

January 2024 Newsletter



St. John's Lutheran Church

1165 County Road D, Almond WI 54909

715-366-2480

<http://www.stjohnsalmond.com>

Our Mission

To celebrate the Gospel in Word and Sacrament which challenges us to cultivate ourselves and our community for Christ.

Deadline for the February Newsletter is 8:00 pm on Monday, January 22nd

Do you have something for the February edition of the Newsletter?

If so, there is a box located on the bookcase by the church office door. Simply place your announcement in the file folder labeled "Bulletin/Newsletter Announcements" or send an email to the church with NEWSLETTER in the subject box. stjohnsalmond@gmail.com

Welcome Pastor Bartholomew!



WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE that Pastor Richard Bartholomew will be installed as our new pastor in a special service on Saturday, January 6 at 11:00 am. A celebration and meal will follow the service. His first official service as our pastor will be Sunday, January 7 at 10:00 am. A meal with fellowship will follow this service as well.

In Service to our Lord

Elders: James Johnson, David Marr, and Alan Pagel

**Communion Set Up,
Greet and Usher:**
Dianne and Ed Schultz

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4: 10

Please consider volunteering for any of the above positions for the February services by contacting Betty Daberkow (715) 335-4176. Thank you!



SPECIAL NOTE FROM THE ELDERS:

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♥ Heart Warmers

May the message of the Savior be the wisdom that shapes our lives together.



January Birthdays

1/2 Sandra Poock	1/9 William Omernik	1/20 Anniston Heise
1/3 Krista Bradley	1/10 John Waggoner	1/20 Cora Heise
1/3 Daniel Erlandson	1/13 Bill Brandl	1/20 Jason Stiles
1/5 Dusty Huntington	1/13 William Goman	1/23 Evan Pagel
1/7 Jean Erdman	1/14 Lance Cayce	1/25 Chris Anderson
1/8 Jon Pagel, Sr.	1/14 Ethan Warzynski	1/27 Jeff Heise
1/9 Jackie Cayce	1/15 Lynne Johnson	1/29 Dave Johnson
1/9 Ashlyn Eastling	1/17 Kevin Fenske	1/29 Michelle Waggoner
1/9 Barbara Footit	1/18 Jim Cesar	1/30 Lacie Bradley
1/9 Susan Lemke	1/19 Callie Richtmyre	



January Anniversaries

1/25 Carol and Randy Ellie

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed or is printed wrong please let us know. Put a note in the folder labeled, "Bulletin/Newsletter Announcements" outside the Church office.



GIVING ENVELOPES

St. John's will no longer be assigning giving envelopes to members beginning in 2024. Donations will still be collected at the church and properly recorded if members use one of the following options:

1. Place checks into the collection plate without an envelope (*make sure to note any special designations on the memo line if applicable.*)
2. Use your leftover envelopes from 2023.
3. Use customizable giving envelopes provided at the back of the sanctuary. *There are envelopes for general giving and special designations. (List your name on the envelope, choose a designation if applicable, and use as normal.)*

If you have any questions, please see an elder or a council member for assistance.



We're Hiring!

CUSTODIAN:

We are looking to fill the paid position of custodian for the church. You will earn extra pay for funerals and weddings. Flexible hours. For more information send an email to the church with CUSTODIAN in the subject box or contact any council member.

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Job description: provide administrative support to Pastor and St. John's Lutheran Church as a whole. Duties include but are not limited to general clerical, management of church membership, care of items in sanctuary and project-based work. Basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills are required. Basic knowledge of computer use, proficient with Microsoft Office software and PowerChurch software. Duties require proficient typing ability. Part time with flexible hours. For a more detailed description of duties send an email to the church with SECRETARY in the subject box or contact any council member.

church email address: stjohnsalmond@gmail.com

The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad

St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, “Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land” (Eph. 6:2). This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.



The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:37–39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin than stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of “you shall not murder”? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches His Word to us through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have — whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time — is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

Ladies Aid Tidbits :

Thank You

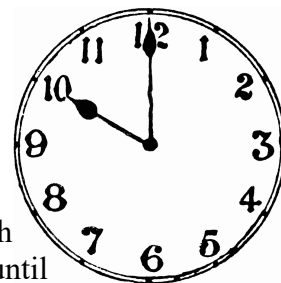
- To everyone who assisted with the three Advent Meals which raised \$700 in free-will offering. The money will be donated towards the “Backpacks for Hope” programs serving Portage and Waushara Counties. This program provides a weekend supply of basic food staples for children in need.
- For making the November “Take Order Pie Sale” a success! We count our blessings for the Thrivent Action Team Project funds, and your continued support with the pie sale, which supported St. John’s five missions. Thank you for your generosity to share God’s Love in our mission work.
- To everyone who donated cookies, helped package, and deliver the Cheer Boxes. The Cheer Boxes are always a welcomed gift of love and fellowship to our families and shut-ins during the Christmas season.

Quilting and monthly Society meeting will resume in January. See the church calendar for dates and times!

Lastly, we wish you all a
Healthy and Happy New Year!

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“Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”
 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:30-31 (NIV)

Heavenly Father, we come to you in praise and prayer for courage, grace, faith, and healing within your will for:

Allan Erdman	Isabel Urban	Stan Hall	Bonnie Wellens	Jan Meyer
Matt Weiss	Pastor Wayne and Eileen Schwanke		Doug Curwen	Derek
Rick Hotchkiss	Joleen Hunkins	Bob Kollock	Tony Sibble	Pam Bertotto
David Walkowicz	Rita Walkowicz	Gary Schultz	Sara	Eric Martinson
Joan Rohde	Jan Conner	Randy Kalata		

We also pray for the leadership of St. John’s as they pursue options for our future, a secretary and custodian for our church, and for the missionaries serving God’s Kingdom thru the LCMS:

Ashley Lehr in Puerto Rico
 David and Rachel Baker in Central Asia



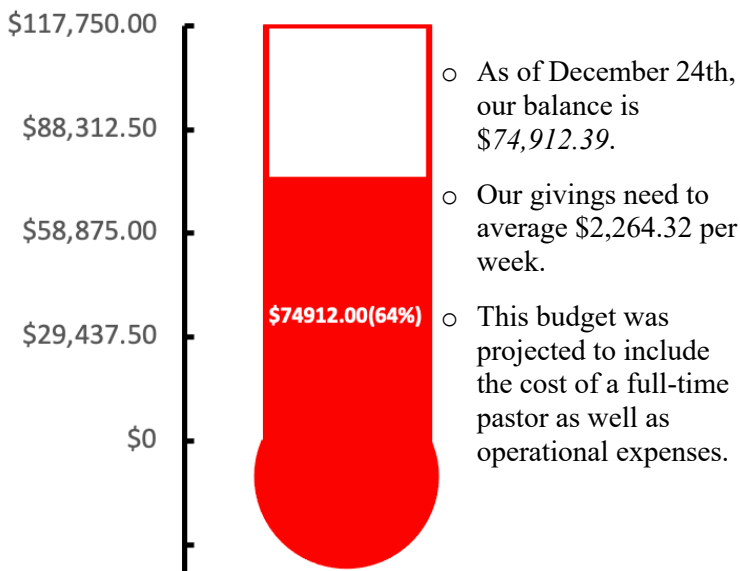
Please remember our shut-ins throughout the year with a card, note of cheer, or prayers.

<u>Verna Yonke</u>	Whispering Pines - #108 3450 Bridlewood Drive Plover, WI 54467	Dorothy Caves	Silver Lake Manor N2641 17 th Lane Wautoma, WI 54982
<u>Scott Boelter</u>	1180 County Road D, Apt #5 Almond, WI 54909	<u>Isabel Urban</u>	N5480 Mount Morris Road Wild Rose, WI 54984
<u>Allan Erdman</u>	9576 County Road P Plainfield, WI 54966	<u>Bonnie Wellens</u>	10599 Big Arbor Vitae Drive Arbor Vitae, WI 54568

FOR PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a request for the prayer chain team please e-mail or call Bonnie Warzynski. She may be reached at 715-966-3995 or mike-bonnie@hotmail.com.

Thank you to all who continue to support St. John’s!

THE BUDGET NUMBER FOR 2023 IS
 \$117,750.00



PARSONAGE RENOVATIONS ARE WELL UNDERWAY!



The list of long overdue projects include plumbing and heating updates/repairs, replacing living room carpeting and kitchen flooring, new wall colors for the entire main floor space, cleaning up and refinishing the kitchen cabinet door fronts and drawers, and new window coverings. We have cleaned out the basement as well. We are hoping to be completed with the renovation by the time Pastor Bartholomew moves in in mid-January.

If you would like to donate to help alleviate some of the expenses of this project, write “parsonage” in the memo area of your check or on the outside of your giving envelope.

January 2024

Sunday

Monday Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

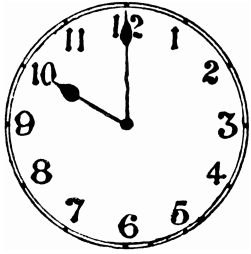
Friday

Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6 INSTALLATION SERVICE for Pastor Bartholomew 11:00 am Celebration and Meal to follow.
7 Divine Communion Worship 10:00 am Fellowship and Lunch following Service	8	9 Golden Needle Quilters 1:00 pm	10	11	12	13
14 Divine Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	15	16	17 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	18 Ladies Aid Meeting 7:00 pm	19	20
21 Divine Communion Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	22	23 Quilting 9:00 am	24	25	26	27
28 Divine Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	29	30 Quilting 9:00 am	31			

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Return Service Requested



**SUNDAY CHURCH
SERVICE TIMES
ARE CHANGING!**

*See the details inside the
newsletter and on the
calendar.*

