

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA  
5304 North 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401  
Telephone: (715) 675-6950

# *THE MESSENGER*

*May 2023*



## From Pastor Maggie

God's Beloved & Members of St. John,

May the month of May spring forth joy and peace for you. As we embrace a world blossoming in our midst may the newness of life be an ever-present reminder of how God is always creating all things new.

May the beauty of this truth be a reminder of the beauty that lives inside you. While it is easy to recognize the beauty around us, it takes a little more effort to recognize the beauty that dwells inside of us. Beauty which is always seen and recognized by God. For you are God's beloved.

May you find joy in your inner beauty and in the Spirit of God that dwells in you. And may you find courage to share your gifts with the world. For you were created with purpose and there are always moments blossoming in your midst where you are called to share your fruits.

May springtime be a reflection of the beauty that dwells within you. And even though spring can encompass rain, storms, and chaotic weather; life still thrives, and there is birth and renewal in the midst of it all. For God is with you in storms and torrential rainfalls, and showers you with grit, goodness, grace, and love.

With Love & Gratitude,

Pastor Maggie Westaby

**“Council Corner”**  
Heidi Teske, Education

Hello Members of St. John,

The youth at St. John had a busy Easter season. The children sang on Palm Sunday and after the church service had a fun day for Sunday School which included the reading of the Easter story, crafts and an Easter egg hunt. On Maundy Thursday, eight children received their First Communion. And throughout Lent, at the meals, the confirmation students helped with serving and helping with clean up. I even heard that some of the students enjoyed washing and drying the dishes, who would have thought that?

Dates to remember

5/21 - last day of Sunday School

6/25-6/29 - Vacation Bible School (VBS) from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. The meal will be served starting at 5:30pm, then VBS will follow, starting at 6pm. Please register your child/children online at [stjohnwausau.org](http://stjohnwausau.org) or contact Lane or Heidi.

I want to give a huge shout out and thank you to all of these people listed below. Without you volunteering, we wouldn't be able to have a successful year with Sunday School, Confirmation and VBS.

Sunday School Teachers - Cherish Oestreich, Kelly Hirn, Maddie Grueneberg, Heather Gallenberg, Chavalin Chadwick, Penny Bartlelt, Jessica Pergolski, Gina Graveen and Kim Landwehr

VBS – Lane Bahr, Tim and Ann Ohrmundt

Confirmation – Connie Nowak, Lane Bahr and Schmidty

**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](mailto:jenniferschwede@aol.com)

Vice President: Karen Ohrmundt – 715-370-0645– [tkohrmundt@frontier.com](mailto:tkohrmundt@frontier.com)

Treasurer: Perry Kufahl – 715-675-1383; 715-574-1519; [pnskufahl@outlook.com](mailto:pnskufahl@outlook.com)

Secretary: Shelley Kufahl – 715-675-1383; 715-409-0524; [pnskufahl@outlook.com](mailto:pnskufahl@outlook.com)

Trustees: Jim Borelli – 715-803-8282; [jimb.newlife@gmail.com](mailto:jimb.newlife@gmail.com)

Tim Ohrmundt – 715-297-0152 – [Ohrmundt74@gmail.com](mailto:Ohrmundt74@gmail.com)

Evangelism: Lane Bahr – 715-297-0017; [lucylane35@hotmail.com](mailto:lucylane35@hotmail.com)

Fellowship: Barb Paulsen – 715-845-9884 – [ericbarbp@aol.com](mailto:ericbarbp@aol.com)

Education: Heidi Teske – 715-536-6134; 715-551-4485 – [Heidi.teske2007@gmail.com](mailto:Heidi.teske2007@gmail.com)

Worship: Sue Harris – 715-551-6282; [smae53@gmail.com](mailto:smae53@gmail.com)

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**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.

**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.

**Adult Study!** Are you interested in learning more about Lutheranism and the roots of our faith? Are you wanting to discuss how faith and life intersect in our day to day lives? If so, please let Pastor Maggie know.

<b>Financial Report for March, 2023</b>		
	<b>March</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>
<b>Income Received</b>	<b>\$14,375.89</b>	<b>\$38,466.62</b>
<b>Expenses Paid</b>	<b>\$15,900.27</b>	<b>\$41,154.41</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-\$1,524.38</b>	<b>-\$2,687.79</b>
<b>Attendance Report</b>		
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Average Weekly/March	158	113
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	109	79

**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. 120<sup>th</sup> 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  
3402 Terrace Court  
Room 141  
Wausau, WI 54401

**May Birthdays**

5-1 Brenna Ohrmundt  
5-8 Brandon Schindler  
5-9 Gavin Bahr  
5-9 Michael Haroldson  
5-9 Don Prochnow  
5-12 McKenzie Cottrell  
5-13 Tim Ohrmundt  
5-13 Renner Stubbe  
5-14 Kelly Hirn  
5-14 Steve Zahn  
5-15 Ryan Landwehr  
5-15 Shane Saari  
5-16 Jarred Bahr  
5-16 Benjamin Bolz  
5-17 Larry Berens  
5-20 Ariel Graveen  
5-20 John Ohrmundt  
5-21 Briah Landwehr  
5-21 Pastor Maggie Westaby  
5-23 Chavalin Chadwick  
5-23 Todd Mueller  
5-26 Ray Gallenberg  
5-26 Mitch Landrath  
5-27 Matthew Haroldson  
5-29 Levi Hirn  
5-30 Tanner Walter  
5-31 Bev Landrath

**May Anniversaries**

5-3 Kurt & Jayne Rowe  
5-9 Al & Lynn Tesch  
5-11 Troy & Nikole Knight  
5-12 Perry & Shelley Kufahl  
5-13 Dan & Shannon Graveen  
5-15 Randy & Debbie Knapp  
5-16 Peter & Sarah Severson  
5-22 Ryan & Kim Landwehr  
5-24 Lee & Katie VanDerGeest