Services of Worship

Sundays

- Spencer 9am
- Riplinger 11am

Mondays

Spencer 6:30pm

Spencer Congregation: Parish Office

210167 State Hwv 13 Spencer, WI 54479 715-659-5158

Email: silcoffice13@gmail.com

Riplinger Congregation:

W1776 2nd Avenue, Spencer

Website

www.stjohnsspencer.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/silcSpencer

YouTube

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

Pastor Jeff Siegel

Email: silcpastor13@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 silcoffice13@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 AUGUST 2024



More information throughout the newsletter!



August 11 & 12: Pastor on Vacation.

August 14: 10:15am. Faithful Friends Clark County Tour





August 14: 6pm JAM Pastor Jeff

August 15: 6:30pm Spencer Council Meeting



St. John's Lutheran Church

Menu

- Broasted Chicken
- Potato Salad
- Vegetable
- Banana or Lemon Cream Cake Free Community Meal for Everyone.



Pictures will be taken October 9, 10, 11 for an updated photo directory.





Readings August 4 & 5

Exodus 16:2-15 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:22-35

August 11 & 12

1 Kings 19:1-8 Psalm 34:1-9 Ephesians 4:17-5:2 John 6:35-51

August 18 & 19

Joshua 24:1-2a Ephesians 5:6-21 John 6:51-69

August 25 & 26

Isaiah 29:11-19 Ephesians 5:22-33 Mark 7:1-13

September 1 & 2

Deuteronomy 4:1-2;6-9 Ephesians 6:10-12 Mark 7:14-23



PASTOR JEFF'S CORNER

Friends in Christ,

The Gospel reading for the coming Sunday as I write is Mark 6, where Jesus walks on water! I don't know about you, but I have felt like I have been walking on water a lot this Spring and Summer, due to the abundance of rain making my yard like a wet sponge, chuckle.

The context was that they had just finished miraculously feeding the crowd of 5,000+ people from a small boy's lunch through the prayer of Jesus. The disciples were tired so he sent them ahead in a boat while he dismissed the crowd, and then went to my favorite type of place to pray, on a mountain! Seriously, I am not making this up, check out Mark 6:46!

While he was praying, a strong wind swept across the lake, causing the disciples to struggle and strain against the wind and the waves. They were already tired before feeding the 5,000+ and now this! It was now the fourth watch of the night, the deepest darkest part of the night. It shows us the Lord will come to us in our darkest hours!

Yet they did not see him as he was, but as their preconceived ideas made him out to be, a ghost! A ghost because Jesus couldn't walk on water because he was human, they thought. How many times do we miss God's help in our lives because of our preconceived ideas? Do we miss out on assistance when others reach out to us in the present because we see them as a ghost from their past, seeing only their past mistakes in word and deed?

They misunderstood the Lord because their hearts were hardened, Mark 6:52. The same is often true when we misunderstand each other, it is from a hardened view of each other, still living in a ghostly past. It shows us we often have something in common with those we are in conflict with, a hardened heart! Stunning!? What if we moved into the present by faith?

Then Jesus says, "Take courage, it is I. Do not be afraid." He acknowledges their fears, refocuses them on the present. What if we spoke tenderly to one another, showing empathy for their fears, especially if we have hurtful history with them? This requires humility, which comes from maturity. It involves acknowledging their feelings, as well as reminding them you are in the process of changing in the present, and do not desire to harm them, but to build them up!

Peace be with you. Be and share the peace of the Lord in a way that amazes others and opens them to who you are trying to be now!

Your Servant, Pastor Jeff

Building RelationshipsWays to LIVE our mission
Credit: Rachel Dansby Freeman

This hit home for me!

When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, you don't throw it away, you change the batteries.

When a person messes up and finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not, you help them change their batteries! Some need AA... Attention and Affection; Some need AAA... Attention, Affection and Acceptance; Some need C.. Compassion; Some need D.. Direction. And if they still don't seem to shine.. simply sit with them quietly and share your light.

MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

Questions contact Jenny: jennyfaith659@gmail.com or 715-613-3636

Vacation Bible School Thank you to everyone who helped with Wednesdays of VBS. Each night was filled with Bible story, games, crafts, dance and Bible songs. Those that helped: Mindy Burns, Jeremy Lewis, Krystle Tomczik, Rachel Nieman, Zoey Hardrath, Lydia Nieman, Rachael Schuette, Liam Pluger, Caelyn Vogel, Pastor Jeff, and Ryan Hardrath. Twenty- nine kids age 3 years-5 th grade attended each of the VBS nights.





JAM is for kids age 3 years old-5 th grade. We will group grades as needed for size of each class.

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 Nieman 715-613-3636.





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 will be on the bulletin board please contact Jenny 715-613-3636 or ieennyfaith659@gmail.com with questions.





HIKE & FISH BY FAITH at Hamus Park

August 14, 6 to 7:30pm

All youth 3 years old to grade 5 and their families are invited to join us for a short hike, singing, fishing and fun at Hamus Park.

Nightcrawlers for fishing and light snacks will be provided. Please bring a fishing pole if you'd like to fish.

Contact Pastor Jeff to register, 715-615-2458. Meet at church at 5:15pm if you'd like to car pool.





Faithful Friends is teaming up with Spencer's Sleep in Heavenly Peace Dorchester Bed Build. Join them and other people of all ages and abilities to help ensure No Kids Sleep On The Floor In Our Town. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. To sign up please follow this link. More

information can be

found on the bulletin board or contact Gail Jicinsky 715-650-0720 or Pam Hardrath 705-507-0549.

For those unable to physically help with the bed build, we will make tie blankets at church at 2pm.



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

Fee: \$25

Registration: 11 to 11:30 A.M.

Lunch, supper, snacks, bottled water included. To register, contact Travis Hardrath 715-507-

0548



September 15, 10am.

Joint worship, Back to Church Sunday, Backpack Blessing, Back to School Blessing and Fall Sports Blessing.



FAITHFUL FRIENDS



July 17th was a beautiful summer day for a Wausau road trip. Our first stop was Monk Botanical Gardens where we enjoyed a stroll thru the many blooms and viewed the interesting structures in a peaceful setting. After our delicious lunch at Blue Willow Café we strolled thru the art exhibits at Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum. The many featured landscape paintings were quite impressive. We stopped at Woodson History Center which is the current location of the Marathon County Historical Society. The building has an interesting history. Cyrus and Alice Yawkey built the home in 1914 for their daughter Leigh and her husband A.P. Woodson These types of services help treat a variety of mental health and human development needs including behavioral issues, ADHD, PTSD, substance use disorder, grief and loss, anger issues, depression, anxiety, trauma, relationship instability, confidence building, communication needs, increase self-esteem, and many other mental health concerns. until it was sold in 1954 to Immanuel Baptist Church. The Historical Society purchased the property in 1995. We could have spent a lot more time examining the many exhibits there and learning more about the history of Marathon County but it was soon time for our guided tour of the Yawkey House. This was the home of Cyrus and Alice Yawkey and we learned much about the architectural detail, daily life of the family and the impressive community involvement and impact the Yawkeys made to Wausau. Before returning to Spencer we stopped at Hawkeye Dairy in Abbotsford. Thank you Peggy Labrenze and Allen Jicinsky for driving us safely to our destinations and back home again!

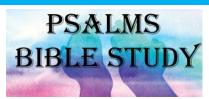
What's Next? Join us and invite your friends for another day trip adventure on Wednesday, August 14th. We leave Spencer at 10:15 and will enjoy a picnic lunch in the shelter at Longwood Park. Lunch provided by Martin's Market, Owen. Bottled water will be provided or bring your own preferred beverage. Enjoy the short stroll to view the river. After lunch we drive to

Strides Equestrian Therapeutic Center. "Horses nuzzle their way into our hearts and have a way of teaching us a lot about ourselves, about life, and even about God!" Strides' mission is to provide effective wellness services to meet individual needs and goals. They connect the clients' interests to help assist them with the goals they want to accomplish. They do this by building relationships, listening, supporting, and creating opportunities for a healthy life. These types of services help treat a variety of mental health and human development needs including behavioral issues, ADHD, PTSD, substance use disorder, grief and loss, anger issues, depression, anxiety, trauma, relationship instability, confidence building, communication needs, increase selfesteem, and many other mental health concerns. There is no charge for the tour of Strides but donations will be gathered for Freedom Ranch which is a non-profit organization that funds veteran services and community wellness events. Please wear closed toe shoes, dress for the weather (rain or shine). Restrooms on site. From Strides we head to The Highground Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville. This 155-acre park's mission is to "Honor, Educate and Heal" our Veterans, families and all who visit. The Park includes over a dozen tributes, a museum, gift shop, picnic areas and four miles of hiking trails. We will receive a guided tour and will take advantage of their golf carts for easiest accessibility. To top off our adventure, we will stop at The Rootbeer Stand in Loyal. To register for this trip, add your name to the poster on the church bulletin board or contact Gail Jicinsky (715-650-0720). There is a \$10 fee to cover the lunch expenses and The Highground Tour (cash or check payable to Gail Jicinsky). The Rootbeer Stand purchase will be on your own. The \$10 fee and Freedom Ranch donations will be collected on the day of the trip. A Liability Waiver Form is required by Strides and will be provided for participants to complete. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 11th.



UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Matthew 17:20 - Our faith can move mountains.

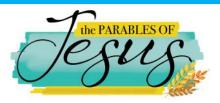


There are many ways to explain the book of Psalms... Dr Ralph F. Wilson explained the Psalms this way; "The Book of Psalms represents a rich tapestry of prayer and praise. Some Psalms reflect a texture of deep despair, others glow with a deep peace in the Lord's strength, still others bubble with an 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.



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

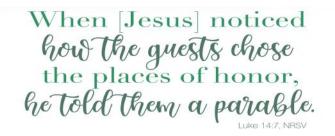
Jesus was a master storyteller, and the parables He told were ingeniously simple word pictures with profound spiritual lessons. Understanding the parables is a crucial matter for followers of Jesus. Jesus told parables so His people might comprehend His message about the kingdom of God clearly.

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.

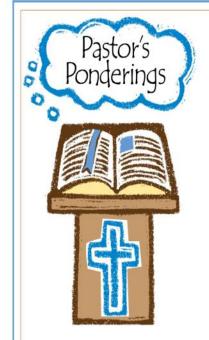
MacArthur has spent a lifetime explaining the Word of God in clear and comprehensible terms. In *Parables*, he helps Christians understand the essential lessons contained in the most famous and influential short stories the world has ever known.

This 10 week study will be held on Wednesdays at 9am beginning September 11.\$15 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.

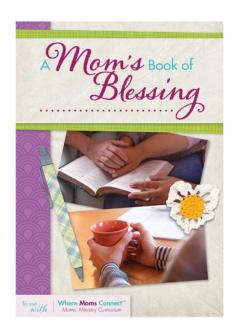


Begins Wednesday, September 18, 6:45pm.

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.

Every other Thursday at 6:30pm. August 8 at Todd Brinkman's, 116744 Big Rapids Rd, Stratford. August 22 at Travis Hardrath's, 213462 Hwy 13, Spencer.





CALLING ALL MOMS!

Mom's Connect provides the perfect place for Moms to connect during JAM (Sunday, 10:15a.m.) 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.

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Check out RightNow Media, this free app has thousands of videos for every age. You can search by a topic that you're interested in and there is a special Kids Channel too, then you know your kids are watching safe material. 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 lenny at jennyfaith659@gmail.com.





1	Wayne Hempel
2	Dorene Matter
3	Cindy Weiler
	Jasmine Ertl
	Andrew Hendrickson
4	John Meacham
	Jim Schmutzler
5	Doyl Lagran

- Paul Leezer Gloria Seefeld Abigail Wilke
- 10 Devyn Schmidt Trevor Ertl Inez Fosberg 11 Paige Lawrence
- 12 Amanda Schjoneman Daniel Wilke
- 14 Mary Ott-Kilty
- 15 Brody Hendrickson
- 16 Gail Jicinsky Jenny Leonhardt
- 17 Alec Cook Jerry Neumann
- 18 Frank Hendrickson

20	Ramsey Schjoneman
	Eliza Hendrickson
	Larry Hamus

- 21 Amy Schmidt Lois Block
- 23 Nancy Dietsche
- 24 Scott Shupe Eric Craft
- 25 Ryan Griepentrog
- 26 Roger Shupe
- 27 Wyatt Bauer
- 28 Rachel Newman Rhonda Weix Donna Hendrickson
- 31 Kyler Hardrath Leroy Burns

May the love of Christ shine through your marriage!

1 Rod & April Smazal	15
2 Jeremy & Ashley Vogel	16
5 Jayson & Vicki Dekarske	1
7 James & Audrey Hopfensperger	53
10 David & Maria Seefeld	6
13 Travis & Ashley Stroetz	8
14 David Kilty & Mary Ott-Kilty	6
19 Clark & Suzanne Reynolds	46
20 Jeff & Holly Weyer	19
21 Alan & Mary Seefeld	42
24 Thomas & Penny Vinnedge	22
26 Jim & Peggy Christopherson	35
27 Randy & Dorene Matter	36
31 Terry & Cheryl Gallion	39
Matthew & Amy Schmidt	22

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



Those with short term health concerns: Bob Haas, Susan Howe, Mia Maddox, Dorene Newman, Jim Reckner, Darrell Schillinger, Adryan Schmidt

Prayers for Karen Grieser's cousin, Larry Peterson who has been missing since May 25.

Those with long term health concerns: Audrey Heldt, Elroy Heldt, Audrey Helsten, Mandi Herron, Shaun Kornusky, Sandy Lemmens, Bill Martens, Kris Ovans, Tammi Schiferl, Darin Thompson.

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, LaVilla Schilling, 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.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the office. Prayers will remain on the prayer list for 2 months. Please notify the office if you would like to renew the request. Thank you.

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





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.

6:30pm Worship Servers Needed! Sign up <u>here</u>!

	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25	September 1
Greeter	Gwen	Inez Fosberg	Bob & Glenda	Ariana	Randi
	Thomas	Susan Howe	Fellenz	Krueger	Thompson
Usher	Keith	Milt	Harry	Jim	Alan
	Schmidt	Viergutz	Vogel	Christopherson	Seefeld
Usher	Wayne Hempel	Nathan Gronski	Todd Brinkman	Brad Helsten	NEEDED
Tech	Adryan Schmidt	Teri Schorer	Camdyn Vogel	Jenny Nieman	NEEDED
Sound	Qwyntyn Schmidt	Randi Thompson	Tracey Ackman	Rachel Nieman	NEEDED
Reader	Gwen	Milt	Glenda	Ashley	Mary
	Thomas	Viergutz	Fellenz	Stroetz	Seefeld
Communion	Heather	Amanda	Jule	Lori	Mary
Assistant	Vogel	Gronski	Vogel	Helsten	Seefeld
Acolyte	NEEDED	NEEDED	Brooklynn Stroetz	Janika Helsten	NEEDED
Hospitality	Danielle	Jenny	Jan	Ashley	Teri
	Schmidt	Nieman	Ammons	Stroetz	Schorer
Riplinger	Brenda	Trish	Joan	Ertl	Dave
Reader	Newman	Porter	Miller	Family	Newman

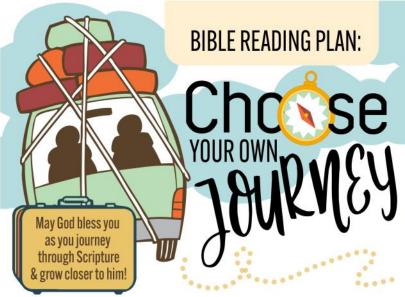


Attendance	Spencer 9am	Riplinger 11am	Spencer 6:30pm
June 2	59	38	6
Spencerama	82	n/a	23
June 16	35	11	20
June 23	77	16	27
June 30	42	8	19





28 Kuester Family Reunion at Riplinger 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	29 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	30	5:30pm Secretary in Office 6:00pm VBS	1	2 4:00pm Wilke/Gore Wedding	3
9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	5 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	6	7 5:00pm Rising Dance 5:30pm Secretary in Office	8 6:30pm Men's Group	9	10
11 Pastor on vacation 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	12 Pastor on vacation 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	13 5:45pm Worship Committee Meeting	14 10:15am Faithful Friends Event 5:00pm Rising Dance 6:00pm JAM Hike & Fish by Faith	15 6:30pm Spencer Council Meeting	16	17
18 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger, Communion	19 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	20	21 5:00pm Rising Dance	22 6:30pm Men's Group	23	24
25 9:00am Worship at Spencer 11:00am Worship at Riplinger	26 2:00pm Pastor Jeff in Office 6:30pm Worship at Spencer	27 C.O.M.E. MEAL 5:00pm COME Meal	5:00pm Rising Dance 5:30pm Secretary in Office	29	30	31 10:00am VDC Council Meeting





Head out on a month-long exploration through God's Word. Each day's quest comes with some options. Choose from a prayer, a parable, a gospel reading or an epistle reading. If you have more time or use this Bible Reading Plan more than once a day, read the rest of the passages too.

1. GRATITUDE

O Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 O Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

O Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. TRUST

OPrayer: Psalm 28:6-9 OGospel: Mark 5:21-43

3. PRAISE

O Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18 O Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

4. LOVE

O Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11

O Gospel: Mark 12:28-33

O Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

5. PRAYER

O Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13

O Parable: Luke 18:10-14

O Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20

6. OBEDIENCE

O Parable: Matthew 21:28-32

O Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

7. PATIENCE

O Parable: James 5:7-11 O Epistle: Romans 8:22-25

8. WISDOM

O Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9

O Parable: Matthew 7:24-27

O Epistle: James 3:13-18

9. CALLING

O Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8

O Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10

10. FORGIVENESS

O Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53

O Parable: Matthew 18:21-35

O Gospel: Luke 23:32-34

11. JOY

O Prayer: Psalm 16 O Parable: Luke 15:1-10

O Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

12. RESTORATION

O Prayer: Psalm 51:10-19

O Gospel: John 2:19-22

13. STEWARDSHIP

O Parable: Luke 12:16-21

O Gospel: Luke 21:1-4

O Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

14. HUMILITY

O Parable: Luke 14:7-14

O Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

15. REFUGE

O Prayer: Psalm 121

O Gospel: John 17:11-19

16. MIRACLES

O Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21

O Gospel: Mark 9:14-24

17. FRUITFULNESS

O Parable: Matthew 25:14-30

O Gospel: John 15:1-8 O Epistle: James 2:14-24

18. UNITY

O Prayer: John 17:20-23

O Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

19. PROVISION

O Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13

O Parable: John 10:1-18

O Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34

20. PEACE

O Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14 O Parable: Matthew 20:1-16

21. JUSTICE

O Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61

22. PERSISTENCE

O Prayer: James 5:13-18

O Parable: Luke 18:1-8

23. EVANGELISM

O Prayer: Acts 4:23-31

O Epistle: Romans 10:9-15

24. FAITHFULNESS

O Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13

O Parable: Matthew 21:18-22

25. SUFFERING

O Prayer: Job 19:21-27

O Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

26. GROWTH

O Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14

O Parable: Mark 4:26-29

27. MERCY

O Parable: Luke 10:30-37

O Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16

28. SALVATION

O Prayer: Acts 2:22-36

O Parable: Luke 16:19-31 O Gospel: John 3:16-17

29. READINESS

O Prayer: Luke 1:46-55

O Parable: Matthew 25:1-13

30. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

O Parable: Matthew 13:31-33

O Gospel: John 14:1-4

31. BLESSING

O Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27

O Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24



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TREASURERS REPORT SPENCER

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

Saturday, July	13, 2024			Page 1 of 2
Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Income		10,046.50	56,348.84	140,000.00
410.010	Tithes & Offerings	890.00	8,055.00	110,000.00
410.011	Non-tithe Officings General Fund	0.00	3,248.14	6,000.00
410.050	Riplinger Reimbursements	600.00	1,610.00	1,250.00
441.060	Building use	\$11,536.50	\$69,261.98	\$147,250.00
Expenses				
500.000	Wider Mission		12	
500.010	Tithe	0.00	7,201.59	14,000.00
	Total Wider Mission	\$0.00	\$7,201.59	14,000.00
510.000	Worship	0.00	564.00	750.00
510.030	Copyrights	0.00	564.00	750.00
510.050	Community Worship Services	817.50	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
	Total Worship	\$817.50	\$2,105.17	3,050.00
510.020	Pulpit Supply	0.00	0.00	500.00
510.060	Worship - Music/Special Events	0.00	19.88	1,000.00
520.000	Faith Development			
520.010	Birth to 3	0.00	60.67	300.00
520.020	Children's Ministry (SS, VBS, GIFT, etc)	(60.00)	(80.00)	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	54.40	323.51	350.00
520.070	Library Resources	0.00	0.00	100.00
02010.1	Total Faith Development	(\$5.60)	\$798.04	2,800.00
520.080	Right Now Media	0.00	1,319.89	1,320.00
540.000	Fellowship & Care			407000000000000000000000000000000000000
540.010	Hospitality & Kitchen Supplies	70.00	539.83	400.00
540.020	Care Resources	27.25	153.70	200.00
540.030	Events	0.00	0.00	200.00
	Total Fellowship & Care	\$97.25	\$693.53	800.00
560.000	Office		107.77	1 400 00
560.010	Office Supplies (shared)	5.75	406.66	1,400.00 2,000.00
560.020	Telephone & Internet (shared)	349.47	1,024.88	,
560.030	Postage (shared)	0.00	381.96	700.00
560.050	Copier Maintenance (shared)	267.00	1,272.02	2,000.00
560.060	Office Subscriptions, Software, Upgrades (shared)	0.00	1,147.87	1,800.00
	Total Office	\$622.22	\$4,233.39	7,900.00
570.000	Administration			223 8
570.010	Offering Envelopes	0.00	0.00	250.00
570.020	Vanco Electronic Giving Fees	126.05	618.99	1,000.00
570.040	Insurance & Workman's Compensation	1,181.76	3,700.83	5,500.00
570.050	Mileage Reimbursement (shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
	Total Administration	\$1,307.81	\$4,319.82	7,500.00
580.000	Buildings & Grounds			
580.020	Electricity	312.45	1,945.89	4,500.00
	120	84.79	1,520.11	2,500.00

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

Saturday, July	13, 2024			Page 2 of 2
Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
580.040	Holding Tanks	185.00	370.00	750.00
580.050	Waste Disposal	159.36	875.60	1,250.00
580.065	Cleaning	0.00	288.16	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	66.91	117.61	300.00
580.100	Cemetery Assoc Lawn Care	0.00	0.00	500.00
360.100	Total Buildings & Grounds	\$808.51	\$7,501.24	14,300.00
590.000	Staff			22 110 00
590.110	Pastor Compensation	2,956.25	17,737.50	33,110.00
590.120	Housing Allowance (Pastor)	2,062.50	12,375.00	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	4,659.84	8,700.00
590.160	Social Security Allowance (Pastor)	383.93	2,303.58	4,300.00
590.170	Synod & Official Meetings (Pastor-shared)	0.00	0.00	750.00
590.210	FICA	152.55	976.92	2,600.00
590.230	Organist Payroll	0.00	0.00	2,600.00
590.240	Treasurer Payroll	150.00	900.00	1,800.00
590.250	Secretary Payroll (shared)	1,053.50	7,994.00	15,600.00
	Total Staff	\$7,535.37	\$47,484.35	93,410.00
590.280	Minister of Faith Formation Payroll	790.50	3,876.00	7,800.00
5,01200	Total Expenses	\$11,973.56	\$79,552.90	\$154,380.00
	Difference	(\$437.06)	(\$10,290.92)	(\$7,130.00)

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

Saturday, July	y 13, 2024	•	384. 1 ,004.000	No.	m c (TT)	Page 1 of 1 End Balance
Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
301.000	General Fund Balance	10.000.44	11,536.50	11,973.56	(75.00)	42,408.38
301.100	General Balance	42,920.44	11,530.50	11,975.50	(75.55)	
302.000	Special Funds Balance	1 000 70	32.00	0.00	0.00	1,062.73
302.001	ARK Balance	1,030.73		0.00	0.00	314.35
302.102	Globe Money Balance	314.35	0.00		0.00	1,298.00
302.120	Technology Balance	1,278.00	20.00	0.00	27777	4,857.83
302,138	Bible Camp Balance	5,132.83	0.00	350.00	75.00	
302.145	Mission Trip Balance	2,575.87	816.70	1,583.43	0.00	1,809.14
302.155	Kitchen Equipment Balance	306.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	306.00
	COME Balance	2,323.65	79.00	666.13	0.00	1,736.52
302.180		2,039.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,039.91
302.800	Seminary Fund Balance		0.00	0.00	0.00	5,786.09
302.100	Memorial Gifts Balance	5,786.09	640.00	0.00	0.00	56,101.37
302.105	Building Fund Balance	55,461.37		0.00	0.00	6,527.92
303,000	Thrivent (Savings Acct) Balance	6,526.25	1.67	0.00	0.00	1,386.29
304.000	Sabbatical (Forward Fin.) Balance	1,386.12	0.17		\$0.00	\$125,634.53
Total		\$127,081.61	<u>\$13,126.04</u>	\$14,573.12	30.00	@1.23,034,35

SPENCER COUNCIL MINUTES

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer Council Meeting Minutes, June 11, 6:30 pm. Approved on July 9, 2024. Attending: Pastor Jeff, Wayne Hagen, Rudy Nieman; Teri Schorer, Pam Hardrath; Jenny Nieman, Mary Seefeld, Travis Hardrath, Lori Kops, Nick Tomczik, Marsha Martens. Guests: Amanda & Theresa Knecht, Allen Jicinsky Call to order by Wayne Hagen at 6:30pm

Opening prayer led by Pastor Jeff

New Business:

- Nadine Willett requested a transfer to Trinity Lutheran Church ELCA, Unity.
- College Scholarship Fund Proposal: Amanda feels scholarships should be available for members attending Christian colleges.
- Criteria would need to be developed and a proposal brought to the annual meeting.
- A lead person is needed, Teri and Amanda will develop a plan for fund availability and a procedure for disbursement to present at the July council meeting
- College Scholarship Fund Proposal will be an old business pending item on upcoming agendas and brought forth for discussion at the Annual Meeting.
- Church Property Discussion: To be good stewards, any church items belonging to the church being disposed of or given away should be discussed with the council chair before it is done. The council chair will decide if council approval is necessary.
- Mission Trip Fund Clarification: Funds are audited and tracked.
 Questions can be addressed by treasurer.
- Counting Committee Change: Fundraiser funds (currently Butter Braids) will be counted and deposited separately from general offerings.
- Allen contacted ATS Acoustic about purchasing sound barrier panels for the fellowship hall. The cost is \$2,500 for the 4 corners or roughly \$5,000 for the entire fellowship hall. A sound barrier panel is a dense sound-absorbing insulation covered with fabric in the color you choose. It is mounted to the surface. Travis will ask him to get a total cost which will be presented at the July meeting

Old Business

- Employee Review Policy was updated.
- A statement will be added to the Building Use Policy including a \$150 clean up fee. The fee will be a check or cash separate from the Building Use Fee and will be paid to the person who cleans up following events if it is not completed by the person renting the building. Fees are due 30 days prior for general building use rental. Council recognizes there are situations where it is unable to plan 30 days in advance.

REPORTS:

PASTORAL MINISTRY: Pastor Jeff

4 Sunday 9AM Services & Messages at Spencer

4 Sunday 11AM Services & Messages at Riplinger

3 Sunday 6:30 PM Services

* Sermon Videos $\underline{\&}$ Sermon Scripts are posted weekly on our church website

0 Hospital Visits (Way to Stay healthy y'all!)

1 pre-surgical communion visit

11 Shut-in Visits

0 Funeral/Graveside services (Stay'n' Alive!)

SERVING ALONGSIDE PEOPLE:

1 Routine Council Meeting (Spencer)

1 Worship Committee meeting

1 Meeting with Church Chair

1 COME MEAL

1 Spencer High School Graduation Ceremony (supporting youth & parents)

2 Youth Sessions Wed. pm

1 Church Rummage Sale

1 Men's Group

4 Bible Study Groups as a participant (Mon. pm &/or Wed. am) 1 Bible Study Group (Wed. pm)

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

IN THE WORKS:

Walking by Faith outings for lovers of the outdoors!

Instagram or YouTube short videos for outreach or education MISC. & OUTREACH:

Many contacts and/or visits with members, visitors, and drop-ins 1 LCMC pastor's meeting

Secretary's Report (Pam Hardrath)

Reviewed and approved through email prior to the meeting and included in the June newsletter.

Treasurers Report (Teri Schorer)

Income: \$8,842.00 Disbursements: \$11,382.88 Difference: -\$2540.88

Minister of Faith Formation (Jenny Nieman)

Vacation Bible School

- VBS this summer will be on the Wednesdays of July (July 10, 17, 24, 31). Theme is Under the Sea.
- There are 8 folks that have volunteered already.
- Posters and registration forms were mailed out to all families with kids 3 years old-5th grade. Extra posters were given to Inez Fosberg to hang out in the community when she hangs the COME posters.

Cross Training & LIVE

- The last Wednesday for this year was May 15, and many games and team building activities were played.
- Met with Pastor about the fall Foundations class Youth Reunion
- A youth reunion is being planned for July 27- invitations will be sent to the youth who graduated in 2005 and forward.
 Mission Trip 2024 to Lincoln, IL
- Participants leave June 16 and return on June 22; they will lead worship on June 23.

Worship (Mary Seefeld)

Worship Team Meeting Notes

Tuesday, June 11, 2024. Present: Mary Seefeld, Pastor Jeff, Marsha Martens, Gail Jicinsky, Gwen Thomas, Janine and

Bruce Luepke, and Charla Hagen. Mary opened the meeting with prayer.. Pastor Jeff gave worship review:

o June 2th – Riplinger had outdoor worship with potluck.

o June 9 th – Spencerama Worship in the City Park with Pastor doing opening and welcome.

☐ The message and music were presented by Breaking Chains who were paid \$550.00.

☐ There were approximately 80 people present. We noted members from our

congregation as several from Cross Fire and Trinity churches.

 \Box Offering of \$267.00 was counted by Bruce, Janine and Teri. It was also counted by the

counting committee on Monday morning.

☐ Discussed providing handout to attendees outlining our service options as well as offerings (Bible Studies, JAM, LIVE, Cross Training, VBS, etc.). We might also be able to include this information on the bulletin.

☐ Discussed doing the service at 9 am rather than 8:30 am since it appears we are done with our service with a gap in time before the next events begin in the park.

☐ The Worship team recommends bringing Breaking Chains back again in 2025 and will present to full council before going ahead with it.

☐ Discussed the possibility of working jointly with Cross Fire, Faith Journey and Trinity churches for 2025 Spencerama and will present this to them during Thanksgiving Community Service planning.

☐ If council approves, Mary will contact Janine and Bruce, who
have agreed to contact Breaking Chains to book them. They will
also talk with Deb at Village Office with proposal for 9 am service
rather than 8:30 am service.
o Pastor will be on vacation June $14 - 19$, 2024.
☐ Penny Cloud will preside over service on Sunday, June 16 th
☐ Rudy Nieman will preside over service on Monday, June 17th
o Polka Service/Silver Sunday observance is confirmed for Sunday,
October 20, 2024. Jenny N. has reserved the Polka band.
o Community Thanksgiving Service – Initial planning meeting with
area churches tentatively set for Monday, September 16 th at 6 pm.
o Banners were evaluated for relevance and condition.
☐ Several old tattered banners were discarded.
☐ Eliminated 1 banner from each side of church in hopes of drawing
more attention to stained glass windows that adorn our sanctuary.
□ Will continue to use the 2 long banners at the front of the church.

☐ One banner will now hang in the fellowship hall with several saved just for that location.

☐ Gail has updated the banner photo book/guide.
☐ Some discussion on whether full council decision is needed on banners or if Worship team can manage this.

o Review of Monday night services:

 \square May 27 – 18 in attendance

 \Box June 3 – 5 in attendance

 \Box June 10 - 10 in attendance

☐ Pastor feels this is still a good option for worship and that we should continue to hold this service.

Gwen would like ideas and participation for choosing décor for different seasons. We ran short on time but will schedule more time for discussion.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:45 pm

Building and Grounds (Travis Hardrath)

- Mitch came and repaired the kitchen furnace and the south janitor closet furnace.
- Water sample came back clear.

Food, Fellowship and Fun (Lori Kops)

20-year Celebration in 2025 survey in progress

Congregational Care (Marsha Martens)

Sympathy and thinking of you cards were sent out.

Faithful Friends Overview:

- April 9: Kickoff Event 12 attended, leftover food was donated to Wednesday Youth Meal
- April and May: Workout Wednesday, no participation
- May to June: Stepping On Course, 9 from St. John's, 4 from the community
- June 12: Hamus Park and Jurustic Park trip, 10 signed up Upcoming:
- July 17: Monk Botanical Gardens, Lunch at Blue Willow Café, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum
- August 14: Picnic and lunch at Longwood Park, Strides Equestrian Center Tour in Withee, Highground Visit in Neillsville.
- September ?: Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build and/or tie fleece blankets to donate to them
- October 17: Soup and Serve Day, soup, and cleaning projects at church with a soup lunch

Beyond Our Doors (Nick Tomczik)

No report unless we add the parade information here

Vice Chair (Rudy Nieman)

No additional report

Chair (Wayne Ĥagen)

No additional report

Next Meeting: 6:30pm on July 9

MSA Teri/Travis Motion to Adjourn.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer Closing led by Pastor Jeff

Respectfully submitted: Pam Hardrath

St. John's Lutheran Church, Spencer Council Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2024, 6:30 pm. Approved on July 28, 2024 via email.

Attending: Pastor Jeff, Wayne Hagen, Rudy Nieman; Pam Hardrath; Jenny Nieman, Mary Seefeld, Travis Hardrath, Nick Tomczik, Marsha Martens. Guests: Randi Thompson, Gail Jicinsky Absent: Teri Schorer, Wayne Hagen left early Call to order by Wayne Hagen at 6:30pm

Opening led by Pastor Jeff: Shared our Mission Statement and

New Business:

verses.

 Approve Minutes from last month -discuss clarifications. Changes were made.

Guiding Principles and definition of respect as it links to Bible

Gail Jicinsky:

- Update of Faithful Friends Discussed events through September 14. Proposed being a part of Sleep in Heavenly Peace's Dorchester Bed Build on September 14. Those who are unable to participate in bed build could help make tie blankets at church. MSA Pam/Nick motion to use up to \$150 in ARK funds to purchase material to make tie blankets.
- Bible Study Needs. Wednesday morning Bible study group has outgrown the classroom space available. Poor acoustics in Fellowship Hall make that space unusable. Sanctuary is out because you can't face each other, and tables are needed to spread out materials.

Asking permission to remove most of the furniture from the overflow area across from the kitchen (aka youth room). The one good sofa and few small side chairs could stay as they are in good condition.

If the youth group or Cross Training students need all that other furniture, it would fit into a classroom.

The Cross Training and/or high school youth would still be welcome to use the overflow space if preferred. Gail would have it set up with tables for bible study so she would expect the tables to stay put so she doesn't have to reset every week.

She will be out of town the last 2 weeks of August so would like an answer soon.

If approved, Travis would oversee the removal or moving of the furniture, whichever is decided upon.

Moving forward: Rudy, Travis, Wayne, and Al will meet to measure the spaces and compare. Travis has other ideas in mind, just waiting for responses from a few people. This mat ter will be discussed at the August council meeting.

- Nick Tomczik: Email address discussion. Information will be provided at the August meeting regarding pricing for council members to have an email address through our domain instead of using personal email addresses.
- A group of men in the congregation are planning a Men's Retreat on September 14 at Todd Brinkman's residence.
- Worship: Sanctuary sound quality needs Randi Thompson requested permission to have Soundworks Systems from Stevens Point evaluate the soundboard, speakers, mics, etc used during worship. Permission was granted upon the agreement that those serving in sound and tech, Travis, Rudy, the rest of the council and Pastor would be invited as well.
- Building and Grounds: Dumpsters- when GFL came July 9 to pick up recycling, they refused to empty it because there were pallets and other garbage in it. A note asking congregation members to help keep an eye out for personal use of dumpsters will be included in announcements for the next 3 weeks. Travis will contact GFI, to see if they have a locking system available if this continues to be a problem?
- Before anything that changes the infrastructure of the building happens, ie: decorating, rearranging wall decorations, remodeling, repairs, etc are being done, it is requested that the Buildings and Grounds Director be notified. There have been instances of repairs not being fully completed.
- Food, Fellowship and Fun: Lori Kops resigned as Food,

- Fellowship and Fun Director. For 4 weeks, an announcement will be included to see if anyone is interested.
- Because there is not a director, we will not have a 20-year anniversary celebration. 150 years is 4 years away so this may be a better option for a celebration.
- Announcements will include seeking a lead person for serving when funerals arise.
- Beyond our Doors: Nick requested reaching out to find someone to sell Scrip cards so we can continue to support the community with gift cards. It will be added to the announcements.
- Discussed how as a whole our council needs to focus on working better together and becoming a cohesive unit. Being solution-focused, thinking outside of the box, considering what is best for the congregation, and putting personal opinions and grievances aside. We are also going to work on spending the majority of our time in council meetings planning and implementing how to share space, grow and have fun. Old business would discuss what we have done and how it went. Old Business
- Employee Reviews Status Update. Pastor shared that 1 review is done, 1 is scheduled, and 1 is not scheduled. He also said he would be open to receiving his review anytime.
- Scholarship application (Supplied by Amanda) further discussion. The application she provided was shared.

REPORTS:

PASTORAL MINISTRY: Pastor Jeff

2 Sunday 9AM Services & Messages at Spencer

3 Sunday 11AM Services & Messages at Riplinger

2 Sunday 6:30 PM Services

* Sermon Videos <u>&</u> Sermon Scripts are posted weekly on our church website

1 presurgical visit

1 Hospital visit

1 graduation party for a youth

2 premarital sessions

12 Shut-in visits

3 Staff Evaluation Preparations & 12 Feedback Gathering Conversations

SERVING ALONGSIDE PEOPLE:

1 Faithful Friends Outing

1 Routine Council Meeting (Spencer)

1 Worship Committee meeting

1 Meeting with Church Chair

1 COME MEAL

1 Spencerama Worship Service

1 Spencerama Parade

2 Youth Services Focused On Their Mission

2 Men's Groups

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

IN THE WORKS:

Walking by Faith outings for lovers of the outdoors! 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)**

MSA Rudy/Travis. Motion to approve the June Council Meeting Minutes with discussed changes.

Treasurers Report (Teri Schorer)

Not submitted

Minister of Faith Formation (Jenny Nieman)

Vacation Bible School

 Will be held every Wednesday of July beginning at July 10, 6 pm

JAM

 Will begin preparing for the fall in the next week, looking for adults or older youth who will serve as leaders for classes.

Mission Trip 2024 to Lincoln, IL

Participants left June 16; Trip costs \$498 per person- of which

each youth participant pays \$250 out of pocket and the remainder is fundraised. According to the records that Jenny keeps track of the total paid out of pocket by youth/chaperones/fundraised: \$7,469.53.

Expenses

Registration	\$498.00
Rummage Sale Ad	\$150
Gas	\$437
Food	\$348.02
Wednesday 1/2 day	\$243
free time food	
community gift-	\$396.22
diapers	

\$6,554.24

 Participants returned June 22 and shared their experiences and God-sightings in worship on June 23. The trip was very impactful for each of the participants. They have been brainstorming ideas since the trip to stay connected with each other, fundraisers for the next trip and how to serve their communities this summer.

Youth Reunion

- July 27, 5 pm at church, a bounce house has been scheduled for the young children of the attendees. Activities planned so far: bonfire, outdoor games, and food.
- 150 invitations have been mailed to those who graduated in 2005-2024 and a Facebook event was created to get the word out.

Cross Training/Live

 Preparing for the fall by looking at the number of youth on our lists. Will be starting to connect with adult leaders soon ask their plans of returning in the fall. Will also be looking for new adult leaders to fill the spots of those who will not be serving in the fall.

Worship (Mary Seefeld)

Next meeting August 14, 5:45pm

Building and Grounds (Travis Hardrath)

Nothing further

Food, Fellowship and Fun (vacant)

Nothing further

Congregational Care (Marsha Martens)

 Sent out 1 birthday card, 3 thinking of you cards and 4 get well cards

Beyond Our Doors (Nick Tomczik)

- Spencerama Parade float, 24 participants from our congregation and 2 guests.
- \$400 in scrip cards sent out

Vice Chair (Rudy Nieman)

Nothing further

Chair (Wayne Hagen)

Nothing further

Next Meeting: 6:30pm on August 15.

MSA Marsha/Travis Motion to Adjourn.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer Closing led by Rudy Nieman.

Respectfully submitted: Pam Hardrath