

February 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 March Newsletter is 8:00 pm on Monday, February 19th.

Do you have something for the March 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



Our new pastor was installed on Saturday, April 6th. Seven pastors from area churches participated in the wonderful service including (back row, left to right) Pastor Tim Ritter and Vicar Joseph Eggerman from Immanuel Lutheran, Wis. Rapids; Pastor Corey Schaffer from Trinity Lutheran, Port Edwards; Pastor Joshua Baumann from St. Paul Lutheran in Stevens Point. (Front row) NWD President Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck; Pastor Richard Bartholomew; Director of Church Ministry - Caleb Bartholomew from Redeemer Lutheran Church, West Lafayette, Indiana; Pastor David Ficken from Beautiful Savior, Plover.

In Service to our Lord

Elders: James Johnson, David Marr, and Alan Pagel

**Communion Set Up,
Greet and Usher:**

"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 March services by contacting Betty Daberkow (715) 335-4176. Thank you!



SPECIAL NOTE FROM THE ELDERS:

The Sunday church service times are changing back to 10:00 am up until the time of the February Voters Meeting. At this meeting, the voters will set service start times for the rest of 2024. We would like your input on this please!

Heart Warmers

When your heart is right with

God
your ways will follow.



February Birthdays

2/2 Natalie Potts	2/15 Sandy Karpen	2/21 Jovie Stiles
2/3 Greg Pratt	2/15 Carla Potts	2/21 Kayla Warzynski
2/6 Betty Zimmerman	2/17 Tyler Warner	2/21 Ricky Wellens
2/7 Kayla Scheel	2/17 Teresa Warzynski	2/23 Ashton Evertson
2/8 Bianca Cole	2/18 Kathy Schulist	2/23 Cole Schulist
2/8 Randy Wohlfeil	2/19 Morgan Anderson	2/24 Rick Schulke
2/11 Cami Newby	2/19 Robin Pratt	2/26 Brittney Johnson
2/14 Robyn Potts	2/20 Jonah Cole	2/26 Brenda Newby
2/14 Evelyn Warzynski		

February Anniversaries

- 2/14 Sheila & Ronald Beggs
- 2/20 Irene & Jim Cesar
- 2/28 Brianna & Nick Haga



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.

Money Matters

2023 COMMITMENTS

FULFILLED:

North WI District	
Designated Pledge.....	\$600
LCMS Missionary	
Ashley Lehr Partnership.....	\$1200

2023 PROGRAM PROCEEDS:

Amazon Smile	\$71.74
Thrivent Choice Dollars ...	\$1,304.00



Thank you for the generous contributions to our Missions in 2023:

<i>WI Valley Lutheran HS</i>	
<i>(now closed)</i>	<i>\$408</i>
<i>AbleLight (formerly Bethesda)...</i>	<i>\$1119</i>
<i>NWD/LCMS.....</i>	<i>\$1119</i>
<i>Camp Luther</i>	<i>\$1244</i>
<i>Peace Lutheran Campus</i>	
<i>Ministries.....</i>	<i>\$712</i>



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PARSONAGE RENOVATIONS

The parsonage renovations are moving right along! A few touchups with the paintbrush, a bit more trim work, toilet installation and window treatments are left on the list of things to do. The final piece of flooring is being laid as I type this newsletter!



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.

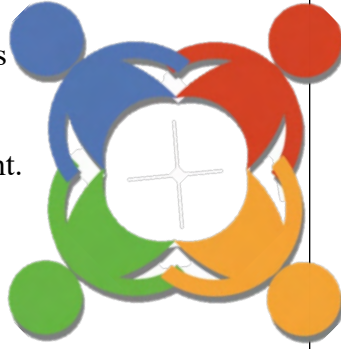
CHURCH SECRETARY:

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

CARING FOR MY NEIGHBOR

If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that!



But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, “you shall not murder,” goes much deeper — down to the heart.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21–22)

Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth.

In the Small Catechism, Luther also points out that every “do not” in the commandments also includes a “do this:” “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need” (SC, Fifth Commandment, emphasis added).

We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good.

So, when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us.

We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church’s work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church’s alms and mercy work. Our neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

Ladies Aid Tidbits :



AS WE JOURNEY TOWARD THE CROSS, we will journey through different ethnic cuisine for our Lenten Meals.

February 14 – Ash Wednesday will be Polish Night – Chicken Soup and Halupki (Stuffed Cabbage)

February 21 – Italian Night – Spaghetti with Angel Hair Pasta and Alfredo

February 28 – Norwegian Night – Norwegian Meatballs and Cod

March 6 – Asian Night – Orange Chicken and Beef with Broccoli

March 13 – German Night – Bratwurst with Sauerkraut and Pork with Apples and Spaetzle

March 20 – Mexican Night – Ground Beef Taco Meat, Chicken Taco Meat (Hard and Soft Shells)

The meals will be served 5:30 to 6:30 pm with the Lenten service to begin at 7:00 pm. Entrees are subject to change.

The Ladies Aid will be asking for donations to accompany the meals. Please try to think of dishes common to each night’s ethnicity.

In order to protect the safety of all – if school is cancelled due to poor weather conditions, the meal will not be served.

THE ALTAR COMMITTEE would like to thank everyone who purchased a poinsettia to adorn the church altar. The plants and Christmas decorations were truly a beautiful honor to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



VALENTINE’S DAY CARDS
Check out our selection of Valentine’s Day Cards for sale.

“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	Eileen Schwanke	Pastor Schwanke	Derek	Rick Hotchkiss
Bob Kollock	Tony Sibble	Pam Bertotto	David Walkowicz	Rita Walkowicz
Gary Schultz	Sara	Eric Martinson	Jan Connor	Randy Kalata
Neil Bartholomew	Dee Erlandson	Charlene Hartlaub		

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>	Country Terrace 8730 Packing Plant Road, #8 Minocqua, WI 54548

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.



Putting the “Ha” in Hallelujah!

MY DAD MAKES BIG MONEY!

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, “My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.”

The second boy says, “That’s nothing. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.

The third boy says, “I got you both beat. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes four people to collect all the money!”



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

The projected yearly expenses for 2024 is \$93,311.75. This figure has been adjusted for our current pastoral expenses as well as church operational expenses.



YEARLY GIVINGS THERMOMETER PROGRESS

- As of January 21st, our balance is \$5,901.00.
- Our givings need to average \$1,794.46 per week.
- This budget was projected to include our current pastor as well as operational expenses.

February 2024

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1	2	3
4 Divine Communion Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	5	6	7 Bible Study 10:00 am	8	9	10
11 Divine Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	12	13 Golden Needle Quilters 1:00 pm	14 Bible Study 10:00 am ASH WEDNESDAY Polish Night* 5:30-6:30 pm Service 7:00 pm	15 Ladies Aid Meeting 1:00 pm	16 Financial Review 6:30 pm	17
18 Divine Communion Worship 10:00 am VOTER'S MEETING and Fellowship following Service	19	20 Quilting 9:00 am	21 Bible Study 10:00 am Italian Night* 5:30-6:30 pm Service 7:00 pm	22	23	24
25 Divine Worship 10:00 am Fellowship following Service	26	27 Quilting 9:00 am	28 Bible Study 10:00 am Norwegian Night* 5:30-6:30 pm Service 7:00 pm	29		

* For more information about each of the Lenten meals see the article inside the Ladies Aid Tidbits in this newsletter.

** Sunday service time may change after outcome of Voter's Meeting. Keep up to date by watching our FaceBook page.

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Almond WI, 54909

Return Service Requested



**SUNDAY CHURCH
SERVICE TIMES
ARE CHANGING!**

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

