

From Pastor Maggie

Greetings beloved children of God, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church,

I am humbled, honored, and blessed to write my initial newsletter message to all of you. My first few weeks as your pastor have been fruitful, spirit-filled, and welcoming. I have enjoyed the opportunities to get to know some of you, for worship, fellowship, visits, and conversations. I am looking forward to the fall and for cultivating continuing relationships, discernment, and learning.

If you are wanting a visit, someone to talk to, or would like to catch up over a cup of coffee or tea, please reach out. My cell is 608-345-9616. My email is pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com.

May God fill your lives with abundance as the summer months wind down to a close. May you be filled with the Spirit and receive God's grace, peace, and joy. May you have courage and strength to endure when it is needed, and may you find time to rest, be still, and feel rejuvenated by our Creator.

Grace, Peace, and Blessings to you,

Pastor Maggie

“Council Corner”
Perry Kufahl, Treasurer

As we welcome pastor Maggie Westaby to St John, let’s look at the commitment we as a congregation are facing. The following is a review of Pastor Maggie’s compensation we approved when we voted to place a call to her on June 19. Note the figures are Synod Driven, we had to follow the financial guidelines when offering her the position.

Base Salary	\$42,261.00
Housing Allowance	\$12,240.00
Self-employed SSN	\$4169.33
ELCA Pension 10%	\$5867.03
ELCA Medical/Dental Member only	\$7,685.76
Survivor Disability and Retiree Support	\$1,290.75
Automobile/Travel	\$.585 per mile
Other Professional Expenses	\$425.00
Continuing Education	\$900.00
Other (Books/Publications)	\$400.00

As you can see the Pastor’s total compensation package is around 76K (plus depending on how much mileage she claims). I do not want to over analyze what we need to bring in weekly/yearly to maintain and keep up with our bills and financial reasonability. We need give as generously as we did when Pastor Dan served us. If we maintain that pace again, we are in great shape!

The message still is the same as I indicated late last year, “Do Not Take the Foot Off the Gas!” Meaning we need to continue to be a congregation that is very generous with our contributions to the church. This is not a finger pointing message, and I do not want anybody taking it that way. We all give what we can financially afford. Nobody should feel like they have to take food off the table or cut back on supporting yourself and your

family to help support our church. In the end things usually work out, this is not a time to panic or worry.

Our members are very generous giving people as a whole and I hope that will continue. The good news is our checking account as of July 1 stands around \$96,000. This is a healthy amount but will quickly start shrinking if we get complacent.

Let's hope as more people see Pastor Maggie preach for the first time, they will feel re-energized to attend services on a regular basis. It sure will be nice to see our pews filling up again! Don't forget you can attend services online too. COVID taught us that.

To use a sports analogy, St. John "Hit a home run" in Pastor Maggie. Pastor Maggie is immensely qualified and will serve us well!

God Bless and let's enjoy the next exciting chapter in St John's history.

Perry Kufahl,
Treasurer

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.

Greetings from your Church Council. We are pleased and excited to announce Pastor Maggie Westaby has joined St. John as our new pastor. Pastor Maggie's first service was on July 17th. Please join us in worship as we welcome Pastor Maggie to our St. John family. We pray God will richly bless Pastor Maggie and her ministry here at St. John. Information and details will be available soon for Pastor Maggie's installation service. A wonderful time of celebration for Pastor Maggie and St. John! Welcome to St. John, Pastor Maggie!

Financial Report for June, 2022		
	June	Year-to-Date
Income Received	\$9,156.55	\$64,478.86
Expenses Paid	\$6,994.19	\$47,303.15
Difference	\$2,162.36	\$17,175.71
Attendance Report		
	2022	2021
Average Weekly/June	76	43
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	85	93

“Aging is not ‘lost youth’ but a new stage of opportunity and strength.”

-Betty Friedan

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
3001 Westhill Dr.
Room 208
Wausau, WI 54401

Florian Kolbe
Renaissance Assisted Lvng.
4602 Barbican Avenue
Weston, WI 54476

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

“A life without love is like a year without summer.”

-Swedish proverb