

St. John Lutheran Church

May 2025

Worship times:

Sunday May 4th: 8:30 am

Sundays starting May 11th: 9:00 am

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Staff:

Bridge Pastor:

Diane Goulson

Office:

Amanda Schultz

Accounting:

Monica Braesch

Custodian:

Hanna Tharaldson

Choir Director:

Allison Vandermark

Organist:

Eileen Hanlon

Accompanist:

Eileen Hanlon

Important dates this month:

Meet and greet with our pastoral candidate April 30th

National day of prayer May 1st

Last day of Sunday school on May 4th

'kick off to summer' family event on May 4th

Special meeting and vote on May 4th

Mother's Day May 11th

Senior recognition Sunday on May 18th

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148 S Chestnut St. Belle Plaine MN 56011

Church office: 952-873-6492

email: office@stjohnbelleplaine.org

Unapproved St. John Lutheran Church Council Minutes

April 16, 2025

President Jim Eggers called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Pastor Ted began the meeting with a prayer.

Present:

X	Pastor Ted	X	Jim Eggers	X	Albert Koepp	X	Jaime Petersen
X	Jan Effinger	X	Chris Zellman	X	Dave Bungarden		Anne Herrmann
X	Deanne Fogarty	X	Tim Moonen	X	Steve Kelm	X	Rob Schultz
X	Jerold Stauffacher						

Approval of Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes from March 10th, 2025 Council Meeting. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes.

Council reviewed the minutes from March 26th, 2025 Special Meeting regarding the authorization of the sale of property. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes.

Council reviewed the minutes from April 14th, 2025 Special Meeting regarding the call committee's recommendation for a pastor. Minutes were amended, then motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the current agenda for April 14th, 2025.

Pastor Ted Report:

Pastor Ted talked with the council members about their role during the call process. He also confirmed notes and information he will have prepared to assist the next pastor.

Staff Reports:

A. Amanda's office report was reviewed by members of the council.

Treasurer's Reports:

A. Jerold's treasurer report was reviewed by the council. Overall, February revenue and expenses came in below budget; he is working with Amanda to get postcards send out with scannable QR codes for easier online giving from home.

B. A finance committee has been formed: Erin Carlson, Kim Koepp, Olivia Jeurissen, Monica Bratsch, and Jerold.

C. Katie Klaverkamp as agreed to join the audit committee.

Transfers:

No Transfers this month

Ongoing Business:

A. Call committee update: the call committee has selected a pastoral candidate. This candidate was reviewed with the council and as unanimously approved the call committee's recommendation. On Sunday, May 4th, the congregation will formally meet, the call committee will present their recommendation, and the congregation will vote.

B. Property task force update: The parsonage has been sold and the mortgage of the Hayden house has been paid off. They are currently seeking bids from surveying companies to formally combine the 3 lots into 1 large lot.

C. May 4th congregation party is being planned with help from many of the teams of the church.

D. The new finance committee has been established. Please see treasurer's note above.

E. We will have 1-2 chaperones attending camp Onomia in June. The pastor from Henderson will also be attending.

F. The council reviewed the Church Communication Coordinator job description. The position holds many responsibilities and we are grateful to Amanda for working to keep our church running smoothly.

G. A motion was made, seconded and carried to table the usage rates for facilities until next month when there is a formal document to review and discuss.

- H. In early May, the building and grounds committee will be replacing the office carpeting, painting, and updating the face of the desk. The screens in the sanctuary will also be replaced.
- I. The council reviewed the resignation of Anne Herrmann and accepted electronically to attempt to fill the vacancy. We are still looking for a new council member to fill this seat through January 2027.

New Business

- A. A business expo for Belle Plaine will be held in late April. While it is too late to pursue for this year, we will make a note for next year so we can be prepared to represent St. John in the community.
- B. A motion was made, seconded and carried to update the Church Directory
- C. Mike Nagel will work on putting together a Twins game outing for members of the congregation. With council support, he will get more details for us.
- D. In ELCA youth ministries, the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) is for youth in the congregation. They could establish their own roles/leadership within LYO and work with the council as well as plan their own activities. Anyone interested in joining can reach out to a member of the council with hopes of having a LYO established by fall.
- E. A mutual ministry team will be created once we have a new pastor. This team will be made up of call committee, council and congregational members. More details of this team will be established once a pastoral call has been accepted.

Ministry Team Updates:

- A. Children, youth and families team has been working hard to finish out the year, plan VBS, and get a 2025-2026 calendar established.
- B. The building, ground and technology team's report was reviewed with many improvements coming.
- C. The stewardship committee will be reviewed in May

Lastly, we would like to thank Pastor Ted for all of his work and contributions to St. John in his time here!!

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:08p.m. Meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deanne Fogarty,
Secretary

A special meeting will be held after the 8:30am service on May 4th, 2025
regarding the call of a new pastor.

****Please note there will only be ONE service at 8:30am****

We are asking for your attendance, please.

A quorum and vote will be necessary to make a final decision.

Voting will go as follows:

- 1. Vote yes or no to call on the candidate interviewed and selected**
- 2. If the vote is yes, the new pastor will officially join our congregation this summer**

****Please also note: there will be an opportunity to meet our pastoral candidate on April 30th from 7:00pm – 8:00pm at St. John's.**

Congratulations!

To our 8th grade students, who were confirmed at the end of April!

Faith Ann Adelman
Bryce Edward Balk
Maverick Christian Borresen
Mason Matthew Gerres
Weston Wade Hardel
Arianna Grace Hiles
Noelle Christine Hoff
Carter Thomas Kes
Breanne Noelle Konopacki
Lucy Ann Leonard
Anna Elizabeth Muehlenhardt
Mikayla Lynn Olson
Sydney Jean Paulson
Logan Robert Schultz
Cooper Benjamin Stier

Baylen Henry Anderson
Ava Marie Bommelyn
Emmaleah Rose Cecka
Bennett Michael Grant
Carson Ray Herrmann
Elijah Alex Hoff
Noah Rainn Hornaman
Emma Lynn Koepp
Jayden James Stier Koonst
Jackson Douglas Lillemoen
Hoyt Howard Nagorski
Jaxson Albert Overline
Colin Scott Sammons
Peyton Kiley Schwichtenberg
Colin Andrew Weldon

Rylan Cole Williamson

And to the 2025 graduating class recognized on May 18th:

Katey Borresen
Caleb Eppen
Noah Hanson
Violet Holtberg
Addison Kahle
Havyn Moonen
Lydia Sparby
Niklas Tharaldson
Carson Unze

Vayda Borresen
Zachary Fahey
Tristan Holbrook
Hunter Hornaman
Landry Kelm
Pierce Nagorski
Isabelle Stier
Katelyn Theis
Wyatt Vossen

Jack Buerkle
Jacob Fogarty
Austyn Holm
Kellen Hornaman
Ellie Martin
Joshua Sparby
Nolan Swenson
Teddy Traxler

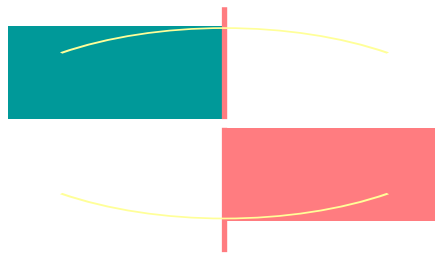
Warmer weather is upon us!

St. John's is truly such a wonderful community of faith filled followers! What a blessing to see so many at our Wednesday night Lent meals and service, as well as our Holy Week services.

In April, we did more than celebrate Easter though!! We also welcomed new members through baptism, confirmed 31 of our 8th grade students and we bid farewell to Pastor Ted. In May we look forward to our family fun day in the park and Senior recognition Sunday --- the quilting ladies have been busy working on the cherished quilts for our seniors and they are just simply amazing!

So as we start to see the grass looking a little greener and the trees a little fuller, let us be thankful for the changing of seasons and the renewal of life.

Blessings,
Amanda Schultz



Check it out:

- ⇒ New to our church bulletin will be a "Pray For Our Military" section. If your family (or friend) has an active-duty service member, please contact our church office or text Molly Moonen at 952-292-5125 to add them to our list. Completed list will be published June 1st.
- ⇒ Next month will be a big month of travel! The mission trip group will be heading to Niagara Falls, NY and our 7th grade students will be heading to Camp Onomia. Please pray for all our travelers.
- ⇒ The results of our Lent survey were as follows:
 - #1: "I like to hear about different people's faith journey"
 - #2: "I like the traditional Holden evening prayer service"
 - #3: "I enjoy the food and fellowship"
 - #4: "I like to sing with the cantors who lead us & listen to the music of the prayer service"
 - #5: "The worship service prepares me spiritually for the Easter season"

Faithful Stewardship in Action

At St. John's Lutheran Church, we are blessed with a vibrant community of dedicated members who devote their time and talents to various ministry teams, ensuring that our church thrives.

One way we can share our own time and talent is by serving with a ministry team. It is always great to have new perspectives and ideas to move forward!

Ministry teams at St. Johns:

- ~ Altar Guild
- ~Children's, Youth and Families
- ~Coffee time
- ~Facilities/Grounds & Technology
- ~Finance
- ~Funeral
- ~Outreach
- ~Stewardship
- ~Women of the ELCA
- ~Worship & Music

We are infinitely lucky to have the various ministry teams and all the wonderful people who give their time and talents so graciously. In 2025, we would love to build these teams as they work together to make St. John's the best that it can be. We are heading into the next few months with some uncertainties regarding the call for a new pastor, but one thing is for certain: we are only as strong as our members, and if we work together we will see a bright future with St. John.

And a great big 'Thank you'

Speaking of being faithful stewards, THANK YOU to all the 5th - 8th grade families who helped with the Wednesday night suppers! From providing baked goods, to preparing and serving the meal, to cleaning up, our families did an amazing job!! Thank you also to Andrea Adelman for dedicating her time with the meal prep to make our suppers successful!!

And thank YOU! It was wonderful to see so many people fill the gathering area enjoying good food and conversation week after week!

Last but certainly not least, THANK YOU to all the youth leaders! From pre-k to 8th grade, your dedication and commitment to help shape the youth of our church is greatly appreciated.



Notes for May 4th - one service at 8:30am

~ will be the last day of Sunday School for our pre-k thru 4th grade students.

~ special meeting and vote to follow service

~ FAMILY FUN at Prairie Park: (next to the bowling alley, or at St. John's if the weather is severe)

Kickball and yard games at the park!

We will also be serving hot dogs, chips, cookies, lemonade and water!

Come one, come all from 11am - 3pm



Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 11th, let us pray for:

Those with good mother relationships, may you treasure the time and love you share

Those who have lost their mothers, may you remember with gratitude the good times and the hard times you shared

Those who have never known a mother, may you be supported by spiritual mothers who can help fill the void of lost experiences

Those who long to be mothers, may God grant your longing heart comfort and may you be surrounded by those who love and support you

Those who have lost children, may you be comforted with God's love and find peace in the beautiful memories you have

Those who never carried a child, may you find strength and peace in the opportunities to nurture and love the children in your village

And to those who are mothers, whether biological, foster, adoptive or spiritual, may you feel loved and honored on Mother's Day and always.

(this prayer is adapted from salvation army - women's ministries)

Senior recognition Sunday is May 18th:

We would love to see our seniors arrive around 8:40am to be seated as a group. We also invite them to stay through coffee hour and receive one of the amazing quilts that the ladies have been working on the last few months.

May Birthdays

				1 Brody Curtiss Richard Laabs Tyler Shackle	2 Brayson Brabec	3 Lowell Hiles Craig Johnson Sam Karl Mark Koepp Diane Rasmussen Scott Stier Chris Zellman
4 Aiden Cooper Dave Einertson Amy Muehlenhardt Miranda Weckman	5 Trisha Anderson Ryan Creighton Stephen Wolf	6 Savannah Benner Nolan Jackels Caleb Tracy	7	8 Trevor Grengs Kelsey Gynild Lily Klaverkamp Truett Kluver Mitchell Koepp Matt Stier AleK Pederson	9 Hannah Skluzacek	10 Rachel Fahey Jack Fogarty Taylor Jaworski Tom Peterson Allie Theas
11 Abby Lawler Chris Moylan Jan Palmer	12 Domingo Rosario	13 Nolan Schroeder	14 Abby Bristlin Ciara Fahey Ryan Stier	15 Lila Aufderhar Adalena Berg Doug Crosby McKay Karl Mary Pesta Kyle Siemon	16 Leslie Bessel Adella Gruetz- macher Brian Vycital	17 Sadie Beckius Amy Eppen Kim Jaster Kim Thaemert
18 Aimee Ceeka Rex Ernst Kevin Koepp Loren Kruschke Andy Siemon	19 Matt Hanson Wyatt Hermann Lou Longhenry	20 Kendall Hutchison Molly Moonen Tim Moonen Nick Rosario	21 Ryan Maier Raquel Peterson Kiersten Skelley Jaxon Witt	22 Matt Fink Vincent Holberg Breanne Konopacki	23 Bryce Balk Daniel Cooper Aubrey Davis Andrea Gerres Ewald Gruetz- macher	24 Jayce Henke Preston Kes Beau Vincent
25 Katelyn Bauer Addison Kahle Weston Koepp Tyler Swanson	26 Trevor Carstens Ron Nagel	27 Mike Campbell Gavin Fogarty John Grannis Hazel Koepp Alexis Meyer	28	29 Cassie Koch Jerry Meger Maren Posthumus LaVonne Rickaby	30 Bruce Baker Cody Buszmann Manley Stier Katelyn Theis	31 Luann Bueckle Melanie Fogarty Havyn Moonen Greg Rosario McKenzie Schwichtenberg

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Church schedule

Thursday May 1st:

5:00pm TOPS

Sunday May 4th:

8:30am Worship Services

**special meeting and vote*

9:15am last day of Sunday School

11:00-3:00 kick off to summer event

Monday May 5th:

5:30pm Worship & Music committee meeting

6:00pm Personnel committee meeting

6:30pm Boy Scouts gather in the basement

Tuesday May 6th:

11:00am Lutheran Home service

1:00pm quilting

1:30pm Kingsway service

Wednesday May 7th:

6:00pm Worship

Thursday May 8th:

5:00pm TOPS

Sunday May 11th:

9:00am Worship service

Monday May 12th:

6:30pm Church Council meeting

6:30pm Boy Scouts gather in the basement

Tuesday May 13th:

1:00pm quilting

Thursday May 15th:

5:00pm TOPS

Sunday May 18th:

9:00am Worship service ~ senior recognition

Monday May 19th:

6:30pm Boy Scouts gather in the basement

Tuesday May 20th:

1:00 quilting

4:30pm Stewardship

Wednesday May 21st:

6:00pm Worship service

Thursday May 22nd:

5:00pm TOPS

Friday May 23rd:

Belle Plaine Senior graduation

Sunday May 25th:

9:00am Worship service

Monday May 26th: Memorial Day

6:30pm Boy Scouts gather in the basement

Wednesday May 28th:

6:00pm Worship Service

~ MAY SUNDAY SERVICE ASSISTANTS~

Alter guild: Sandy Schultz

May 4th ~ 8:30am

Greeters: Wesley Koepp

Lay Readers: Susie Steinhagen

Communion Assistants: Terry Siemon, Rob & Sandy Schultz

Ushers: James & John Karl, Tim Bristlin, Dan & Wyatt Herrmann
Dave, Sara & Mason Bungarden, Ron & Diane Rasmussen

May 11th ~ 9:00am

Greeters: Lowell & Laurie Hiles

Lay Readers: Angie Kahle

Communion Assistants: Sandi Wolpern, Abby Kubes, Dave Latzke

Ushers: James & John Karl, Tim Bristlin, Dan & Wyatt Herrman
Dave, Sara & Mason Bungarden, Ron & Diane Rasmussen

May 18th ~ 9:00am

Greeters: Brian & Jonathan Schmidt

Lay Readers: Jan Effinger

Communion Assistants: Peg Longhenry, Cindy Schoenbauer, Monica Braesch

Ushers: Brian, Jonathan and Jason Schmidt, Dave Latzke, Jerold Stauffacher
Scott & Tricia Ruud, Monica & Jason Braesch, Michael Nagel

May 25th ~ 9:00am

Greeters: Jerold & Kathi Stauffacher

Lay Readers: Albert Koepp

Communion Assistants: Albert Koepp, Greg & Linda Schwichtenberg

Ushers: Brian, Jonathan and Jason Schmidt, Dave Latzke, Jerold Stauffacher
Scott & Tricia Ruud, Monica & Jason Braesch, Michael Nagel



5/4 ~ Mission Trip

5/11 ~ Worship & music to host in celebration of all women

5/18 ~ Juniors to host in celebration of seniors

5/25 ~ Memorial Day weekend - no coffee hour

****THANK YOU** to the wonderful families who chipped in and provided our coffee hour treats!!**

All Funds: Statement of Activities Previ-		
March 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025	2025	2024
Revenues		
Total Offering Revenues	34,678.92	44,657.81
Total Other Fund Raising Projects	0.00	4,435.00
Total Sale of Books & Other Religious	0.00	1,475.00
Total Major Revenues	0.00	5,910.00
Product Revenues		
Total Product Revenues	0.00	0.00
Total Other Revenue	2,477.00	3,375.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	2,477.00	3,375.00
Total Revenues	37,365.90	53,532.31
Total Cost of Product Sales	734.62	2,157.10
Total Benevolence Expense	3,355.35	1,850.00
Total Church/Grounds Maintenance Ex-	3,058.17	41,312.94
Total Education Expense - Youth	2,990.78	11,563.93
Total Insurance	0.00	1,528.81
Total Office Expenses	1,304.83	1,176.78
Other Expenses	96.62	401.18
Total Other Expenses	0.00	0.00
Total Professional Fees	0.00	0.00
Total Staff Benefits	67.04	2,626.89
Total Staff Salaries	11,874.26	16,488.01
Total Utilities	2,575.32	2,865.99
Total Worship Music & Arts Expenses	239.25	301.26
Total Expenditures	27,135.62	80,684.18
Net Revenue	23,878.25	-23,351.43
Property Improvement / Building Fund	3/1/2025-3/31/2025	3/1/2024-3/31/2024
Income (Donations, Rent, Investments)	\$7,447.33	\$10,253.21
Total Expenditures	\$1,740.62	\$41,237.98
Interest Expense	0	\$0.00
Net Receipts / Disbursements	\$5,706.71	(\$30,984.77)
Offerings	General Fund	Property Improvement
March 1 - March 8, 2025	\$7,174.29	\$650.50
March 9 - March 15, 2025	\$7,426.52	\$701.38
March 16 - March 22, 2025	\$4,930.18	\$2,543.79
March 23 - March 31, 2025	\$9,849.86	\$1,061.66

There are many ways to give back, one way is giving back financially.

To schedule a *recurring electronic contribution* via Vanco:

Visit our website: www.stjohnbelleplaine.org

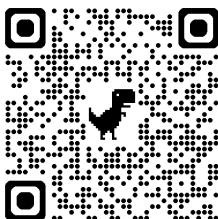
Select the green 'online giving'

Scroll to the bottom and select 'get started today'

Select where you would like the funds allocated

Follow the prompts to set up your account

Or scan the code:



scan below to give using venmo:



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Change Service Requested