-0017; lucylane35@hotmail.com

Fellowship: Madeline Grueneberg – 715-574-9095; MadelineSchwede@aol.com

Education: Jan Mueller – 715-675-9558; dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com

Worship: Sue Harris – 715-551-6282; smae53@gmail.com

Council Meeting Minutes. Copies of the minutes from the most recently held Council meeting are by the mailboxes. Please feel free to pick up a copy. If more are needed, please contact the church office.

Financial Report for August, 2022		
	August	Year-to-Date
Income Received	\$14,411.84	\$88,123.11
Expenses Paid	\$12,545.45	\$67,622.89
Difference	\$1,866.39	\$20,500.22
Attendance Report		
	2022	2021
Average Weekly/August	73	62
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	79	83

Homebound Parishioners. The following parishioners are no longer able to consistently attend worship services. I visit them to remind them that they are loved by God and loved by their community of faith, St. John. Sometimes it is helpful to hear those reminders from someone.

Carol Fitzke
237227 N. 120th Ave.
Wausau, WI 54401

Harley Goetsch
Rennes Health/Rehab Ctr.
4810 Barbican Avenue
Weston, WI 54476

Joanne Zahn
4905 Falcon Dr.
Wausau, WI 54401

Don & Carol Prochnow
1408 Lili Lane-Apt. 4
Schofield, WI 54476

Vern & Marlene Bahr
238456 N. 84th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401

Kathie Reissman
Our House
220 Campus Dr.
Wausau, WI 54401

Sisterhood Christmas Gathering – Save the Date! Please mark your calendars for our annual Sisterhood Christmas gathering. Join us at 5:30 p.m. for happy hour followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. at Carmelo's on Tuesday, December 13. Per tradition, the evening will end with a white elephant exchange. Donations for the Women's Community will also be collected. Please sign up in the narthex to help us plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, contact Brooke Schindler or Kelly Rosenau.

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Bible Study. Please join us on Tuesday October 25th at 11:45 a.m. for our first Bible study with Pastor Maggie. Pastor Maggie will be using the Bible study from the magazine, *Gather*, which is published by the ELCA. We will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy fellowship with one another. If you would like to subscribe to the magazine, *Gather* please contact Jan Mueller at 715-657-9558 or dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com. If 11 or more people subscribe we will receive a discounted price.

No Lone-Ranger Christians

World Communion Sunday, celebrated this year on October 2, reminds us there's no such thing as solitary Christianity. "As Christians we're called to belong, not just to believe," writes Rick Warren. "We are not meant to live lone-ranger lives; instead, we are to belong to Christ's family and be members of his body."

After all, Christian fellowship can't occur without fellow Christians. We can't learn the intricacies of the Bible and theology without preachers and teachers. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't take Holy Communion alone; in fact, the sacrament's very name refers to interaction with God and others.

The New Testament clearly states that one cannot be Christian all alone. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30). We belong to the family of believers (Galatians 6:10). We are "a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Peter 2:9, NRSV). So don't be a lone ranger or a stranger – to worship or to Holy Communion!