

From Pastor Maggie

Beloved Children of God & Members of St. John,

Grace and peace to you all. I am meditating on the words from Psalm 67, “God is gracious to you, a loving Presence within you; for the Radiant One shines in you.” I have to agree, that the Radiant One does indeed shine in all of you. And I also want to highlight that God is always a loving presence within you. No matter what. Even when it may seem all is lost, God is there in the midst of pain, hurt, and loss—not causing it, but is present with you. And you are not alone. 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.

As I look forward to fall, I would like to share a couple of new opportunities! Starting Sunday September, 18 there will be a Bible Study offered on the Book of Ruth (please note there will be no study on September 25 as that is the day of the potluck). This series will be short, only offered on a few Sundays. All are welcome regardless if you miss one. The Bible Study will take place after worship around 10:15 am. Stay tuned for further information. Also, I am starting up a book club, Pastor Maggie’s Book Club. The book club will meet once a month. I am planning our first meeting for Monday, October 24, at 6:30 pm. Our first book will be *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. If you are interested, please sign up (sheet in the narthex) or email me pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com. You will need to purchase the book, but if funds are an issue, please let me know as financial support is available.

I am thankful for all of you at St. John, and I look forward to providing more opportunities to be in community together. If you need anything, please let me know.

Grace, Peace, and Blessings to you,

Pastor Maggie

“Council Corner”
Jennifer Schwede, President

As I sit to write this note to all of you on a cooler day, it is a reminder that summer is slowly fading and fall will soon be upon us, a new season, something to look forward to. St. John's has also experienced some newness as well, namely Pastor Maggie. If you have not been able to make it to church in a while, please try to stop in and meet her on a Sunday morning. She'll make you feel right at home. A new website is also being developed. This by no means was an easy task, many people have stepped up to volunteer with this project. Without them, this would not be possible. A big thank you to Jayne Rowe, she has been invaluable in this project. We have also welcomed multiple new families to St. John's, very exciting times indeed.

Looking forward, there will be multiple openings on council next year. If you've ever wondered what really happens behind the scenes, I encourage you to consider becoming a council member, no matter if you've been a member for 3 years or 30 - all are encouraged to participate. As always, if you have questions, concerns, ideas or suggestions, please bring them forward. This is YOUR church - we are here to make it the best it can be.

A Primer on Love

Is life not full of opportunities for learning love? Every man and woman every day has a thousand of them. The world is not a playground; it is a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love.

---Henry Drummond

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 July, 2022		
	July	Year-to-Date
Income Received	\$9,232.41	\$73,711.27
Expenses Paid	\$7,942.46	\$55,245.61
Difference	\$1,289.95	\$18,465.66
Attendance Report		
	2022	2021
Average Weekly/July	52	42
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	80	86

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

Sunday, September 18, 10:15 am. Bible Study on the Book of Ruth. This will be a short series, only offered on a few Sundays (September 18, October 2, and October 9). And all are welcome, regardless if you miss one. It is not required but recommended that you read the Book of Ruth ahead of time (there are only 4 chapters).

Monday, October 24, 6:30 pm. Pastor Maggie's Book Club. The first book will be *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. If you are interested, please sign up (sheet in the narthex) or email me pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com. You will need to purchase the book, but if funds are an issue, please let me know as financial support is available. Also, if you are an Amazon Prime Member, it is available for free as an electronic download.

Pastor Maggie's Installation – Thursday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. Please join St. John Church as Pastor Maggie is officially installed as our new minister. This is a special worship service, as Bishop Reverend Anne Edison-Albright and Associate to the Bishop, Reverend Asher O'Callaghan, will be participating in the service. A dessert coffee hour will follow the service.

PASTOR MAGGIE'S CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 25--10:00 AM WORSHIP (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

On Sunday, September 25, we will be celebrating Pastor Maggie's Installation with a potluck picnic after worship service. Meat and beverages will be provided by St. John. We ask that everyone please bring a dish to share such as a salad, casserole dish, fruit or dessert.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for those who plan to attend. This will help us determine the amount of meat and beverages needed. Please sign up by September 18 if possible.

There is also a sign-up sheet asking for help with the celebration. Please consider lending a hand with set-up and/or clean up. Contact Maddie Grueneberg @ 715-574-9095 or Sue Harris @ 715-551-6282 with questions.