

## Services of Worship

Sundays

- Spencer 9am
- Riplinger 11am

Mondays

- Spencer 6:30pm

## Spencer Congregation: Parish Office

210167 State Hwy 13

Spencer, WI 54479

715-659-5158

Email: [sjlcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcoffice13@gmail.com)

## Riplinger Congregation:

W1776 2nd Avenue, Spencer

## Website

[www.stjohnsspencer.com](http://www.stjohnsspencer.com)

## Facebook

[www.facebook.com/sjlCSpencer](http://www.facebook.com/sjlCSpencer)

## YouTube

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

## Pastor Jeff Siegel

Email: [sjlcpastor13@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com)

Cell: 715-613-3636

## Parish Secretary

Pam Hardrath

Wednesday 5:30 to 9 pm

[sjlcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcoffice13@gmail.com)

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

## Spencer Council Chair

Wayne Hagen 715-207-7040

## Deadlines

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



# Connect

## SEPTEMBER 2024



### More information throughout the newsletter!

**September 5:** Men's Group, 213462 State Highway 13, Spencer; 6:30pm

**September 8:** Scrip Card Sale Following Worship in Spencer

**September 10:** Psalms Bible Study Begins; 6:30pm

**September 10:** Spencer Council Meeting; 6:30pm

**September 11:** Parables Bible Study Begins; 9am

**September 11:** Cross Training & LIVE Parent and Youth Meeting; 6:30pm

**September 14:** Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build, Dorchester Bus Garage; 9am

**September 14:** Men's Retreat, 116744 Big Rapids Road, Stratford; 11am

**September 14:** Make Tie Blankets; 2pm

**September 15:** Back to Church and Blessings Sunday Joint Worship, Potluck and Games; 10am

**September 18:** Pastor's Ponderings Begins; 6:45pm

**September 22:** JAM Begins; 10:15am

**September 22:** Mom's Connect Begins; 10:15am

**September 24:** COME Meal; 5pm

**September 26:** First Communion Class; 6:30pm

**September 27:** 5th Quarter Event; After Spencer High School Varsity Game

**September 29:** First Communion Sunday; 9am

**September 29:** Following Worship, Pastor Jeff Will Leave for the LCMC Annual Conference and Return Late October 2.

Friends In Christ,

## Readings

### September 1 & 2

Deuteronomy 4:1-2;6-9

Ephesians 6:10-12

Mark 7:14-23

### September 8 & 9

Isaiah 35:4-7a

James 2:1-10; 14-18

Mark 7:31-37

### September 15 & 16 Joint Worship, 10am

*Back to Church*

*Backpack Blessing*

*Fall Sport Blessing*

Isaiah 50:4-10

James 3:1-12

Mark 9:14-29

### September 22 & 23

Jeremiah 11:18-20

James 3:13-4:10

Mark 9:30-37

### September 29 & 30

Numbers 11:4-6; 10-16; 24-29

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50



BLESSINGS TO YOU  
TODAY • AND •  
all year.  
AMEN

Where did the Summer go?

I hope you were able to fulfill your Summer plans!

And now we enter Fall. For many, returning to school and school-year routines is a focus during September. For others, perhaps harvesting crops or bringing gardens to a close is a focus.

With the Fall, come changes in the weather and in the color of the leaves! Sometimes, Fall becomes a time of reflection and/or big changes as seasons in our lives give way to new ones.

I like to think of it as a time to let go of what hinders me from pursuing a closer relationship with God and others. Just as there is beauty in the changing colors and as they fall in the wind, so too, God sees much beauty as we let go of what hinders our spiritual growth and relationships.

With that in mind, I invite you to look through all of the upcoming events, programs, and opportunities for spiritual growth that are happening within our church family. Please reflect on which ones you can participate in, which ones you could help make happen, and which ones you could invite people from outside the church to share in.

Details and contacts for these opportunities will be available in our newsletter, weekly emails, website <https://www.stjohnsspencer.com/> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/sjlcSpencer>. You can always contact the church office [sjlcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcoffice13@gmail.com) for additional information.

Oh, and be sure to check out our church's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer>. We are posting short videos giving glimpses into the fun that is being had by various groups within our church. The videos can be easily shared to others and perhaps help inspire you to get in on the action :).

God loves you and so do I,  
Pastor Jeff



# MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

Questions contact Jenny: [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com) or 715-613-3636



**September 15, 10am, Back to Church and Blessings Sunday,** We will celebrate the beginning of the school year for all

students returning to classes by having a few special blessings- Blessing of the Backpacks and Fall Sports Blessing in worship. Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks with them to worship and then come forward during worship for the blessing and a small gift to commemorate the occasion. The theme will be based on Matthew 28:19-20 "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Those involved in Fall Sports are encouraged to wear their jersey/sport uniform to worship.

**JAM Jesus & Me KICKOFF**  
September 22 at 10am



**September 22, 10:15 am. JAM kicks off!** We'll begin in the worship space with a couple of songs and then get kids to their respective classrooms. Parents are more than welcome to be a part of both of those

activities. Concerning registration forms- NEW this year registration forms can be filled out online, using this [link: https://forms.gle/keJrEMWsjx7r7qmc9](https://forms.gle/keJrEMWsjx7r7qmc9) or a paper copy can be found on the bulletin board.



**JAM Teachers/Leaders Needed** Adults or older youth are needed to serve as teachers/leaders for each age group, materials, and training

(as needed) will be provided. Anyone interested or wanting to know more information contact Jenny at 715-613-3636.



**September 26, 6:30 pm, First Communion Class** for all kids 1<sup>st</sup> grade and older. Parents and youth will attend this interactive class

together. Please sign up for this class by September 22 (contact Jenny [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com) or Pastor [sjlcpastor13@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcpastor13@gmail.com)) so we can be prepared with enough materials for everyone. First Communion Sunday will be September 29, 9 am.



**Parent Cue App-** cues you to have simple and meaningful faith-moments with your kids that will fit seamlessly into the daily

rhythm of your life. You can find articles such as "Setting and Keeping Technology Boundaries"; "6 Conversations to Have with Your Kid at the Start of the New School Year"; and you'll find Faith & Character resources- weekly activities and devotionals to guide kids at every phase to trust Jesus in a way that changes how they see God, themselves and the rest of the world. Connect <https://theparentcue.org/>

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them ....



DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7, NRSV





Cross Training is our Wednesday night Middle School time. During Cross Training, middle schoolers spend time digging deeper into faith topics, relating faith to their everyday life and forming relationships with a small group of peers and an adult. **Cross Training kicks off September 11 with a parent AND youth meeting.** You can register your

youth online <https://forms.gle/KDHWtaxCcfkRZH969>. Paper copies can also be found on the bulletin board.



LIVE is our Wednesday night youth time for High Schoolers to explore their faith deeper, ask questions, discover practical ways to live their faith 24/7 and form relationships with their peers and a few adults.

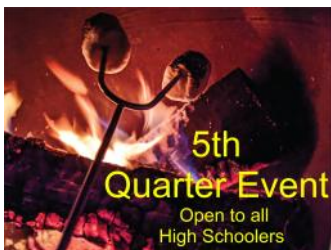
**We kick the year off on September 11 at 6:30 pm with a parent AND youth meeting.**



FOR TEENS

Small Group Leaders Needed! We want adults who are willing to spend time with middle or high

schoolers and invest their time and faith in them sharing the love of Jesus with them weekly. Job descriptions are on the bulletin board please contact Jenny 715-613-3636 or [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com) with questions.



5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Events are short parties following football games for high schoolers. The first one will be September 27 following the Spencer Varsity Football home

game. The party is open to all High schoolers and their friends. We'll have snacks, hot chocolate, bonfire, smores, hang out and maybe play some games. Don't miss out! The other dates are October 4 & October 18.

## —STAYING— CONNECTED

We are all very busy and it is sometimes very hard to keep up with all the things that are important to us. We have a few ways to stay connected and up to date with JAM, Cross Training & LIVE events and announcements- we have separate private Facebook group pages for JAM, Cross Training & LIVE, NEW this year for Cross Training & LIVE we also have the BAND app. You can also find info for each of these in the weekly email and on the church website.



Teens! We need your help! We would like to create a splash on YouTube, Instagram and Tik Tok. If you can

help out, please connect with Nick Tomczik, 715-383-9083



Check out RightNow Media, this free app has thousands of videos for every age. Take a look at the RightNow

Media resource on our [website](#) and sign up for a free account. Once you have your account created, you can download the app to your favorite mobile device. If you have questions about RightNow Media contact Jenny at [jennyfaith659@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfaith659@gmail.com).

Check it out! The myth of a perfect family can lead to disappointment, frustration and anger. There is no perfect family. But many teenage students struggle with expectations and authority from their parents. St. John's families, check out this resource from Mark Matlock. He gives practical and Biblical instruction to teens to help repair and build healthy relationship with their parents. Check it out here: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/97>




# UPCOMING EVENTS



**September 14, 11 A.M. to early evening.**

All men age 21 and up are invited! Bring a friend! We have a day full of worship, fun indoor and outdoor games (bags, shooting, disc golf) camp fire fellowship and delicious food planned. Where: Todd Brinkman's, 116744 Big Rapids Road, Stratford. This event is FREE and lunch, supper, snacks, and bottled water are provided. To register, contact Travis Hardrath 715-507-0548 or [tpkrh4@gmail.com](mailto:tpkrh4@gmail.com) by September 8.

 St. John's Lutheran Church  
210167 Hwy 13, Spencer



### Menu

- Baked Ziti
  - Dinner Rolls
  - Corn
  - Fruit Salad
  - Assorted Bars
- Free Community Meal for Everyone.

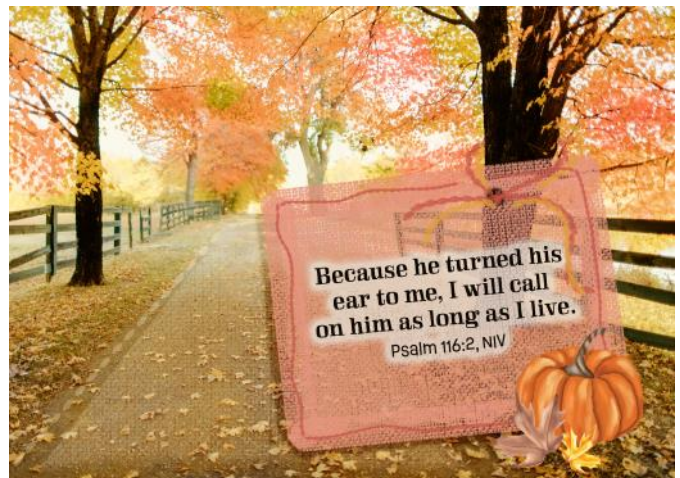
**September 14, 9am to 12:30pm.**



Faithful Friends is inviting everyone from St John's to serve our local Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) organization. "No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town" is SHP's tag line. Let's round up a big crew to help with the bed build event at 253 E Business Cty A, Dorchester. A free lunch will be provided for all volunteers. There is no

age minimum or maximum to help. Safety glasses and ear protection are provided. You may want to bring your own work gloves. Please do wear work clothes and closed toe shoes. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. The waiver can be found at <https://volunteer.shps.org/timeslots/RxgzG8wEew>

**For those unable to physically help with the bed build, join others to make tie blankets at church at 2pm to be donated to SHP.** More information can be found on the bulletin board or contact Gail Jicinsky 715-650-0720 or Pam Hardrath 705-507-0549.







## JOINT CHURCH DIRECTORY

Is it time to update your family picture? St. John's is offering that opportunity October 9 and 10, 1 to 8pm and October 11, 9am to 3pm.

**BONUS:** you receive a free 8x10 photo!

**Schedule your session** [https://book.appointment-plus.com/d0nm3xs6/?employee\\_id=7597](https://book.appointment-plus.com/d0nm3xs6/?employee_id=7597)

or use the QR code found on the posters at each church or call Pam after 5pm at 715-507-0549.

Sign up will also be available before and after worship on September 15.

Pricing sheets are on the Harmann Studios table at Spencer. Each family will receive a free 8x10 photo and directory.

**Volunteer to be a greeter** [here](#). No special training needed beforehand. Photographers will work with you through check-in process at the time of your shift and will bring all paperwork needed for check-in process.



## RaiseRight: Simply the right way to fundraise.

For many years, St. John's has used funds raised by buying gift cards from RaiseRight.

The revenue is used to support community members

in need. How can you help? Use a gift card to pay for your everyday shopping and spending year-round. Groceries, dining out, home improvement, and everything in between. It's the most convenient and effective way to fundraise because earning becomes part of your everyday life. Plus, gift cards are great for helping you to set and keep a weekly budget.

### Get started today!

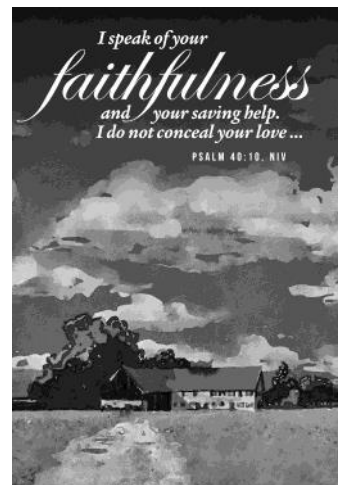
Create a free fundraising account on the RaiseRight mobile app or at RaiseRight.com by **clicking this link** and using enrollment code: **C99A97F23L251** or purchase gift cards on the 2nd Sunday of each month following worship. Have questions, contact: Pam Hardrath, 715-507-0549 or [sjlcoffice13@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcoffice13@gmail.com)



If you can help Travis Hardrath with some small building projects, please connect with him. 715-507-0548.



Christ the King Food Pantry is in desperate need of food to stock their shelves. If you can help out, please place your donation in the basket under the mailboxes and we will get them delivered. Thank you!





## *JOIN THE FUN!*

**September 15, 10am**  
**Joint Worship With Blessings**  
**Potluck (brats, hotdogs,**  
**beverages provided)**  
**YARD GAMES!**

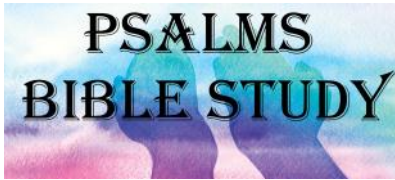
Invite your friends, family, neighbors and more.  
Bring a yard game to share if you can.





# UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Matthew 17:20 - Our faith can move mountains.



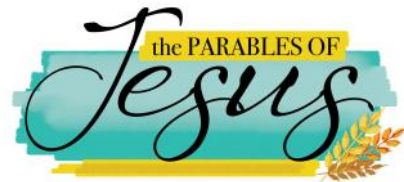
There are many ways to explain the book of Psalms... Dr Ralph F. Wilson explained the Psalms this way; "The Book of Psalms represents a rich tapestry of prayer and praise. Some Psalms reflect a texture of deep despair, others glow with a deep peace in the Lord's strength, still others bubble with an exuberant exaltation of the Most High God. They cover the range of human emotion and experience. What they all have in common is prayer, a reaching out to God from every imaginable experience."

Dr J. Vernon McGee has this to say: "Someone has said there are 126 human experiences recorded in the Psalms. It is the only book which contains every experience of a human being. Every thought, every impulse, every emotion that sweeps over the soul is recorded here. Perhaps that's why it always speaks to our hearts and finds a responsive chord wherever we turn. The book of Psalms is a hymnbook and a HIM book—it is all about Him. As you study it, that fact will become very clear."

Ambrose, one of the great saints of the church, said, "The Psalms are the voices of the church." Augustine said, "They are the epitome of the whole Scripture." Martin Luther said, "They are a little book for all saints." John Calvin said, "They are the anatomy of all parts of the soul."

We will begin our walk through the Book of Psalms, on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30pm. Come as you are and join in conversations or sit quietly and take it all in. There are no requirements, no "homework", no fees and most importantly no judgement! Bring your own Bible or one can be provided for you.

**Please contact me for further information or let me know you will be joining us. You can call or text me at 715-252-3422 or email me at [cynthia8592weiler@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia8592weiler@gmail.com).**



**"Parables" by John MacArthur on Wednesday mornings beginning in September.**

Jesus was a master storyteller, and the parables He told were ingeniously simple word pictures with profound spiritual lessons. Understanding the parables is a crucial matter for followers of Jesus. Jesus told parables so His people might comprehend His message about the kingdom of God clearly.

In this book, expositor and Bible commentator John MacArthur deftly explains how

- a parable is an ingeniously simple word picture illuminating a profound spiritual lesson;
- even the most detailed parables usually teach fairly straightforward, uncomplicated lessons; and
- in those cases where symbolism is more complex, Jesus almost always explains the symbolism for us.

MacArthur has spent a lifetime explaining the Word of God in clear and comprehensible terms. In *Parables*, he helps Christians understand the essential lessons contained in the most famous and influential short stories the world has ever known.

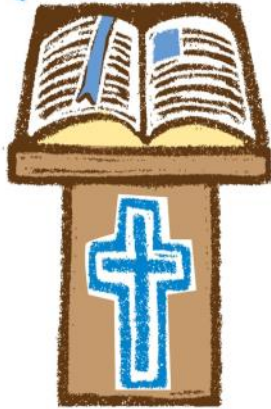
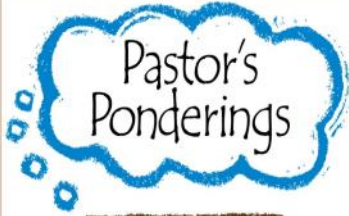
**This 10 week study will be held on Wednesdays at 9am beginning September 11. \$16 for the required chapter book; \$15 optional study guide Contact Gail Jicinsky 715-650-0720 to register and so enough books and optional study guides can be ordered.**





# UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Matthew 17:20 - Our faith can move mountains.



Begins Wednesday,  
September 18,  
6:45pm.

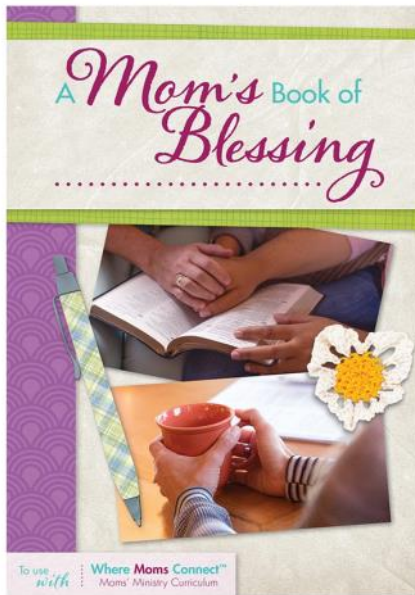
Enjoy a break from your stresses and a casual conversation around questions that are important to you. This relaxed gathering is open to anyone over 18 years old.

Contact Pastor for more information  
715-615-2458.

Every other Thursday at 6:30pm.  
September 5 & 19; October 3 at  
Travis Hardrath's, 213462 State Hwy  
13, Spencer. AND help set up for the  
Men's Retreat on September 12,  
6:30pm, at Todd Brinkman's, 116744  
Big Rapids Rd, Stratford.

Contact Travis 715-507-0548 for  
more information.

# MEN'S GROUP



## CALLING ALL MOMS!

Mom's Connect provides the perfect place for Moms to connect during JAM on Sundays at 10:15am and share life's blessings. We will begin meeting on September 22. The study guide is \$5. Please register with Heather Vogel 715-207-1499

Support and encouragement for the journey of mom hood.





## FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Faithful Friends are inviting everyone from St John's to serve our local Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) organization. "No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town" is SHP's tag line. Let's round up a big crew to help with a bed build event on Saturday,

September 14<sup>th</sup> at 253 E Business Cty A, Dorchester). Time of build is 9:00 until noon. A free lunch will be provided for all volunteers. In case you are not familiar with SHP, here is a description from their website: *"At SHP, we fully believe that a bed is a basic need for the proper physical, emotional and mental support that a child needs. When it was brought to our attention that the need for beds went far beyond our own neighborhoods, we stepped up and took initiative. [We're a national organization answering the call to a national problem.](#)"* "Sleep in Heavenly Peace is where it is today because of the passionate volunteers who believe in the mission of getting kids off the floor and into beds. In just a few hours of your time, you can make a direct, permanent impact in the quality of life for dozens, if not hundreds and maybe even thousands of kids in your community."

*"We have volunteer opportunities for everyone! No experience, no worries. Our builds are designed with everyone in mind. It's easy and it's fun. Our builds and deliveries provide a great opportunity for families, corporate team building and service projects. Our organization is dependent on and designed around community involvement. We provide an opportunity for the community to come together and embrace these children in need. Whether it's helping at a Build Day or on a Delivery Day, we have something for everyone. Not only are events fun, they are rewarding. A few hours of your time will mean the world to a child sleeping in an unfavorable condition." "We welcome people of all skill levels, there is a job for everyone, as we will have our trained team of volunteers on hand to help you through the process. Our events are perfect for the entire family."*



There is no age minimum or maximum to help at the bed build. Safety glasses and ear protection are provided. You may want to bring your own work gloves. Please do wear work clothes and closed toe shoes. A Liability Release Form is required to be completed by each participant prior to the Build event. The link to electronically complete this form for yourself or for your minor children can be found using this [link: https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/timeslots/RxgzG8wEew](https://volunteer.shpbeds.org/timeslots/RxgzG8wEew)

We also ask that you indicate your intent to participate in the Bed Build by adding your name and phone # to the sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board. Gail Jicinsky and/or Pam Hardrath will also be available to assist you with accessing the link to complete the Liability Release Form. If you have any questions, please contact one of the following: Jolene Schade, SHP Spencer Chapter Co-President 715-613-3140 or [joleen.schade@shpbeds.org](mailto:joleen.schade@shpbeds.org)

Gail Jicinsky, Faithful Friends Coordinator 715-650-0720 Pam Hardrath, St. John's Parish Secretary 715-507-0549.

**WHAT IF YOU WANT TO SUPPORT SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BUT ARE NOT PHYSICALLY ABLE TO HELP WITH THE BUILD EVENT?**

Then, join others at St John's fellowship hall on the same day as the Bed Build Event (Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>) at 2 p.m. and help tie fleece blankets which will then be donated to SHP to be given to the children who will be gifted with the new beds. No experience necessary! All materials to make the blankets will be provided. This work can be accomplished from a seated position. Please sign-up on the bulletin board if you plan to help tie blankets or contact Gail Jicinsky 715-650-0720 or Pam Hardrath, Parish Secretary 715-507-0549.







- |    |                    |                       |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2  | Mary Gaetz         | Brad Helsten          |
|    | Raelene Litzer     | 19 Reuben Hendrickson |
|    | Adryan Schmidt     | Janine Luepke         |
|    | Ashley Stroetz     | Dianne Vaughn         |
| 5  | Aaliyah Bezenyei   | 20 Dawn Pagenkopf     |
|    | Joan Miller        | Alan Seefeld          |
| 6  | Ashlyn Hendrickson | 21 Amanda Gronski     |
|    | Gracie Leezer      | Cora Weiler           |
| 8  | Zach Fleischman    | 23 Charla Hagen       |
| 10 | Brooke Cloud       | Lori Helsten          |
|    | Nolt Dommer        | Carri Weiler          |
|    | Aubree Fleischman  | 24 Jenelle Ertl       |
| 11 | Braedyn Gessert    | Audrey Helsten        |
| 13 | Darin Thompson     | 25 Muriel Oelrich     |
| 14 | Sadie Fleischman   | 26 Elisha Blanchard   |
| 15 | Aurora Heeg        | Travis Stroetz        |
|    | Laurence Herman    | 27 Tony Bauer         |
|    | Logan Reynolds     | 28 Evan Blanchard     |
|    | Cashton Vogel      | Samantha Soback       |
| 17 | Layla Manicke      | 29 Faye Lang          |
|    | David Seefeld      | Brenda Newman         |
| 18 | Tahneya Anderson   | Erica Schober         |
|    | Jaxon Bruss        | 30 Nicole Otero       |

**May the love of Christ shine through your marriage!**

- |    |                            |    |
|----|----------------------------|----|
| 4  | Dennis & Dawn Reckner      | 37 |
| 11 | Troy & Luci Hardrath       | 20 |
| 13 | Todd & Ellen Brinkman      | 39 |
| 14 | Ryan & DeAnn Griepentrog   | 28 |
| 17 | Joseph & Patty Matter      | 47 |
| 21 | Jonathon & Lacey Berres    | 11 |
| 22 | Keith & Lisa Kettleborough | 34 |
| 25 | David & Dawn Buse          | 42 |
|    | David & Amanda Knecht      | 20 |
| 28 | Keith & Danielle Schmidt   | 22 |
|    | Mike & Jewel Schuette      | 33 |



Congratulations  
Dan and Meghan Wilke!  
May you celebrate many  
years of wedded bliss!

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

*We mourn with you*



Our sympathies to the friends and family of Aubrey Wiernik who joined her heavenly Father on August 28 and Mandi Herron who joined her heavenly father on August 29.

# PRAYER list

**Prayers of Thanksgiving** for Shaun Kornusky who is flourishing with his new heart!

**Those with short term health concerns:** LaVilla Schilling, Cashton Vogel, Bob Haas, Wayne Hempel, Susan Howe, Mia Maddox, Dorene Newman, Jim Reckner, Adryan Schmidt

**Those with long term health concerns:** Audrey Heldt, Elroy Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Mandi Herron, Sandy

Lemmens, Bill Martens, Kris Ovans, Tammi Schiferl, Darrell Schilling.

**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, Linda Marchinek, Pat Miller, Muriel Oelrich, Doris Seefeld.

**If you or a member of your family are hospitalized,** please let Pastor Jeff know via phone call or text message at 715-615-2458..

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



**6:30pm Worship Servers Needed! Sign up [here!](#)**

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.

	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29	October 6
Greeter	Amanda Gronski	Jan Ammons	Faye Lang	Robert Haas	Lori Kops
Usher	Travis Hardrath	Milt Viergutz	Wayne Hagen	Jim Christopherson	Brad Helsten
Usher	Ryan Hardrath	Allen Jicinsky	Todd Brinkman	Harry Vogel	Keith Schmidt
Tech	Kyler Hardrath	Teri Schorer	Rachel Nieman	Tracey Ackman	Adryan Schmidt
Sound	Nathan Gronski	NEEDED	Jenny Nieman	Camdyn Vogel	Qwyntyn Schmidt
Reader	Glenda Fellenz	Gail Jicinsky	Wayne Hagen	Jim Christopherson	Lori Kops
Communion Assistant	Penni Cloud	Jenny Nieman	Teri Schorer	Jule Vogel	Lori Helsten
Acolyte	Brooklynn Stroetz	NEEDED	Brooklynn Stroetz	Cohley or Caelyn Vogel	Janika Helsten
Hospitality	Pam Hardrath	Potluck	Penny Vinnedge	Heather Vogel	Lori Kops
Riplinger Reader	Heidi McBride		Brenda Newman	Dave Newman	Joan Miller

**Sermons Are Online**


**YouTube**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsSpencer> or  
[www.stjohnsspencer.com](http://www.stjohnsspencer.com)

Attendance	Spencer 9am	Riplinger 11am	Spencer 6:30pm
July 7 & 8	57	18	15
July 14 & 15	61	15	24
July 21 & 22	50	16	13
July 28 & 29	46	26	19





# September

<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30pm Rising Dance Academy 5:30pm Secretary in Office</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Kaiser/Gilmore Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Kaiser/Gilmore Wedding</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:15am Scrip Card Sale 11:00am Worship at Riplinger, Communion</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30pm Psalms Bible Study 6:30pm Spencer Council Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:30pm Cross Training &amp; LIVE Parent &amp; Youth Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00am SHP Bed Build Dorchester 11:00am Men's Retreat 2:00pm Make Tie Blankets</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:00am Back to Church at Spencer; Backpack &amp; Fall Sport Blessing</p>	<p>16</p> <p>2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:30pm Cross Training &amp; LIVE 6:45pm Pastor's Ponderings</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Multerer/Loveland Rehearsal</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Multerer/Loveland Wedding</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Worship at Spencer 10:15am JAM 10:15am Mom's Connect 11:00am Worship at Riplinger</p>	<p>23</p> <p>2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:00pm YOGA 6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>24</p> <p><b>C.O.M.E. MEAL</b></p>  <p>4:30pm Rising Dance 5:00pm COME Meal 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:30pm Cross Training &amp; LIVE 6:45pm Pastor's Ponderings</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30pm First Communion Class Grades 1 to 5</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5th Quarter Event</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00am VDC Training</p>
<p>29</p> <p>LCMC Gathering/Pastors Away 9:00am Worship at Spencer, First Communion 10:15am JAM 10:15am Mom's Connect 11:00am Worship at Riplinger</p>	<p>30</p> <p>LCMC Gathering/Pastors Away 6:00pm YOGA 6:30pm Worship at Spencer</p>	<p>1</p> <p>LCMC Gathering/Pastors Away 4:30pm Rising Dance 6:30pm Psalms Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>LCMC Gathering/Pastors Away 9:00am Parables Bible Study 5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:30pm Cross Training &amp; LIVE</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30pm Men's Group</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5th Quarter Event</p>	<p>5</p>

# TREASURERS REPORT SPENCER

Saturday, August 10, 2024

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>				
410.010	Tithes & Offerings	9,878.01	66,246.85	140,000.00
410.011	Non-tithe Offerings General Fund	460.00	8,515.00	
410.050	Riplinger Reimbursements	1,140.77	4,388.91	6,000.00
441.060	Building use	650.00	2,260.00	1,250.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$12,128.78</b>	<b>\$81,410.76</b>	<b>\$147,250.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
<i>500.000 Wider Mission</i>				
500.010	Tithe	1,746.03	8,947.62	14,000.00
	<i>Total Wider Mission</i>	<i>\$1,746.03</i>	<i>\$8,947.62</i>	<i>14,000.00</i>
<i>510.000 Worship</i>				
510.030	Copyrights	0.00	564.00	750.00
510.050	Community Worship Services	0.00	817.50	850.00
510.070	Instrument maintenance/service	0.00	0.00	250.00
510.100	Worship Supplies	0.00	723.67	1,200.00
	<i>Total Worship</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$2,105.17</i>	<i>3,050.00</i>
510.020	Pulpit Supply	0.00	0.00	500.00
510.060	Worship - Music/Special Events	0.00	19.88	1,000.00
<i>520.000 Faith Development</i>				
520.010	Birth to 3	0.00	60.67	300.00
520.020	Children's Ministry (SS, VBS, GIFT, etc)	(185.00)	(285.00)	1,100.00
520.030	Middle School (Cross Training, Youth, etc)	0.00	27.78	500.00
520.040	High School (discipleship, chaperones, grads)	0.00	466.08	450.00
520.050	Adult Faith Formation	30.55	354.06	350.00
520.070	Library Resources	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<i>Total Faith Development</i>	<i>(\$154.45)</i>	<i>\$623.59</i>	<i>2,800.00</i>
520.080	Right Now Media	0.00	1,319.89	1,320.00
<i>540.000 Fellowship &amp; Care</i>				
540.010	Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	89.91	629.74	400.00
540.020	Care Resources	23.00	176.70	200.00
540.030	Events	0.00	0.00	200.00
	<i>Total Fellowship &amp; Care</i>	<i>\$112.91</i>	<i>\$806.44</i>	<i>800.00</i>
<i>560.000 Office</i>				
560.010	Office Supplies (shared)	84.50	491.16	1,400.00
560.020	Telephone & Internet (shared)	170.26	1,195.14	2,000.00
560.030	Postage (shared)	0.00	381.96	700.00
560.050	Copier Maintenance (shared)	214.27	1,486.29	2,000.00
560.060	Office Subscriptions, Software, Upgrades (shared)	227.20	1,375.07	1,800.00
	<i>Total Office</i>	<i>\$696.23</i>	<i>\$4,929.62</i>	<i>7,900.00</i>
<i>570.000 Administration</i>				
570.010	Offering Envelopes	0.00	0.00	250.00
570.020	Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	99.85	718.84	1,000.00
570.040	Insurance & Workman's Compensation	590.88	4,291.71	5,500.00
570.050	Mileage Reimbursement (shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
	<i>Total Administration</i>	<i>\$690.73</i>	<i>\$5,010.55</i>	<i>7,500.00</i>
<i>580.000 Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>				
580.020	Electricity	384.05	2,329.94	4,500.00
580.030	Natural Gas	32.17	1,552.28	2,500.00



St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI  
Treasurer's Report as of July 2024 for General Operating Fund

Saturday, August 10, 2024

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
580.040	Holding Tanks	0.00	370.00	750.00
580.050	Waste Disposal	316.70	1,192.30	1,250.00
580.065	Cleaning	12.64	300.80	500.00
580.070	Repairs & General Maintenance Expenses	0.00	573.87	1,500.00
580.080	Snow Removal	0.00	1,810.00	2,500.00
580.090	Lawn Mowing- Church	118.49	236.10	300.00
580.100	Cemetery Assoc Lawn Care	0.00	0.00	500.00
	<i>Total Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>	<i>\$864.05</i>	<i>\$8,365.29</i>	<i>14,300.00</i>
<i>590.000</i>	<i>Staff</i>			
590.110	Pastor Compensation	2,956.25	20,693.75	33,110.00
590.120	Housing Allowance (Pastor)	2,062.50	14,437.50	23,100.00
590.130	Books & Subscriptions (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	100.00
590.140	Continuing Education (Pastor-shared)	0.00	537.51	750.00
590.150	Medical Insurance & Pension (Pastor)	776.64	5,436.48	8,700.00
590.160	Social Security Allowance (Pastor)	383.93	2,687.51	4,300.00
590.170	Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor-shared)	265.00	265.00	750.00
590.210	FICA	140.35	1,117.27	2,600.00
590.230	Organist Payroll	0.00	0.00	2,600.00
590.240	Treasurer Payroll	150.00	1,050.00	1,800.00
590.250	Secretary Payroll (shared)	1,064.00	9,058.00	15,600.00
	<i>Total Staff</i>	<i>\$7,798.67</i>	<i>\$55,283.02</i>	<i>93,410.00</i>
590.280	Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	620.50	4,496.50	7,800.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,374.67</b>	<b>\$91,907.57</b>	<b>\$154,380.00</b>
	<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$245.89)</b>	<b>(\$10,496.81)</b>	<b>(\$7,130.00)</b>

St. John's Lutheran Church - Spencer WI  
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for July 2024

Saturday, August 10, 2024

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
<i>301.000</i>	<i>General Fund Balance</i>					
301.100	General Balance	42,448.38	12,128.78	12,374.67	0.00	42,202.49
<i>302.000</i>	<i>Special Funds Balance</i>					
302.001	ARK Balance	1,062.73	9.00	125.09	0.00	946.64
302.102	Globe Money Balance	314.35	49.64	0.00	0.00	363.99
302.120	Technology Balance	1,298.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,298.00
302.138	Bible Camp Balance	4,857.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,857.83
302.145	Mission Trip Balance	1,809.14	20.00	0.00	0.00	1,829.14
302.155	Kitchen Equipment Balance	306.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	306.00
302.180	COME Balance	1,736.52	10.00	22.67	0.00	1,723.85
302.800	Seminary Fund Balance	2,039.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,039.91
302.100	Memorial Gifts Balance	5,786.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,786.09
302.105	Building Fund Balance	56,101.37	670.00	0.00	0.00	56,771.37
303.000	Thrivent (Savings Acct) Balance	6,527.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,527.92
304.000	Sabbatical (Forward Fin.) Balance	1,386.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,386.29
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$125,674.53</b>	<b>\$12,887.42</b>	<b>\$12,522.43</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$126,039.52</b>

# SPENCER COUNCIL MINUTES

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer Council Meeting Minutes, August 13, 2024, 6:30 pm. Approved on August 29, 2024 via email.

Attending: Pastor Jeff, Jenny Nieman, Mary Seefeld, Travis Hardrath, Nick Tomczik, Marsha Martens. Guests: Randi Thompson, Todd Brinkman, Bruce Luepke

Absent: Wayne Hagen, Rudy Nieman

Call to order by Pastor Jeff at 6:30pm

Gratitude Time shared by all

Change in agenda and council meeting format was discussed

Moving the council in a new direction

Calling us back to what the Lord is calling us to do

The pastor should remain neutral

Coaching Time (Building Relationships and Sharing God's Love) led by Pastor Jeff

Shared "our purpose" from last month

Work together as a team (visual draft horses pulling something). Put into perspective what you are trying to accomplish, think about who it affects, collaborate with the affected council directors before bringing it up to the council. The end goal is working together, not blindsiding others.

Reminder to admit mistakes, readily forgive, evaluate what went well, what could be done differently

Spirit of trying something new out, if it doesn't work well, try something new. Envision a roundabout.

Testimony shared by Todd Brinkman

Celebrations shared by all. Share the joys of the Lord.

Past events: Fish and Hike; VBS; Youth Reunion; Faithful Friends trip; having lay leaders to share the message in Pastor's absence; COME attendance is growing

Upcoming events: Men's Retreat

Collaborations (Seek input from the team)

Use YouTube shorts to advertise upcoming events.

Add to invites welcome to all. For example, Hike and Fish is focused on JAM kids but anyone could have attended.

Announce upcoming events in worship regularly

Add pictures to Facebook after the events

Popcorn Ideas

Link on website and Facebook at the top of the page for website, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok

Nuts and Bolts (Plan the Ideas)

MSA Pastor, Jenny- Motion that Nick will work with youth to get Instagram and TikTok moving

MSA Marsha, Pam: Motion to remove the wall between the northeast classroom walls to create a large room with a proposed cost of no more than \$1000

MSA Nick, Jenny- Motion to create emails for directors through our Wix website provider for \$6 per month. Nick will provide training for any directors who are struggling with email communication. The emails can be auto forwarded to personal email.

Bruce Luepke shared mixing consoles for small and

medium churches and shared his opinion on room swaps presented by Gail Jicinsky last month.

Randi Thompson shared a proposal from Gail Jicinsky that Pastor will share with the council to look over before September meeting.

September 15, Back to Church and Blessings Sunday, joint worship at 10am. Brats and hotdogs left over from the reunion will be used and we will ask members to supply a dish to pass. Yard games (gaga ball, corn hole, volleyball/badminton) will be set up. MSA Pastor, Travis council will help set up, clean up, along with any members who would like to.

Director reports were not sent out prior to the meeting so they will not be included in these minutes.

REPORTS:

**PASTORAL MINISTRY: *Pastor Jeff***

4 Sunday 9AM Services & Messages at Spencer

4 Sunday 11AM Services & Messages at Riplinger

4 Sunday 6:30 PM Services

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

1 Presurgical visit

2 Hospital visits

2 premarital sessions

6 Member/Visitor Home visits

12 Shut-in visits

3 Staff Evaluation Evaluations

**SERVING ALONGSIDE PEOPLE:**

1 Routine Council Meeting (*Spencer*)

1 Quarterly Meeting (*Riplinger*)

1 Worship Committee meeting

1 Meeting re: Mom's Group

1 COME MEAL

1 Reunion Event for Twenty-somethings

1 Men's Group

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

**IN THE WORKS:**

Walking by Faith outings for lovers of the outdoors - now set for 8/14/24!

Instagram or YouTube short videos for outreach or education

**MISC. & OUTREACH:**

Many contacts and/or visits with members, visitors, and drop-ins

***Secretary's Report (Pam Hardrath)***

July minutes approved via email

***Treasurer Report (Teri Schorer)***

Incoming: \$12,128.78    Outgoing: \$12,374.67

Difference: -\$245.89

Next Meeting: 6:30pm on date September 10, 2024

Prayer and Lord's Prayer Closing led by Pastor Jeff.

Respectfully submitted: Pam Hardrath