# Mission Messenger

Living our faith. Enriching Lives





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This year our Lenten services will have us walking with the Old Testament prophet Jonah.

Like all human beings, Jonah is prone to wander from his Creator in favor of determining the shape of his future on his own. This temptation is especially powerful when God calls us to risky ventures, to travel to strange places and confronts things inside of us that prevent us from seeing one another as God does.

God meets us in those Lenten spaces when we find ourselves somewhere between trust and doubt, courage and fear, anger and empathy.

I hope you will join us Wednesday evenings during Lent for soup at 6:00pm and a short worship experience at 7:00pm where we will explore the connection between Jonah's story and our own.

All loose offering at the Wednesday evening services and soup suppers will be split between Lutheran World Relief and our Lunch Money Ministry. See page 4 of this newsletter for weekly themes, information about Lenten devotionals and how you can be part of contributing/serving soup suppers.

During Lent we will also be collecting toilet paper, tissues and feminine hygiene products to be distributed at the DPCO Food Pantry. Please place your donations on the baker's rack in the narthex. Thank you for supporting these ministries!



Together we can help fight hunger right here!

How can we help?

By providing funds to our local schools to payoff student lunch debt we can help assure no child goes hungry or faces the embarrassment of being told their account is behind. Check out the Lunch Boxes display to see our progress. 44 Lunch Boxes = 44 students with lunch for a week.

# **2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS**



Travis Schreurs President



Ryan Usiak Vice President



Jen Holtebeck Secretary



Mike McMullen Treasurer



Bill Lake Worship & Music



Lin Reichstadter Celebration & Outreach



Kim Ronsman Stewardship



Katie Schneekloth Faith Formation



Susan Van Asten Celebration & Outreach



Dick VandenHeuvel Property

N



























### Please join us for Lenten Services

February 22nd Ash Wednesday - 7:00pm

Worship with Holy Communion and the imposition of Ashes

Mar. 1st-Mar. 29th 7:00pm worship using Holden Evening Prayer

- <sup>↑</sup> Wed. March 8th "God in the Depths of Chaos"







Loose offering given during our Wednesday Lenten services will support

Lutheran World Relief and Lunch Money Ministries.



# WORSHIP

Praise Band



# **Lenten Devotional** available on the Welcome Desk or online

https://mcuserconten t.com/069b5179184c

4c673599fbcca/files/ daf7f4e7-dae4-b01d-

eb5e-

5f59c75b8786/Lenten \_Devotional.pdf



# YOUTH-full Joyful Noises

Upcoming Children's & Youth Choir Schedule:

## Children's Choir Rehearsals:

Mar. 5 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Mar. 5 Children's Choir sings at 10am service

Mar. 12 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Mar. 19 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Mar. 26 9:00-9:15 a.m.

Apr. 2 Palm Sunday! All choirs sing for 8 & 10am services.

### Youth Choir Rehearsals:

Mar. 5 8:45-9:00 a.m.

Mar. 12 No Rehearsal

Mar. 19 9:00-9:15 a.m. (with Children's Choir)

Mar. 26 9:00-9:15 a.m. (with Children's Choir)

Apr. 2 Palm Sunday! All choirs sing for 8 & 10am services.

# Please join us

for LENT Soup suppers at 6:00pm



- **Provided by Church Council**
- ⊕ Wed. March 8th Provided by Book Club/Christ Care/

Mission Sewing/Men in Mission and WOW

- **† Wed. March 15th Provided by Confirmation families**
- **† Wed. March 22nd Provided by Sunday School families**





If you, a loved one, or a friend would like to have prayers, please call Karen Cota at 920-632-2015 or email Carlyn Cooper at clpdkcm@twc.com. We will get your requests out to our faithful prayer warriors.

# **WORSHIP AT HOME**

<u>CALL TO WORSHIP</u> † Make the sign of the cross. Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. Amen.

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

#### **DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE PSALM 121**

11 lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?

2My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

3He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

4He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

5The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

6The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

7The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

8The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Read the appointed lesson for the day. Take time to reflect and discuss its message or journal your reflections. Let the Holy Spirit guide you.

#### **†MARCH 5TH - 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT**

#### John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

#### Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### †MARCH 12TH - 3RD Sunday in Lent

#### John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

#### Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### <sup>†</sup>MARCH 19TH - 4TH Sunday in Lent

#### John 4:5-42

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

#### Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# **WORSHIP AT HOME**

#### †MARCH 26TH - 5TH Sunday in Lent

#### John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

#### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

#### RAYERS

Pray for the church, the world, your prayer list, the people in the church directory and anything else that the Holy spirit places on your heart.

#### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### Offering

God calls us to give generously of our hearts and gifts. How will you live and give today? Visit www.stjohndepere.org to give online.

#### Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever, and ever. Amen.



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We will be packing care packages for our congregation's college students after worship on Wednesday, March 1. Please meet in the Great Room to send your best regards to your friends away at school!

On Sunday, April 2, we will be hosting the Palm Sunday breakfast. In early March, Sarah will be emailing a link to sign up to help. Come join in the delicious fun!

Confirmation Class for March
All 5th-8th grade students should plan to attend
Lenten services and complete 2 Sermon Notes each
month. 6th, 7th& 8th grade students- be sure you are
signing up to acolyte two times per quarter.
<a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CAEA728">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CAEA728</a>
AOFDO-readerushers

Spring Classes for 8th Grade - In preparation for affirming your faith, (Confirmation Day) 8th grade students will meet the following dates and times.

Sunday, March, 19th 5-8pm Class
(dinner will be provided)
Wed. April 12th, 6:30-7:30 Class
Wed. April 19th, 6:30-7:30 Class
Thur. May 4th 6:30pm rehearsal
Sun. May 7th 10:00am Confirmation service.



#### CROSSWAYS CAMP 2023

Confirmation students are expected to attend a Crossways Camp at least once during their time in our confirmation program. (But more is even better!!) Follow this link to register your child and be sure and let Pastor know the week your child is attending.

https://www.crosswayscamps.org/summer-camp \$200 scholarships toward a full week of camp are available. (Camperships also available for families and younger/older students attending a Crossways camp.) Students and families are eligible for scholarships every year you attend camp!

Contact Pastor Cindy for more information regarding scholarships.

CHRIST CARE

Christ Care meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month @10:00am at church. Questions?

Please call Carlyn at 920-983-0327

#### **MEN IN MISSION**

Men in Mission meets the 3rd
Wednesday of the month
@8:30am. On March 15th we
will be meeting at Julie's Cafe
and then back to church for
Bible study. If you have any
questions call
Dick Vanden Heuvel @
920-336-7157.



Thank you to all who joined us for BLAST. We made good neighbor bags and talked about Lent. Please join us for the next one on March 26th.



#### March, Sunday Morning Adult Opportunities

#### Sunday, March 5th 9:00-9:45am

Education: Jonah and Us - Intercepted and Redirected Join us in the Luther room for

conversation.

Other: Adult choir

#### Sunday, March 12th 9:00-9:45am

Education: Coffee and Conversation Gather in the narthex and catch up or meet your fellow St. John

peeps!

Other: Adult choir

#### Sunday, March 19th 9:00-9:45am

Education: Jonah and Us - Faithful and Unfinished.

Join us in the Luther room for conversation.

Other: Adult choir

#### Sunday, March 26th 9:00-9:45am

Education: BLAST Bible- Learning-And-Service-Together an intergenerational experience.

Other: No Adult choir today

## **MISSION & SERVICE**





#### Hi from Mission sewing,

If anyone is interested in joining us, we meet every Thursday from 9am until noon. Please keep us in mind when doing your spring cleaning. If you find any fabric you do not want or any gently used sheets, we will gladly take to them to make the quilts. The two pictures are of the Mission sewing group with the Syble Hopp students wearing the Thrivent action team T-shirts and the other is the Syble Hopp students working. Two of the Mission sewing ladies are missing Marsha and Judie. If you are unable to join us on Thursday's you could take a bag of squares home to sew and bring back. If you do come we have lots of laughs and treats. ~ Judy Beerntsen

Green Bay Conference
WELCA Spring Event
Saturday, April 22
St. John Lutheran, DePere
Contact person: Carol Grom
Phone or text at 920-370-8818
Email carolgrom@aol.com
8:30 Registration 9:00 Opening
Close with a service of healing and lunch
Cost: \$10 per person which includes morning
refreshments and lunch.
Registration form will be sent
to all Green Bay Conference
churches in mid-March.

#### **VALENTINE OUTREACH**

Members of the Women of the Church and the Christ Care group made and delivered 30 Valentine bags during the month of February. The bags were given to homebound members of St. John, the residents of St. Matthews Senior living in Wrightstown, and the Veterans at the Housing and Recovery program in Bellevue.

Contributions of homemade cookies, fruit and snacks were made by Phyllis Day, Lyn Reichstabler, Sherry Jensen, Marlene Bergum, Carlyn Cooper, Sandy Piette, Jan VandenHeuvel, Carol Grom and Helene Burmeister.

This is an annual outreach project and very much appreciated by the recipients.

#### Invitation to Land Acknowledgements Panel Discussion

Land Acknowledgements are a way to offer respect to the original inhabitants of this land and to honor the Indigenous people who cared for this land long before Europeans arrived on this continent.

The East Central Synod of Wisconsin (ECSW) is livestreaming a Land Acknowledgement Panel Discussion on Saturday, March 11 from 4 to 5:30 pm. The panel discussion will include the history of Land Acknowledgements, what they are and are not, and how they can build community.

St. John has arranged to join the livestream the Synod's Panel Discussion at our church. This is an excellent opportunity for us to learn what land acknowledgments are and how they recognize Indigenous Peoples who are the original stewards of the lands on which we know live. Please contact Carol Grom at 920-370-8818 by Wednesday, March 8th to reserve a spot.





Please hold in healing prayer, Larry
Armstrong, John Grom, Linda Johanek,
Shannon Johnson,
Jennifer Leonard, Sophia Meinel,
Charlotte Schink and Lee Schley.



Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family of Jerry Ranier who died in February.

# St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting - Tuesday, January 17, 2023 (for a complete copy of the minutes, please contact the office.)

Present: Pastor Cindy, Dick Vanden Heuvel, Travis Schreurs, Sean Day, Ryan Usiak, Jen Holtebeck, Mike McMullen, Bill Lake, Rick Johnson and Jim Johanek. Absent: None

The Scripture Selection from Matthew 4: 12-23 Approval of Consent Agenda and Discussion Agenda
New Business: Sanctuary Projection System: Sean Day reported on a proposed upgrade to the Projection
System in the Sanctuary. Sean Day explained the three options and fielded questions from the Council. After
discussion, Jen Holtebeck made a motion to accept the recommended proposal which will cost approximately
\$13,000.00; Second by Dick Vanden Heuvel. Motion carried. Work will commence when materials arrive.

**Annual Meeting Preparation:** President Schreurs reviewed the agenda and protocol for this Sunday's Annual Congregation meeting. He reviewed the agenda and briefly discussed the format for conducting the meeting.

#### Old Business

**Staffing/Personnel:** Pastor Cindy reported that Laurie McCartney's last day as Administrative Assistant at St. John was January 10. Kim Zimmermann has taken over those duties and will be working Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

**Vision for Ministry:** At the request of President Schreurs, this topic was tabled until the February Council meeting.

#### Ministry/Committee Reports:

Pastor's Report - November 2022 - January 2023 - Pastoral Care: I officiated at a funeral for a church member at the funeral home. Prior to Christmas I visited and shared Holy Communion with our shut ins. I also sent invitation postcards to Christmas services to members I have not seen at worship for a while as a simple way of reconnecting with them. I presided at 2 baptisms. Other: The Longest Night service was cancelled due to extremely cold temperatures. Christmas Eve services were well attended. We will begin a new liturgy that will be used until Lent begins. I have begun planning for Lenten services. In addition to teaching Confirmation class, I continue to lead the Men in Mission Bible Study and Sunday Adult Education. I attended Finance meetings (via zoom) and the in-person Trust Fund meeting. I also completed the Annual reviews for staff. Laurie McCartney's last day was January 10. St. John gave her flowers, a gift card and our thanks for her dedicated service these last 5 years.

Kim Zimmermann is now on board and doing well, learning the ins and outs of St. John. She is also meeting our members as they stop by to introduce themselves. Welcome Kim!

I continue to meet monthly with the seminary intern I am supervising. I completed and submitted her first evaluation for her internship to Wartburg Seminary. Mike and I very much enjoyed hosting the Council and Staff at our house in December and look forward to repeating the event next year. I want to take this opportunity to thank Sean Day, Rick Johnson and Jim Johanek for their service on Church Council. Your time and dedication to the ministry of St. John are deeply appreciated.

#### Ministry Liaison Reports:

Celebration & Outreach - Celebration & Outreach committee did not meet.

Faith Formation – Four year olds and 3rd grade students were presented with Bibles on November 6. Pastor Cindy led the 3rd grade Sunday school class to show them how to use their Bibles. On November 27, Sunday school students helped decorate the church for Christmas, and received Advent bags full of activities for celebrating at home. On Wednesday December 7, Confirmation students went caroling in the community. On Sunday December 18, the Sunday school students presented the Christmas program "Star of Wonder" at the 10:00 service. We welcome Lauren Nordwig as our new Middle School Ministries Coordinator!

**Property Management** - Security Luebke Roofing has been selected to correct the gutter, roofing and run-off problems with the roof. Work to commence at the end of March. Structural engineers will re-evaluate the GREAT Room floor sometime in March.

Stewardship - This committee did not meet.

Treasurer's Report - Total actual giving for the year was \$427,423.95 of which \$75,354.11 was designated giving. Expenses were \$398,555.02. Approximately \$70,000.00 was gifted and used for the stated improvements. Overall, operating expenses came in under budget. For the year we donated \$43,401.85 for benevolent causes. The amount given represents 12.7% of our FY2022 annual budget insuring that we exceeded the goal of tithing. By the end of 2022, our checking and savings accounts had a combined balance of \$85,252.70 which equates to approximately 3 months of reserves based on our budgeted expenses. We also invested \$30,000.00 in a short-term certificate of deposit. I should also mention that our Capital Improvement Fund balance is at \$124,171.58. These dollars have accumulated and are designated for facilities improvements. Much of this money will be used to offset the cost of upgrading our heating and air-conditioning systems. This work, which began in 2022, has not been completed or billed to us at this time.

**Trust Fund** – The Trust Fund Committee met on January 12, 2023. The Committee reviewed and discussed eight scholarship applications and recommended disbursements along with a review of the Trust Fund's financial performance through 2022 Q4. The Trust Fund would like other committees and congregation members to know that there are funds available for approved senior citizen and youth activities. The Trust Fund Committee's next meeting is April 13, 2023 at 5:45 p.m.

Worship & Music – The full Worship and Music team did not meet, however a small portion of the committee along with Travis Schreurs and Andrew Tobisch met with Northern Sound to obtain a proposal and estimate for replacing the current projector in the sanctuary with a laser projector, new video screen and adding capabilities of the unit to tie in with our current recording system. This proposal will be brought to the Council for discussion/possible approval on January 17.

Next Meeting: February 21, 2023 @7:00pm

Minutes submitted by: James V. Johanek Council Secretary

	St. John Lutheran  Treasurer's Report								
	Statement of Cash Flow January 31, 2023								
2023	Envelopes	Electronic Giving	Loose	Other	Total	Expenses	Actual Net +/-	Budget	Budget +,
January	\$12,226.00	\$14,095.79	\$178.00	\$1,800.74	\$28,300.53	\$27,537.47	\$763.06	\$29,114.25	-\$813.72
February								\$29,114.25	
March								\$29,114.25	
April								\$29,114.25	
May								\$29,114.25	
June								\$29,114.25	
July								\$29,114.25	
August								\$29,114.25	
September								\$29,114.25	
October								\$29,114.25	
November								\$29,114.25	
December								\$29,114.25	
2023Total	\$12,226.00	\$14,095.79	\$178.00	\$1,800.74	\$28,300.53	\$27,537.47	\$763.06	\$349,371.00	-\$813.72
MO. AVG	\$12,226.00	\$14,095.79	\$178.00	\$1,800.74	\$28,300.53	\$27,537.47	\$763.06	\$29,114.25	-\$813.72
	Nicolet Bank Checking Balance 01/31/23				\$ 1,465.53				
		Nicolet Bank Savings Balance 01/31/23			\$ 84,545.23				
	CD Matures 9/5/23				\$ 30,005.00				
	Designated Funds Balance 01/31/23				\$100,726.04				
	Bank Total 01/31/23				\$ 216,741.80				

10am - WORSHIP 9am - BLAST 5pm - 8th Grade 8am - WORSHIP 8am - WORSHIP 10am - WORSHIP 9am - Education 9am - Adult Choir 8am - WORSHIP 10am - WORSHIP - First 9am - Sunday School 9am - Coffee & Conversation 9am - Adult Choir 8am - WORSHIP - F. Comm. 10am - WORSHIP 9am - Education 9am - Adult Choir 26 Ŋ 26 19 12 27 20 စ 27 3 6:30pm - WoW Women's 7pm - Council Mtg 21 28 28 14 7pm - WORSHIP 6pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Soup Supper 7pm - WORSHIP 7pm - WORSHIP 6pm - Soup Supper 7pm - WORSHIP 6pm - Soup Supper 7pm - WORSHIP 6pm - Soup Supper 10am - Christ Care 8:30am - Men in Mission 10am - Christ Care Wed 22 29 œ 15 9am - Mission Sewing 9am - Mission Sewing 6pm - First Communion Class 9am - Mission Sewing 9am - Mission Sewing 9am - Mission Sewing 9am - Finance Mtg Т 30 23 9 2 ₹. <u>3</u> 24 10 ω 17 9am - DPCO Thrift Store 4:30pm - NEW Comm Shelter 25 \$

St. John Lutheran Church - De Pere

Mar 2023 (Central Time - Chicago)

St. John Lutheran
Church Council Members
Contact via: office@stjohndepere.org
or office ph (920) 336-1082
Travis Schreurs - President
Ryan Usiak - Vice President
Jen Holtebeck - Secretary
Mike McMullen - Treasurer
Kim Ronsman - Stewardship
Bill Lake - Worship & Music
Katie Schneekloth - Faith Formation
Dick VandenHeuvel - Property
Lin Reichstadter Celebration & Outreach
Susan Van Asten - Celebration & Outreach



Office Hours
8:00am - 3:00pm
Mon-Thurs.
Ph. 920-336-1082
office@stjohndepere.org
Rev. Cindy Warmbier-Meyer
pastorcindy@stjohndepere.org
Office Phone 336-1082 Ext. 103

WORSHIP TIMES
Sunday Service
8am & 10:00am Service
Wednesday Lent 7:00pm

Visit us on the web for weekly services!

www.stjohndepere.org and on

our new FB page

www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranDePere

and subscribe to our YouTube channel for

worship by following this link

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIi1cjR

deaDr3N5fYKeuRUw

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FOR THE APRIL ISSUE
March 20, 2023
Send submissions to
office@stjohndepere.org