

“Council Corner”

Greetings! Some big dates are happening at St John's! Fellowship is starting up back in January and we are so excited. We always have coffee and welcome treats from the congregation. In January there will be a board asking for donations for the chili feed. If you would like to donate items, you can sign up and drop off at church. “Cabin Fever” Chili feed is February 20. Along with our raffle, which is the same day. If you have a donation for the raffle you may bring them to church January 16th. St John's annual meeting is February 6th. Hope to see you there! **Maddie Grueneberg, Fellowship**

Happy New Year!! This year our church was able to host three community suppers, for those in need, in the months of January, May and most recently December. Our next will be coming up on Sunday, January 16th. The meals are served in a "to-go" manner at this time and typically we only need 2-3 volunteers to hand out the meals. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact me for more details!

Another wonderful thing we were able to do this holiday season was to help three families, from Maine School, with holiday meals, grocery items, paper products, toiletries, etc. It's an amazing feeling to know that our church has been able to reach out to so many in need, in 2021!! Thank you for your support in our continued outreach programs!

Wishing you each a happy, healthy and love filled 2022!! Lane Bahr
Lane Bahr, Evangelism

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: Sue Cooley – 715-675-8566; cooley1512@outlook.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

Scott Oestreich – 715-675-4360; scottsmachinellc@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

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 in addition to me.

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

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

Florian Kolbe
540 E. Thomas St.
Apt. 108
Wausau, WI 54403

Don & Carol Prochnow
235775 N. 80th Ave.
Wausau, WI 54401

Laurie Prochnow
4602 Barbican Ave.
Apt. 105
Weston, WI 54476

Financial Report for November, 2021		
	November	Year-to-Date
Income Received	\$11,387.52	\$126,721.50
Expenses Paid	\$6,022.81	\$106,055.49
Difference	\$5,364.71	\$20,666.01
Attendance Report		
	2021	2020
Average Weekly/November	60	99
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	72	99

IMPORTANT DATES: Our Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022, after the worship service. All reports to be included in the Annual report are due to the church office no later than 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 5, 2022!

Council Positions Available! Our church council is looking for a new president, trustee, treasurer, evangelism chairperson and worship chairperson. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Barb Paulsen at 715-845-9884. It's a great way to have an impact on the future of our church!

2022 Offering Envelopes. The offering envelopes for 2022 have arrived – they are in your mailboxes in the narthex. Please stop by and pick them up.

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.

Thrivent Choice Dollars. St. John receives funds through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program. By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable funding from Thrivent. If you are an eligible member, please consider us when directing Choice Dollars. Call 800-847-4836.

PRAYERS FOR ST. JOHN PARISHIONERS

Often we are busy and sometimes need gentle reminders on how to make a difference in someone's life. At St. John we have quite a few shut ins and others who are in need of healing prayers. Please consider reaching out to them by perhaps sending a card, a phone call or even a visit. Many folks could use some encouraging words and know they are not forgotten. Mary should have a list of folks on the prayer list and our shut ins are listed in the newsletters. Thank You!!

“One resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: to rise above the little things.”
-John Burroughs

The first in a group of refugees from Afghanistan will arrive in our community soon. New Beginnings for Refugees and the Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc. (ECDC) are collecting donations to fully equip these families with the necessities.

A donation site is located at the Whitewater Music Hall in Wausau in the lower level (door 137). Donations are accepted every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon or by appointment for a large collection.

All of the collected items will be distributed to a group of refugees arriving in the Wausau area beginning this month. ECDC is responsible for having the housing for the refugees completely set-up and furnished, including linens on the beds and cabinets filled with supplies, upon their arrival.

Some of the items needed include:

Vacuum cleaners
Teapots (stovetop or electric)
Laptops with chargers (five years old or newer)
Unlocked smartphones
Throw blankets
Twin sheets
Home toolkits and drills
Bicycles
Mops and buckets
Brooms and dustpans
Toilet paper
Paper towel
Napkins
Laundry detergent
Hand soap
Dish soap



Additional items which are needed are listed on NewBeginningsWI.org.

Financial donations are also welcomed. Donations for ECDC can be made at ECDCUS.org (select the Wausau MCC location to ensure the donations are used locally). Donations for New Beginnings can be made on the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin's site.

QUILTER'S REPORT – MARLENE STUBBE

The quilters meet from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday morning. We were able to send 64 quilts to Lutheran World Relief. Thank you for your contributions of fabric. Quilters the past year were Patsy Askew, Darlene Bahr, Shirley Kopplin, Jan Mueller, Erin Randall and Marlene Stubbe. New members are always welcome to help us continue this quilting tradition.

VISION FOR ST JOHN

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Village of Maine, Wausau, WI is a country church with an average Sunday worship attendance of about 100 folks. We are affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Yet, more than numbers or affiliations, we are a congregation which welcomes all who seek meaning and hope in their lives through all the possibilities of a connection to the love of God in Jesus Christ. At our core, we value and nurture relationships.

We Value and Nurture Relationships With our God

- “He (Jesus) said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’” (Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

We Value and Nurture Relationships with Each Other

- “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10 NRSV)

We Value and Nurture Relationships with our Community

- “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” (John 13:34 NRSV)

We Value and Nurture Relationships with Ourselves

- “For this reason...we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding...” (Colossians 1:9 NRSV)