

Services of Worship

Sundays

- Spencer 9am
- Riplinger 11am



Connect

December 2024

Spencer Congregation: Parish Office

210167 State Hwy 13

Spencer, WI 54479

715-659-5158

Email: sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

Riplinger Congregation:

W1776 2nd Avenue, Spencer

Website

www.stjohnsspencer.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/sjlSpencer

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/spencerst.johns/>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer>

Pastor Jeff Siegel

Email: sjlcpastor13@gmail.com

Cell: 715-615-2458

Office Hours:

Mondays, 2 to 5pm and by appointment

Minister of Faith Formation

Jenny Nieman

Email: jennyfaith659@gmail.com

Cell: 715-613-3636

Parish Secretary

Pam Hardrath

Wednesday 5:30 to 9 pm

sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

For immediate assistance, call or text Pam at 715-507-0549

Deadlines

- Weekly email: **Tuesdays 9am**
- Sunday announcements: **Wednesday 5pm**
- Monthly newsletter: **20th of each month**



More information found throughout the newsletter!
December 2, 6:30pm Last Monday Night Worship Service

December 4, 8pm. Mission Trip Planning Meeting.

December 11, 8pm. Social Media Group Meeting.

December 12, Faithful Friends Christmas Party.

December 18, 6:30pm, Cross Training and LIVE Christmas Party. 6pm optional supper.

December 22, Christmas Program, during the 9am worship service. NO JAM or Mom's Connect.

December 23, 6:30pm, Blue Christmas Service.

December 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. 2pm at Riplinger, 4pm and 6pm at Spencer.

December 25, 9am, Christmas Day Worship.

December 22 and 29, NO JAM or Mom's Connect.

December 25 and January 1, NO Cross Training, LIVE, or Pastor Ponderings.

NO COME Meal in December.

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Sundays, JAM and Mom's Connect at 10:15am

Tuesdays, Psalms Bible Study at 6:30pm.

Wednesdays, Parables Study at 9am (last day December 11)

Optional Meal at 6pm.

Cross Training and LIVE at 6:30pm.

Pondering with Pastor at 6:45pm

Thursdays, December 12, Men's Group at 6:30pm.

Welcome to December!

The month of Christmas preparations ☺.

I hope that you find good sales on your spending spree for Christmas presents! And more than that, I hope you find meaningful moments with those you love throughout the holiday season.

The Christmas story is full of love, surprises and the giving of gifts. In the secular hustle that comes with the cultural season, remember the root of it all, God lovingly giving us the gift of his beloved son Jesus. He was a gift that would then give us forgiveness of our sins by the cross and a share in his immortality from his heart of eternal love manifested in his resurrection!

How do you give the true gift of Christmas to others? You give them the gift of unconditional love, commitment to their wellbeing whether they deserve it or not, and of course, forgiveness of their wrongs against you. When you can do this with friend and foe alike, you truly reflect the God of love and have crossed from darkness to light, from living death to abundant life (please read I John 3:11-18 and I John 4:7-12). Until then, sadly, you walk in Herod's shoes with the smile of the Grinch and the heart of Mr. Scrooge. So look up and follow the star to the manger and be changed!

Sorry, a quick but true side story ... I just saw a falling star while driving home right before writing this. It seriously looked like it was going to land on my house! Maybe it was God's hint that I am being guided into loving my own family and not be such a grinch to them this year!?

In the Christmas story, the shepherds gave the holy family a surprise visit and the gift of speaking well about them to everyone around wherever they went. The magi later came and gave material gifts needed for their journey to Egypt and back. And they did what they could to protect them from Herod and reminded them of their calling before God.

Will you give these gifts to others this year? Will you give surprises, speak well of them, share material gifts for their journey in their life, protect them, and thank them for the way they bless you by living out their calling and gifts for the good of others? Will you welcome and bless strangers this Christmas season? In doing so, you may be passing a test of faith and living out the Christmas story (Heb. 13:1-2)!

Know that I thank God for YOU and want you to know that God loves you and so do I,

Pastor Jeff



Readings

December 1 & 2

First Sunday of Advent
Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

December 8

Second Sunday of Advent
Malachi 3:1-7
Philippians 1:2-11
Luke 3:1-14

December 15

Third Sunday of Advent
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 7:18-28

December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5:2-5
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

December 23

Blue Christmas

Luke 1:10-25
Matthew 1:18-23
Luke 1:26-38

December 24

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

Luke 2:1-20
Matthew 2:1-11

December 25

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10
John 1:1-14
Luke 2:8-20

December 29

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:22-40

WHY CHILDREN NEED TO GET TO CHURCH ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com by Carolyn C. Brown



In most families Christmas Eve and Day are busy, chaotic times. It is not easy to get a family that includes overly-excited children to church. But, it is worth the effort. Children (and their parents) actually need it.

To hear the story read or told in an important way on the “night it happened” - Children like hearing the story of their birth on their birthday and celebrating other big events on “the very day it happened.” So, the story which may have been acted out in a pageant and discussed in church school and read at home, feels more “real” when read on Christmas Eve or Day in the sanctuary.

To go to church at night– These days children are at church most often during the day. To go at night to a decorated, even candle-lit church is almost magical. When the family makes this an important part of Christmas – even in the middle of the chaos – just being there reminds children what is most important about Christmas.

To be with a crowd telling the story– Joining church friends reminds children that this story is something bigger than just their family traditions. They are part of a huge family of families who celebrate Jesus’ birth.

To sing the carols at least one more time– Not many families sing together at home and not many children’s groups sing religious carols any more. That means we need to be intentional about singing with the carols with the children. And, who would want to miss singing “Silent Night” in the Christmas Eve sanctuary while hugging your child bathed in candlelight!

To create a context in which to discover the truth about Santa– If Santa is all there is to Christmas Eve once children learn “the truth,” Christmas is just a greedy gift grab. But, if Christmas Eve has always circled around the story of Jesus told in the sanctuary the Christmas celebration gets richer.

To create memories- Worshiping on Christmas Eve or Day as a family creates over the years a treasure trove of memories. Some of them shine with wonder. Others make for eye-rolling stories that are retold every Christmas. These memories are precious for both the children as they mature and the parents as they age. Make worship together as a family a priority for your Christmas celebration.



SPENCER CEMETERY LAWN

MOWER NEEDED

Contact Allen Jicinsky 715-650-0715 if you are interested in mowing the cemetery lawn. This is a paid position and is open to anyone 16 years or older.



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL LINK

Here is a [link](#) from LCMC for an Advent Devotional. Paper copies can be found in the brochure rack.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 John 1:7: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. NIV



SOCIAL MEDIA GROUP MEETING

December 11, 8pm

People needed to help create a SPLASH on social media platforms. If you are interested or would like to know more, attend the meeting. Contact person: Nick Tomczik, 715-383-9083, sjlcmedia13@gmail.com



KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 22, 9am

There will be a short Christmas Program during the 9am worship service. Contact person: Jenny Nieman, 715-613-3636 or jennyfaith659@gmail.com



FAITHFUL FRIENDS CHRISTMAS PARTY, December 12, 10am

There is no cost for this event, a complimentary lunch is provided. You are encouraged to bring a wrapped inexpensive gift. It may be something nice or a silly white elephant type gift. Contact person: Gail Jicinsky, 715-650-0720, gjicinsky@gmail.com



BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP December 23, 6:30pm

A worship service for those struggling in various ways. Maybe loss of a loved one, job, relationship, depression, etc. Whatever has you feeling blue this holiday season, we invite you to our **Blue Christmas**. A place to mourn and reflect and share the hope of Jesus. You are welcome to bring a picture or token of what is causing you to struggle.



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY,

December 18, 6pm supper.

Please invite your friends and family. Everyone is invited. Contact person: Jenny Nieman, 715-613-3636 or jennyfaith659@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT

2 pm in Riplinger

4pm and 6pm is Spencer

CHRISTMAS DAY

9am in Spencer

Please sign up [here](#) or on the bulletin board if you can serve in worship in Spencer for any of the Christmas services. Thank you!

MORE INFORMATION

1 John 4:18: There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. CSB



DIRECTORY UPDATES

If you did not have photos taken but would like to order a directory, there are special envelopes in the brochure rack or please let Pam know, 715-507-0549 or sjlcoffice13@gmail.com. They can be purchased for \$20. Directories will not be delivered until the end of December.



If you are interested in singing at the 4pm service on Christmas Eve, please contact Charla Hagen at 715-207-1709 or Mary Seefeld at 715-613-4613.



COMMUNITY GIVING TREE

This Christmas season, we are once again supporting 7 families in need through our Giving Tree. Tags with gift suggestions are on the tree for members to take, purchase the gift and return it to the church on or before December 15. Your generosity will help bring joy and hope to less fortunate community members during this special time of year. Thank you for your support in making this holiday season brighter for others. Contact person: Lori Kops, 715-613-5399

**RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO PAM HARDRATH,
OR PLACE IN BLACK BASKET OUTSIDE THE OFFICE.**

Poinsettia Contribution Form

If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of poinsettias complete this form and return it to the church office by Dec. 17. Cost: \$10 each (6.5 inch pot). Poinsettias may be taken home after Dec. 25 on a first come, first serve basis.

Name of person(s) ordering _____

Number of Poinsettias _____

Reason (i.e. In memory of; in honor of; in celebration of, etc.)

MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

You who are young, be happy while you are young,
and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth. Ecclesiastes 11:9 NIV
Questions contact Jenny: jennyfaith659@gmail.com or 715-613-3636



Family time is important, so we encourage all of you as well as our JAM teachers to spend time with family this Christmas season so we will not have JAM classes on December 29. JAM will resume on January 5.



Christmas program is December 22, during 9 am worship, we will not have JAM on this Sunday.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY



Cross Training & LIVE: December 18, we'll be celebrating with a Christmas Party, friends and family are invited! Parents- your kids are only this age once, so to encourage families to take the time together for Christmas we will not be meeting December 25 or January 1. We'll resume January 8.



Districts Gathering: January 10-12. Currently we have 14 registered. Late additions may be added, but if youth are interested they must contact Jenny ASAP as space is limited.

Copyright photo from Districts website)



Wednesdays, 6pm. Wednesday Night Suppers Needed: Thank you to everyone who has provided meals from September through November, we truly appreciate your generosity. WOW! There are only 10

Wednesdays that need someone to provide a meal for the rest of the year!! If your family hasn't signed up yet, please sign up. You can pick the dates that work for you, you can do one of the duties or stay for all, it's your choice. Questions, talk with Jenny. Sign up [here](#) or on the bulletin board. The guidelines are [here](#) if you would like more information. Thank you!

MISSION TRIP—SCRANTON, PA, JULY 19-27, 2025

Questions: Please contact our Minister of Faith Formation Jenny Neiman jennyfaith659@gmail.com or 715-613-3636

2025 Mission Trip July 19 to 27. The trip is open to any youth currently in 8th grade-adults. The next planning meeting is December 4, 8 pm. Applications are on the bulletin board and a \$50 deposit is required to reserve your spot by December 12. Applications will be taken after this date, but we cannot guarantee there will be space so it is extremely important to register by December 12.

church and placed in Jenny's office. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jenny.



Club 52 Fundraiser the participants going on the mission trip will be sending out letters to family and friends asking for their support. If you would like to contribute to Club 52 there are Club 52 letters on the bulletin board, you can fill in a

youth's name or can leave it blank and it will go to the fund for the entire trip. Thank you for your support!



2025 Basket Raffle The basket raffle will begin on March 5. If you would like to donate a themed basket for the raffle the mission trip participants would be grateful! Baskets or items to add to a basket can be brought to



Save the Date! May 1 & 2, 2025 will be the Rummage Sale.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH / FOUNDATIONS



1. Complete the Foundations worksheets during 8th grade (Your Floor).
2. Complete 1 discipling session and after **EACH** Foundations worksheet is finished, schedule a follow up session.
3. LIVE the Foundations Wednesday nights in 9th & 10th grades. (Your Wall & Roof) Supper & social time at 6pm.
4. Meet with Pastor or Jenny about your relationship with Jesus after turning 16, (Your Key to Home!)
5. Affirmation of Faith service, spring of sophomore year (*or later if you*

want).

6. LEADERSHIP during LIVE & other settings during 11th & 12th grades fulfill your Affirmation of Faith by trying out leadership, assistant leadership & other forms of service & involvement during LIVE, Church & Community!

NOTE: Adults are welcome to try the Foundations worksheets as a refresher!

- Please share any logistical or situational needs so we can adapt this with you :).
- The whole process is to help youth become followers of Jesus & part of his church. Followers have a personal relationship with Jesus & thank him through serving others.

God loves you and so do I,
Pastor Jeff

GIFT CARDS FOR GIFT GIVING

SHOP WITH SCRIP OR RAISE RIGHT!



Turn everyday shopping into fundraising dollars



What is Scrip or Raise Right?

Raise Right is a term that means "substitute money". When you purchase through raise right, you are purchasing negotiable gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash. You can use scrip to make everyday purchases like food, clothing and other essentials, and with every purchase you earn revenue that we use to help out in the community.

How Does Scrip or Raise Right Generates Revenue for Us

The Great Lakes Center acts on our behalf as well as other nonprofit organizations to purchase large amounts of gift cards from grocery stores, department stores and other retailers. Because Great Lakes purchases with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. St. John's buys cards from the Great Lakes Center at a discount. This discount - from two to fifteen percent, or more - is our organization's revenue.

Scrip or Raise Right Is Shopping Cart Fun!

Raise Right is a popular fund raiser because families don't need to sell anything. Organization members produce revenue by making purchases *they would make anyway* AT NO EXTRA COST TO THEM! Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts even gasoline can be purchased with scrip. These cards make great gifts and can help you maintain a budget.

Here's How to Order Gift Cards

First, you can order gift cards by filling out the order form found in the brochure rack and place it in the Scrip mailbox. Please make checks payable to "St. John's".

Second, you can place an order by going on-line to www.raiseright.com. If you use this option, please pay by "Prestopay" on-line, credit card payment or make your check payable to St. John's. If you use this option, please print out your order summary and place it in the Scrip mailbox. **Enrollment code: C99A97F23L251** Orders will be placed on December 8th and December 15th to ensure delivery before Christmas.

HAPPY SHOPPING WITH RAISE RIGHT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!

COUNCIL POSITIONS

In preparation for congregation elections at the January Annual Meeting, we are in need of nominations for all of the positions listed below. Any confirmed member is eligible to serve. You may indicate your own interest or nominate other individuals from the congregation by writing the name of the person on the line to the left of the description. All names submitted will be contacted to secure a commitment and willingness to serve if elected.

Vice-Chair (2 years - 1 year as Vice chair followed by 1 year as Chairperson) - The first year of this position as vice chair has the primary responsibility of learning the topics and issues before taking over the second year as the chair (see above); preside at meetings in absence of the chair and serve as chair of the nomination committee.

Recording Secretary (1 year term) - Keep accurate minutes of meetings of the Congregation Council and of the congregation; keep an accurate record of the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions, and any updates or changes as they occur; maintain an accurate list of membership of all committees and boards; conduct correspondence as necessary.

Financial Secretary (1 year term) - Receive all incoming contributions; Deposit all contributions into the appropriate financial institution with deposits designated for specific budget categories; Order and provide members with individually numbered traceable envelopes; serve as chair of the counting committee.

Worship Director (1 year term) - works with the pastor and worship planning team to prepare and organize meaningful worship services that inspire, uplift, and encourage. This includes communications and coordination of the various elements of worship including training and scheduling of persons serving in worship; communion setup; technology; music; decorating and worship arts; helping with the planning and coordination of ecumenical worship services; and maintenance of musical instruments.

Beyond Our Doors Director (1 year term) - help members of the congregation understand and respond to needs within the community, the nation, and the world so that the congregation can demonstrate God's love and serve those in need. This includes support and coordination of the following: Community Outreach Meal for Everyone (COME), food pantry, giving tree, community care walk, Lutheran World Relief, World Hunger, and other local, national, and international needs as they arise.

Congregational Care Director (1 year term) – To facilitate and encourage activities which support and care for all members of our Congregation through supporting the development of their spiritual and physical well-being. Coordinate new member orientation, assist with visitor follow up, arrange visits with members of the congregation who are hospitalized, home bound or reside in long term care facilities.

Food, Fellowship and Fellowship Director Plan and organize ways to celebrate as a congregation together to build strong relationships. Organize church wide function and other functions as needed to promote and encourage the congregation to share their talents, food and blessings. Reach out beyond our doors to our community to involve them when possible.

Buildings and Grounds (1 year term) – working with volunteers, this position is responsible for the overall care, maintenance, and improvement of the church's facilities and grounds to ensure a safe and well-maintained facility

Cemetery Committee (1 person for a 3 year term) – responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the church cemetery.



If You Look For Me At Christmas

If you look for me at Christmas,
You won't need a special star.
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.
You may not be aware of Me,
Amid the celebrations.
You'll have to look beyond the stores,
And all the decorations.
But if you take a moment,
From your list of things to do,
And listen to your heart,
you'll find I'm waiting there for you.
You're the one I want to be with, You're
the reason that I came.
And you'll find Me in the stillness,
As I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus
by Valerie Kingsbury

lessonslearnedinlife.com

Faithful Friends



FAITHFUL FRIENDS

It was a small crowd that gathered for Game Day on November 14th, but I received several comments about how much fun was had, what a relaxing afternoon it was and that ‘we should do this again!’ So – we will! Watch for another Game Day opportunity in 2025.

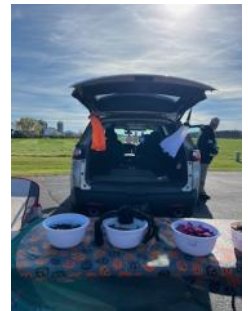
Next up is a Christmas Party on Thursday, December 12th. It has been great fun conspiring (oops, I mean planning) with Charla Hagen and Mary Seefeld to come up with a variety of fun activities for you to enjoy.

The festivities start at 10:00 and will include a complimentary lunch. The party will wrap up about 1:00.

There is no cost for this event but you are encouraged to bring a wrapped inexpensive gift. It may be something nice or a silly white elephant type gift. I am looking forward to sharing in the Christmas Spirit and hope you are as well. Please think about who you can invite to come too.

I also want to remind you to let me know what you would like to do in 2025. Send your ideas my way please!

Gail Jicinsky
Faithful Friends Coordinator
715-650-0720



Audrey Helsten
106469 Highway 153
Spencer, WI 54479

ADDRESSES

Grace Maines
Touch of Home
9787 Ives St.
Marshfield, WI 54449

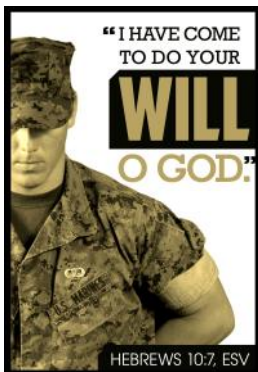
Muriel Oelrich
211763 Mystyc Ave
Spencer, WI 54479

Lois Block
402 Dehne Dr
Colby, WI 54421

Jim Schmutzler
N11245 Maple St
Spencer, WI 54479

Doris Seefeld
312 Dehne St
Colby, WI 54421

Pat Miller
N9934 Groveside Ave
Spencer, WI 54479



MILITARY ADDRESSES

SPC Gardner Leah
C Co 2/278 (T F Reaper)
APO, AE, 09330

SPC Schillinger Caden
C Co 2/278 (T F Reaper)
APO, AE, 09330



1 Donna Wenzel	15 Mary Fehrenbach
3 Malachi Anderson	Carson Weyer
Ralph Ottum	16 Zoreyna Hardrath
Harper Reynolds	17 Ellen Brinkman
4 Todd Ertl	18 Trinity Crain
Jeff Weyer	Jake Reynolds
6 Trevor Ackman	24 Jackson
7 Ila Meacham	25 Rich Wilke
Michael Neumann	26 Jane Meacham
9 Raylan Burns	27 Judine Block
13 Juliet Ertl	29 Christopher Schmidt
14 Jessica Ertl	30 Corrie Bauer
Derek Hendrickson	Vicki Dekarske
David Lucht	31 Randi Thompson

May the love of Christ shine through your marriage!

3 Doug & Jan Kops	48 years
11 Keith & Trish Porter	29 years
18 Darlene & Roger Shupe	48 years
30 Jordan & Heather Vogel	18 years
31 Derek & Nicole Buse	8 years

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please contact the office.



Our thoughts and prayers are with our the families and friends of our church family who made their way home to Jesus.
Linda Marchinek October 28 and
Mary Gaetz—November 13



PRAYER LIST

PRAYER

list...

Those with short term health concerns: Shaun Kornusky, Susan Howe, Karla Kilty, Mia Maddox, Dorene Newman, Jim Reckner, Dawn Wood.

Those with long term health concerns: Audrey Heldt, Elroy Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Sandy Lemmens, Bill Martens, Tammi Schiferl, Darrell Schillinger.

Those with cancer: Judi Andrew, Nikki Duranceau, Ruth Fleischman, Brenda Gardner, Wayne Hendrickson, Sue Johnson, Michelle Oelke, Kathy Pieper, Tom Steiner, Wayne Vaughn.

Those who are homebound or in care facilities: Lois Block, Grace Maines, Pat Miller, Muriel Oelrich, Doris Seefeld.

Those in the military: Leah Gardner, Caden Schillinger

If you or a member of your family are hospitalized and would like Pastor Jeff to know, please contact him via phone call or text message at 715-615-2458.

For any updates on these prayer requests or additional prayer concerns, please contact the office at sjlcoffice13@gmail.com or text/call Pam at 715-507-0549

SERVING IN WORSHIP



Please contact the office if you are available to serve in open spaces. Thank-you!
sjlcoffice13@gmail.com

If you would like to usher, do tech or sound, be a communion Assistant or acolyte, provide hospitality or read parts of the service, please let the [office](#) know.

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Greeter	Faye Lang	Robert Haas	Lori Kops	Gwen Thomas	Inez & Susan
Usher	Wayne Hagen	Jim Christopher-	Brad Helsten	Travis Hardrath	Milt Viergutz
Usher	Todd Brinkman	Harry Vogel	Keith Schmidt	Wayne Hempel	
Tech	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman	Adryan Schmidt	Kyler Hardrath	Teri Schorer
Sound	Camdyn Vogel	Jenny Nieman	Qwyntyn Schmidt	Ryan Hardrath	
Reader	Wayne Hagen	Jim Christopher-	Lori Kops	Gwen Schmidt	Milt Viergutz
Communion Assistant	Teri Schorer	Jule Vogel	Lori Helsten	Heather Vogel	
Acolyte	Mason Gilmore		Janika Helsten		Mason Gilmore
Basket Bearer	Mason Gilmore	Zoey Hardrath	Janika Helsten	Rori Gerber	Mason Gilmore
Hospitality	Penny Vinnedge	Heather Vogel	Lori Kops	Pam Hardrath	Jenny Nieman
Riplinger Reader	Dave Newman	Heidi McBride	Brenda Neman	Trish Porter	Joan Miller



Sermons Are Online
 YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer> or
www.stjohnsspencer.com

Attendance	Spencer 9am	Riplinger 11am	Spencer 6:30pm
October 6 & 7	53	6	13
October 13 & 14	95	22	7
October 20 & 21	74	Polka	13
October 27 & 28	61	12	15



December

1 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	2 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	3 4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study	4 9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training & LIVE 6:45pm Pondering with Pastor 8:00pm Mission Trip Planning Meeting	5 4:30pm Rising Dance Academy	6	7 10:00am VDC Ultreya
8 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:15am JAM & Mom's Connect 10:15am RaiseRight Card Sale 11:00am Worship at Riplinger, Communion	9 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office	10 4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study 6:30pm Spencer Council Meeting	11 9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training & LIVE 6:45pm Pondering with Pastor 8:00pm Social Media Group Meeting	12 10:00am Faithful Friends Christmas Party 4:30pm Rising Dance Academy 6:30pm Men's Group	13 6:00pm Troop 392 Lock In Overnight	14
15 9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:15am JAM & Mom's Connect 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	16 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office	17 4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study	18 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm Optional Supper 6:30pm Cross Training & LIVE 6:45pm Pondering with Pastor	19 4:30pm Rising Dance Academy	20	21
22 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	23 6:30pm Blue Christmas at Spencer	24 2:00pm Worship at Riplinger 4:00pm Worship at Spencer 6:00pm Worship at Spencer	25  9:00am Worship at Spencer	26	27	28
29 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	30 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	31	1 	2	3	4

SPENCER COUNCIL MINUTES SPENCER

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer Council Meeting Minutes, October 8, 2024, 6:30 pm. Approved on November 12, 2024

Attending: Pastor Jeff, Rudy Nieman, Pam Hardrath, Jenny Nieman, Nick Tomczik, Marsha Martens.

Absent: Teri Schorer, Mary Seefeld, Travis Hardrath
Call to order by Rudy Nieman at 6:30pm

Pastor shared servant leadership and how it is different in church than in the world.

God Sightings/Gratitude outside of church.

Recipe Book-Improvements

New mics for Pastor and Jenny and a new charger with batteries. The total cost of the bill including the service call is \$1,388.42

Discussed Back to Church Sunday and low attendance. Moving forward we will have a Blessings Sunday.

Nuts & Bolts

On October 29 at 6:30pm we will have a meeting to discuss and review council roles.

New Business:

MSA Marsha/Jenny. A motion to approve using \$117 in ARK funds to support Cindy Weilier's Pink Boxes of Hope from Lemongrass Spa. They will be given out at the patient's first breast cancer consultation.

Gail Jicinsky recommended collecting donations for hurricane victims. A box is under the mailboxes and donations will be delivered to Abby Bank to send to the victims.

Blue Christmas, December 23, 6:30pm at Spencer. Christmas Eve worship at 2pm at Riplinger, 4pm and 6pm at Spencer. Christmas Day, 9am at Spencer.

Giving Categories

Regular Offering

Building Fund

COME

Sunday School/ VBS

Club 52/Mission Trip

Raise the Roof 2025 Capital Campaign. The roof shingles do not have sand on them. Travis is reaching out to companies working on getting an estimate for the total cost and an evaluation of current condition along with a timeline. Owen Siegel will measure the roof with his drone to make this task easier.

There have been some concerns regarding Rising Dance Academy's use of the building. Jenny is addressing them with Rachel. Also, everyone should know they DO pay to use the building.

We will not be offering the COME Meal in December.
REPORTS:

PASTORAL MINISTRY: *Pastor Jeff*

4 Sunday 9AM Services & Messages at Spencer

4 Sunday 11AM Services & Messages at Riplinger

1 Sunday 10am Combined Congregation Service at Spencer

4 Sunday 6:30 PM Services

* *Sermon Videos & Sermon Scripts are posted weekly on our church website*

2 Weddings (Rehearsal & Ceremony)

4 Funerals

2 Hospital/Hospice Home visits

1 Member/Visitor Home visits

12 Shut-in visits

SERVING ALONGSIDE PEOPLE:

1 Men's Retreat

1 1st Communion Class

1 Routine Council Meeting - Facilitated New Approach (*Spencer*)

1 Worship Committee meeting

1 Mom's Group Meeting

1 Phone meeting with vice-chair

1 COME MEAL

2 Men's Group

3 Youth Group Suppers & 1 Foundations Introduction

On Opening Night

4 Bible Study Groups

Weekly collaboration with Jenny and Pam re: youth and church operations

IN THE WORKS:

Instagram or YouTube short videos for outreach or education

Silver Sunday Video Featuring Our Willing Shut-ins!

MISC. & OUTREACH:

1 LCMC Area Pastors Meeting

Fire Extinguisher Inspection (we are good to go per inspector!)

Secretary's Report (Pam Hardrath)

MSA Marsha/Jenny to approve September minutes as written. Minutes will be approved at the meeting rather than through email.

Treasurer Report (Teri Schorer)

Not available.

Next Meeting: 6:30pm

on November 12, 2024

Motion to Adjourn:

MSA Pam/Nick.

Lord's Prayer Closing

Respectfully submitted:
Pam Hardrath



SCRIP OR RAISE RIGHT ORDER FORM return on or before December 15

St. John's Gift Card Order Form
 A gift card program that supports donations to community families in need.

Name: _____
 Phone: _____

DINING OUT	Amt	X Qty	Total
Applebee's	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
Arby's	\$10.00		
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Chili's Grill & Bar	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
Dairy Queen	\$10.00		
Dunkin' Doughnuts	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
Hardee's	\$10.00		
Jimmy John's	\$25.00		
McDonald's	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Olive Garden	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Papa Murphy's Pizza	\$10.00		
Pizza Hut	\$10.00		
Pizza Ranch	\$25.00		
Red Robin	\$25.00		
Starbucks	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
SUBWAY	\$10.00		
	\$50.00		
Taco Bell	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Texas Roadhouse	\$25.00		
GAS STATIONS	Amt	X Qty	Total
Cenex	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Kwik Trip	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		

GROCERIES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Festival Foods	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
Pick 'N Save	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
ONLINE	Amt	X Qty	Total
Amazon.com	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Apple	\$15.00		
	\$25.00		
Shutterfly	\$25.00		
RETAIL STORES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Aeropostale	\$25.00		
American Eagle Outfitters	\$25.00		
Barnes & Noble Booksellers	\$5.00		
	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Bath & Body Works	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
Bed Bath & Beyond	\$25.00		
Best Buy	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$250.00		
Buckle	\$25.00		
Cabela's	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Claire's	\$10.00		
Dunham's Sports	\$25.00		
Game Stop	\$25.00		
Gap	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Great Clips	\$25.00		
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft	\$25.00		
Kohl's	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
L.L. Bean	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Land's End	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Lane Bryant	\$25.00		

RETAIL STORES	Amt	X Qty	Total
Lowe's	\$20.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Maurice's	\$20.00		
Menards	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Michael's	\$25.00		
Fleet Farm	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Old Navy	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Per Smart	\$25.00		
T.J. Maxx	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
Target	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
The Home Depot	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
Walmart/Sam's Club	\$10.00		
	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
CREDIT CARD	Amt	X Qty	Total
American Express	\$25.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$200.00		
Visa	\$25.00		
	\$50.00		
	\$100.00		
	\$250.00		
Total Amount Due			