

The Dual-Parish Review

HIGHER THINGS® REFLECTIONS



“The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”.
(John 8:35-36)

In the Name + of Jesus. Amen.

Today, we give thanks to God for the Lutheran Reformation, for like an angel flying in midheaven (Revelation 14:6), God used Luther and the Lutheran Reformation to restore the promise of His gospel to a fallen and broken world. Fallen and broken, everyone is a slave to sin. Jesus says so. “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.” If you have committed sin today, and you certainly have, then you are a slave to sin. “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (I John 1:8). Truth is, you and I will be slaves to sin all the way to the final breath we take in this life. But, as also taught by Luther and the Lutheran Reformation, it is also every bit as true you and I are free now. Jesus says so. “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” Not kind of free. “Free indeed.” “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1). Truth is, all the way to the final breath we take in this life, you and I are no longer owned or defined by our sins any more. Jesus has set us free from that. “But I still sin!” Yes, you do. But Jesus still remains in the house forever, so forever, you still remain free. That is the promise of Jesus’ death for you on the cross. It’s the freedom God washes you with in your Baptism every day, speaks to you in His Word every day, and delivers to you at the Altar with Jesus’ Body and Blood. Your sins do not own you. Your sins do not define you. Your sins will never tell God who or whose you are. You are His now. And you are declared by God Himself to be free, eternally holy, and righteous in His judgment. Abide in His Word, freed one! From cover to cover, Jesus is the truth that sets you free. In the Name + of Jesus. Amen.



2024

Bethlehem

Lutheran Church

233500 County Road E

Milan, Wisconsin 54411

Sunday Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours @ BETH.

Tues. 9am-5pm

Pastors Number:

715-330-5599

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

St. John “High Steeple”

Lutheran Church

119415 Huckleberry Road

Edgar, Wisconsin 54426

Sunday School 9am -

Sun. Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Sun. Bible Study at 11:45am

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours: M, W, T:

9am to 5pm

Pastors Number:

715-352-2888

Or 715-330-5599

Not a cell phone .

Please leave a message

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Sec. Office Hours: M, T, W, F:

1pm to 4pm

Dual Parish Office:

715-352-2888

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

Dual Parish Website:

www.Stjbethorg

ST. John Church Council 9-10-24

Present were Kay Christiansen, Linda Mueller, Traci Pehlke, Steve Schneider, Jeff Werner, Doug Brown, Mel Niemann, Pastor Mathey, and Sharon Niemann.

Linda called the meeting to order and Pastor opened with a prayer.

Minutes were accepted as corrected.

Pastor reported that he would attend the Pastor's conference Oct. 21 -23. Wednesday. Confirmation and Life Light Bible classes will begin next week. Oct. 13'th, Vicor Paul Mroczenski will visit our congregation before entering his studies in Puerto Rico. Nominations are being sought for the nomination committee for the 2028 convention. Watch for the coming workshop to be held about safety on the internet. More details will be coming.

Elders had no report.

Out reach reported that their summer trip to the Brewer's game was successful. Dual picnic was well attended and promotion for the harvest dinner is beginning. Doug will do an ad in the Shopper.

Board of Ed. will be starting Sunday School on the 15'th. Christmas program is being planned, Youth group will meet grades 7 and older on Wed. evening. Traci will be co-superintendent for the Sunday School.

Treasurer gave the report as printed.

Finance committee is going well.

Trustees had no report.

Cemetery is still looking for someone to work on the stones yet this fall. The church sign has new dirt all around to fill in the holes and the growth has been trimmed away down to highway 97.

All reports were accepted and approved.

Old business: A motion was made to bring forward a proposed amendment to the Bylaws : If an office has no candidate available, the person serving in that office may continue to serve a temporary extension year by year as a new officer is diligently searched for. This person would be on the regular ballot and must be approved by the voters at election. The motion to bring this forward to the voters assembly was seconded.

Linda will research the cost of hiring out a treasurer duty person should we need to secure someone outside of the congregation.

New business: A request for quarterly statements has been made and these will be available to anyone upon request. You may call Jeff Werner at 715-352-2597 if and when you need a statement.

Each board member and committee member is asked to review their duties as given in the bylaws of the constitution ASAP.

Our next meeting is Tuesday Oct. 8, 2024

Meeting was adjourned and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sharon Niemann

St. John Quarterly Voters Oct 20, 2024

Opened with Prayer by Pastor Mathey

Twenty two Members signed in to the meeting.

Pres. Linda called the meeting to order. Last meeting minutes were read and approved.

Reports: Pastor reported 3 funerals last month Lynn Ballerstein, John Schafer and Tara Stack. Confirmation Classes at held at Bethlehem.

LifeLight Bible Study is in progress. Thanksgiving service is being planned for. Advent worship will be 3 Wed in Dec. The 4th, 11th and the 18th 7:00 P.M. at Bethlehem and 1:30 P.M. at St. John. North Wisconsin District Conv. will be June 1 & 2, 2025. Roger Ballerstein will be our dual-parish delegate, do not have an alternate as yet. Nominations are open for District President, 3 Vice-presidents and a Board of Directors.

Rev. Preston Paul was nominated for District Pres.

Elders Report: All the volunteer help was thanked along with all who stood for election.

Trustees: No report

Board of Education: 6 students from St. John in Confirmation Class.

Children's Christmas Service will be Dec 22nd.

Youth: No report

Treasure report: Explained by Kay. Motion made and seconded to accept. Motion carried.

Outreach/Evangelism: No report

Harvest Supper Harvest Supper We prepared and served approximately 468 meals for our community, Senior Living homes and homebound. Generous congregation and community support brought in donations of \$5189. Once our expenses have been deducted, we will be donating the balance to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Disaster Relief fund.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept all reports

Election: Elder- Brad Wendtland; Financial secretary -Ronda Durkee (Jeff Werner assistant)

Board of Ed - Deb Mathey

We were unable to secure a person for treasurer and Outreach/Evangelism.

New Business:

Voters decided to put the "Bookkeeper" position (to be paid) up for our members first and then for Bethlehem. After that out to the public Kay would need to resign at the end of the year.

By Law Changes:

1. Officer terms would be changed to 2 year terms. Eligible for reelection 3 times
2. If an office cannot be filled , a person can be appointed for a 1 year term.

At this point Doris Scherr was appointed to the Outreach/Evangelism Board for 1 year.

2025 Budget was explained, discussed and approved by the voters



**St. John Lutheran Witness Re-
newal** If you wish to renew your
Lutheran Witness Subscription or if
you would like to get a new sub-
scription the price for 2025 is

\$27.65. Deadline for renewal is the end of No-
vember. Give cash payment to Church Secretary
if you wish to pay by check; make your check out
to St. John and note for "Lutheran Witness re-
newal".

Part-time Bookkeeper Wanted.

At this time St. John has been unable to fill the
office of Treasurer. At the recent Voters meeting
it was decided that a Bookkeeper would be hired.

This is a part time accounts payable position,
approximately 4 hours per week, starting Janu-
ary 1st, 2025.

Any questions regarding this position please
call Kay Christiansen @ 715-451-0427 or Linda
Mueller @ 715-574-6751.

Resumes can be emailed to the church Secre-
tary @ secretary@stjbeth.org. The deadline for
submitting a resume is November 15, 2024.
Thank you

Luthern Hour dates available for sponsorship
in 2025

January 12 & 26	July 13,27
February 23	August 24, 31
March 9,16,23,30	September 7, 14
April 27	October 19
May 4,11,18,25	November 2,+9,16,23
June 29	December 14, 21

A full sponsorship is \$94 for the half-hour broad-
cast. Please contact Lisa Snortheim at Trinity Ev.
Lutheran Church, Spenser, @ 715-659-4006 or
send an email to

trinity.Spencer,wi@gmail.com to request a
date. Mailing address is
Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
PO Box 109
Spencer, Wi 54479-0109

St. John Harvest Supper Report: God heard
our prayers and blessed us with a successful
2024 Harvest Supper. We prepared and served
approximately 468 meals for our community,
Senior Living homes and homebound. Feedback
tells us our meal is appreciated and looked for-
ward to by all those who receive it.

We continue to struggle with receiving commit-
ments from members to sign up to help. This is a
big event that takes more than a few hours on

Saturday to achieve. There is much preplanning,
plus work on Thursday and Friday and from 7am
to 7pm on Saturday. Extra strong workers to
move heavy roasters all day Saturday is
always needed. Our crew multi-tasked in several
areas to fill in where needed to complete the jobs.

Generous congregation and community support
brought in donations of \$5189. Once our ex-
penses have been deducted, we will be donating
the balance to the Lutheran Church Missouri
Synod Disaster Relief fund.

Thank you to all who made this year's Harvest
Supper a success! Looking forward to having
your support for 10-4-25!

The Bethlehem LWML Ladies Aid is again
holding their Annual Christmas Wreath Sale,
starting the last Sunday in October thru Novem-
ber, with delivery date of December 1, 2024.
Please see the order sheet at the back at Bethle-
hem and on the table in the carport area. Thank
You for your support.

Bethlehem Sunday School Update – Sun-
day school is off to a great start. Thank you to
everyone who has stepped and volunteered to
help. Our Christmas program, Silent Night, will
be on December 15 following the church ser-
vice. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be
serving cinnamon rolls, cookies and beverages
following the program. There will be no Sunday
school December 22 and December 29.

Cyber Security Awareness Presentation, Sun-
day, November 10th at 6:00 PM. At St. John Evangel-
ical Lutheran Church, Parish Hall, 119415 Huckleber-
ry Rd, Edgar.

Cyber Security Awareness Presentation

Whether you are a child or an adult, there are scam-
mers, predators and potentially inappropriate con-
tent that can be very harmful to unsuspecting users.
Don't make it easy to regret your online experience.
Telephone or Cell numbers... Home Address... Ac-
count Passwords... Sharing photos... Emails from un-
known senders... Revealing personal information and
images can put user's privacy and safety at risk. Don't
let down your first line of defense... which is
you! Presented by Dean Pehlke, Cyber Security and
Technology Professional. Please RSVP at
Dean.p@pca-it.com by November 8th.



Becker, Jane 11/05
 Thielman, Ashley 11/07
 Hammel, Isaac 11/09
 Schreiber, Marlene 11/11
 Schmitt, Lori 11/12
 Fehrenbach, Hannah 11/16
 VanLuven, Halie 11/23
 Broeske, Cory 11/26

Martha Rodman 11/02
 Savannah Koepke 11/03
 Lloyd Schultz 11/03
 Nancy Witucki 11/03
 Lucas Koepke 11/05
 Ronda Durkee 11/09
 Amber Kroening 11/09
 Stacy VanHoy 11/09
 Peter Kroening 11/17
 Roger Spindler 11/18
 Aaron Niemann 11/21
 Suzanne Gehrke 11/23
 Rodney Held 11/23
 Myszka, Izabella 11/23
 Anna Koepke 11/24
 George Seibert 11/25
 Judy Ulrick 11/25
 Larry Noller 11/27
 Ron Hahn 11/28
 Brad Wendtland 11/29



Alan & Lori Schmitt 11/6

Lloyd & Mary Schultz 11/14
 Stan Sharon Szymanski 11/14
 John & Kelly Yessa 11/15
 Jonathan & Kay Schulz 11/16
 Melvin & Sharon Niemann 11/28



*St John and Bethlehem's 2024 Church Directory
 Picture Dates*

DAY	DATE	CHECK-IN TIMES
Monday	Nov 25th	1:00pm ~ 8:00 pm
Tuesday	Nov 26th	1:00pm ~ 8:00 pm
Wednesday	Nov 27th	11:00am ~ 6:00 pm

Ways to schedule your picture appointment:

1. Click on this link:
[https://book.appointment-plus.com/d0nm3xs6/?employee_id=7089#/
 employee_id=7089#/
 and follow the directions on the Get Started page.](https://book.appointment-plus.com/d0nm3xs6/?employee_id=7089#/)
2. Sign-up at Church on a Sunday morning
3. Call Deb Mathey at 715-330-5599 Please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.
4. Scan QR Code BELOW and follow the directions on the Get Started page.



In Christ's Service, Deb Mathey

Any Questions should be directed to: Deb Mathey



Lutheran Hour Sermon Schedule

November 3

"Working the System"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
God's Law--a "system" that keeps the world from flying apart while it also shows us we need the Savior Who came to live, suffer, and rise for us. (Genesis 33:8)

November 10

"My Name Is Now Yours"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola
God comes to renew us with His forgiving love, rename us in Baptism, and remain with us through His Word. (Genesis 35:10-11)

November 17

"Album-Worthy"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
If everything you've ever thought or done was captured in a photo, how many of them would you save for all to see? Hear how God redeems all our snapshots--even those that don't seem "album-worthy."
(Genesis 35:3)

Lutheran Hour Radio Broadcasts

Lutheran Hour Ministries ~ God has called all laypeople to be powerful witnesses for Christ to their families and communities. At LHM, we strive to create convenient ways for you to connect with Jesus and share your faith with others. Our products are free, easy, and digital so that you can use them in your home, on-the-go, or wherever you may be.

In this time of uncertainty, don't find yourself feeling isolated. HE is always with you! Discover **FREE** resources for your entire household and continue enriching your faith even when we can't gather together. Visit lhm.org/covid-19 and explore all of the ways you can hear God's Word, equip yourself in outreach, and provide Gospel-centered activities for the kids!

Internet Resources:

Worship Anew is an online ministry put out by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne available to view on the Internet. The current week's program can be found on their homepage at Worshipanew.org/program.

Moments of Comfort is an online video ministry of Worship Anew which speaks to the sufferings we face in this life with the comforting message of God's Word.

They have a list of archived programs listed on the site.

Station City, State Freq. Day Time

WDLB	Marshfield, WI	1450 AM	Sun	8:00am
WRVM	Marshfield, WI	91.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Medford, WI	98.7 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Wausau, WI	101.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	550 AM	Sun	8:30am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	99.9 FM	Sun	8:30am
WAXX	Altoona, WI	104.5 FM	Sun	6:30am

You can also go on line at www...lhm.org or download the free App @ LHM.ORG/APPS

Issues, Etc. is a ten-hour weekly syndicated radio talk show and podcast. The program features expert guests, expansive topics, while extolling Christ. The program is hosted by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Jeff Schwarz.





**Have You Made Your
Appointment For
The Bethlehem—St John
2024 Church Directory
Pictures
More Information inside
With Dates and Instructions
For making your
Appointment!!!!**

**Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches
119415 Huckleberry Road
Edgar, Wisconsin 54426
715-352-2888**



*Where
the
Light
of
Jesus
Christ
Always
Shines*