

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA
5304 North 44th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401

Telephone: (715-675-6950)

THE MESSENGER

January 2024

From Pastor Maggie

God's Beloved,

Grace and peace to you all. I hope you had a joyful Christmas and a very happy new year!

Now that the new year is upon us, let us pray.

Renewing God,

With hearts of gratitude, we give thanks for the start of a new year. A time when possibilities seem endless, when life shimmers with excitement and hope. Inspire and fuel the people of St. John. Open us to the movement of your Spirit, and help us deepen our relationship with you and with one another. As we journey together, may Christ's light illuminate our path and guide us this new year. Amen.

The new year and all of its possibilities reminds me of the vastness of God's love, and how God is always creating all things new. As we read in 2nd Corinthians 5:17-18. "Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation the old things are gone; suddenly, everything is new! All this is from God. Through Christ, God made peace between himself and us. And God gave us the work of bringing people into peace with him."

May these words bring you peace. Knowing there is always hope, even in death, there is newness and life in Christ. May these words bring you joy. Knowing joy can be found, even in the most unexpected places. May these words bring you love. Knowing you can share God's love with the world.

I look forward to this year with all of you.

With Love & Gratitude,

Pastor Maggie Westaby

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: Karen Ohrmundt – 715-370-0645; tkohrmundt@frontier.com

Treasurer: Perry Kufahl – 715-675-1383; 715-409-0524; pnskufahl@outlook.com

Secretary: Shelley Kufahl – 715-675-1383; 715-409-0524; pnskufahl@outlook.com

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

Tim Ohrmundt – 715-297-0152; anntimohrmundt@gmail.com

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

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

Education: Heidi Teske – 715-536-6134; 715-551-4485; Heidi.teske2007@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.

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John 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.

2024 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 chairperson's 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, leave in Mary's (secretaries) mailbox, or even call / email me and we'll get you signed up! Please take time to fill out a Time & Talent sheet, even if you already serve in areas of the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lane Bahr.

St. John Quilting Wishlist. Left over fabric or never used fabric, light weight denim, cotton or flannel sheets, pillow cases, cotton curtains (unlined), cotton shower curtains. If you are interested, come join us! You can also sew a quilt top from home. Size needed is 60 x 80. They do not need to be fancy. Thank you!

Men's Breakfast. Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter's in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn).

Annual Report Articles are Due to the Church Office by Monday, January 8, 2024!

Homebound Parishioners. The following parishioners are no longer able to consistently attend worship services. Pastor Maggie visits 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 th Ave. Wausau, WI 54401	Joanne Zahn 4905 Falcon Dr. Wausau, WI 54401	Don & Carol Prochnow 3402 Terrace Court-Room 141 Wausau, WI 54401
Harley Goetsch Rennes Health/Rehab Ctr. 4810 Barbican Avenue Weston, WI 54476	Jim & Barbara Leffin 214 N. 12 th Avenue Wausau, WI 54401	

Attendance Report

	2023	2022
Average Weekly/October	82	73
Average Weekly/Year-To-Date	91	81

Upcoming Events:

Monday, January 1, 2024 – Happy New Year – Church Office Closed

Monday, January 8, 2024 – Annual Report Articles due to Church Office

*Saturday, January 13, at 9:00 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast – LC Restaurant,
Marathon*

*Sunday, January 21, at 3:30 p.m. – Community Supper at First Presbyterian
Church*

*Sunday, February 4, 2024 – Annual Meeting to follow Worship Service (All
Confirmed members are eligible to vote at this meeting.*

*Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday – 5:00 p.m. Lent Supper; 6:30
p.m. Lent Service*

March 10 – Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 24 – Palm Sunday

March 31 – Easter Sunday

January Birthdays

12-1 Drew Detert
12-1 Brenda Tesch
12-3 Tom Ohrmundt
12-4 Robbie Haroldson
12-5 Ryder Schindler
12-5 Hudson Voigt
12-5 Jan Ziebell
12-6 Dan Detert
12-7 Sarah Sala
12-10 Laverne Grunenwald
12-10 Tari Harter
12-11 Maci Landwehr
12-12 Avery Oestreich
12-14 Levi Ohrmundt
12-14 Luke Saari
12-16 Mark Anderson
12-17 Lane Hoeft
12-17 John Rakow
12-18 Veronica LaVake
12-18 Pete Seubert
12-18 Serena Ugoretz
12-19 Andrew Harter
12-20 Braxtin Borth
12-22 Rebecca Voelker
12-23 Madison Voelker
12-24 Dan Graveen
12-24 Cherish Oestreich
12-24 Jacob Paulsen
12-25 Barb Nass
12-27 Deb Maley
12-28 James LaVake
12-29 Alex Zahn
12-30 Jill Cohrs
12-30 Jesse Hein
12-30 Luciana Nass
12-30 Tammi Walter

January Anniversaries

12-5 Tom & Karen Ohrmundt
12-6 John Czarnota & Erin Randall
12-11 Don & Carol Prochnow
12-26 Bob & Kara Rode
12-29 Chad & Tammi Walter

Worship Schedule

Sunday Mornings

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Mission Statement: “We are called to serve God; serve each other; serve the community; serve the wider church.”

Pastor Maggie Westaby

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