



Connections

May 2017

In This Issue

- 1. Spring Retreat Photos
- 2. Reminders/Memorials
April Council Minutes
- 3. Individual, Committee
and Group News
- 4—5. May Calendar
- 6. May Birthdays
May Worship
Assistants
- 7. Spring Retreat Photo

A Modern Creed, United Church of Canada

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works for us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God!

Spring Retreat



St. John's Lutheran Church, 322 E. Washington Ave.

Madison, WI 53703 (608) 256-2337

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth A. Smith, (608) 256-2337

Fax: (608) 256-9590

e-mail: Pr. Ken Smith, kens@stjohnsmadison.org

Web site: www.stjohnsmadison.org

Congregational President: Tom Rivers Council Chair: Marc Williamson

Council Secretary: Victor Forberger Treasurer: Alice Gould

Director of Community Ministry: Jill Ness jilln@stjohnsmadison.org

Director of Music: Kristie Halverson Kristie Halverson, kristieh@stjohnsmadison.org

Parish Bookkeeper: Debra Cook Deb Cook, debc1@stjohnsmadison.org

Parish Secretary: Dick Gundlach Dick Gundlach, dickg@stjohnsmadison.org

Emergency Fund Director: Hasan Mohr Custodian: Berhanu Edao

Worship with Holy Communion is at 9:30 a.m.

Brunch follows the service at 10:45 a.m.

Godly Play and Confirmation, Adult Forum at 10:45 a.m. (fall thru spring)

Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study is the first Thursday of the month at the Prairie Rose Café at Oakwood East

Reminders

-----The second Friday is the Oakwood East service at 11 a.m.

-----The third Sunday of each month we collect food items for area food pantries.

-----The third Sunday of each month we provide the evening meal for the homeless men's shelter at 7pm

-----Articles for the May *Connections* are due by noon, Friday, April 21th.

Memorials

In Memory of Corinne Groehler

Charlene Caucutt
Donald Helfrecht
Don & Bonnie McCarthy
Rita Sager
Richard Wagner
Marc & Marcia Williamson
Merle & Delores Zimmerman
Friends of St. John's
John and Dorothy Hill
Mary Jo Wettstein
Kurt Kunzheimer and Kitz Yanny
Jeff and Georgy Neveau
Norm and Darlene

Council Minutes April 2017

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH — COUNCIL MEETING — 18 APRIL 2017

ATTENDANCE: Marc Williamson (chair), Alice Gould (treasurer), Victor Forberger (secretary), Jim Johnson, Barbara Meyer, Sierra Mueller-Owens, Shari Stephenson, Teena Wagner, Teresa Wagner, Tom Rivers, and Pastor Ken.

DEVOTIONS: Sierra

MINUTES FROM MARCH MEETING: Approved.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY THROUGH MARCH 2017

Total YTD Actual income:	\$78,995
Budgeted YTD:	\$76,250
2016 YTD:	\$86,817

Total YTD Actual Expenses:	\$93,324
Budgeted YTD:	\$97,167
2016 YTD:	\$96,594

Offerings through March are \$50,598 compared to \$42,591 for the same period in 2016. Offering income year-to-date is budgeted at \$59,625. In March, we transferred \$20,000 from the reserves to meet expenses. In comparison, in 2016 we transferred \$35,000 by the end of March.

All expense categories are under budget including Building Expenses.

On the balance sheet, we are carrying money for Lutherans Against Bullying (LAB) as a Prepaid Expense. Jen Koistra has taken over leadership of this group.

The balance in the building fund at the end of March is \$96,346 of which \$70,000 is designated for landscaping, outside signage, and other building repairs. The Oak Bank loan balance to \$71,162. Over \$3,200 of our monthly loan payment of \$3,500 now goes to debt reduction.

In April, a request was made to close the Mission Investment Fund (MIF) account for the Off the Square Club Shower project. This account has a balance of \$165.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Outreach: Met today; welcomed new members and Jill Ness pursuant to her community ministry efforts.

Personnel: Barb Meyer has joined the committee.

Finance: Nothing to report.

Worship Planning: Nothing to report.

Building Fund: In the next few weeks, an additional \$10,000 via a member donation will go towards principal reduction.

Maintenance (was Building Vision): Concrete work is underway. Coffee maker has been repaired. Still waiting for follow-up from Hill Electric on the lighting poles for the side

Minutes continued on top of p.3

Minutes continued from p.2

parking lot. Landscaping will start-up again after the concrete work is wrapped up.

Senior Care Team: Barb Meyer will be handling coordination duties in place of Judy Nolde.

PASTORAL REFLECTION

There is much going on at the moment. Attendance at services seems up, and there may be several new members joining the congregation. A family retreat at Bethel Horizons took place a few weeks ago. Confirmation and Sunday Learning Place are moving along.

Berhanu Edau, St. John's custodian, may be going back to Kenya because of problems with his marriage license that prevents his spouse from emigrating to the United States. If so, that trip will probably lead to his absence of around three weeks. Temporary replacements for cleaning and maintenance are lined up should the trip take place. Retirement planning for Pastor Ken is underway. There are personnel forms to complete, office cleanup, exit interviews, and job and info technology protocols that all need to be in place before June.

NEW AND OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

Reconciling in Christ notices: New or additional logos are in the works.

There was discussion about switching St. John's brokerage service because of delays in processing the selling of stock and invoices that lack needed information. Alice will look into options and make a switch if a better service presents itself.

PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT (next meeting on May 16th)

Individual, Committee and Group News

-----**Reconciling In Christ Workshop:** St. John's has been a Reconciling In Christ congregation for a number of years. And as we look to cultivate our relationships in the Cap East neighborhood (in which a significant number of residents identify as LGBTQ), now is a good time for St. John's to refresh and renew our commitment to full participation for all of our brothers and sisters. To this end, Reconciling Works is hosting a day and a half long workshop May 19-20 in Delevan WI called "Building an Inclusive Church." From the workshop description: "BIC trainings help you design and implement a journey for your congregation to publicly and intentionally welcome people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. BIC equips you with ways to create dialogue, deepening relationships throughout the congregation rather than sparking debate and division." If you are interested in attending this session in Delevan, please contact Jill Ness for more information. jilln@stjohnsmadison.org, 608-515-5909.

-----Starting May 7, we welcome Judy Nolde's artwork to the Gathering Space. Her pastel paintings are inspired by the beauty she finds in the natural world and bear witness to the wonder of God's creation. She has led groups in spiritual exploration using creative expression and hopes to schedule an adult forum.

-----**Spring 2017 Godly Play Schedule**

The overall theme is finding God in my life. We'll do a short Bible story, a reflection on seeking God, and an activity focused on that week's arena: prayer, family and school, and future and vocation.

April 30: Godly Play Closing Theme: *Where is God in my Life I* (My Worship and Prayer)

May 7 Godly Play Closing Theme: *Where is God in my Life II* (My Family and My School)

May 14 Godly Play Closing Theme: *Where is God in my Life III* (My Future and My Vocation)

May 21 Pastor Ken Gone, A mentoring Sunday, Garden Planting

May 28 Memorial Day Weekend, Limited Group for Godly Play and Review of the Year

-----**June 4 High School Recognition:** Arrangements are being made for the **High School Senior Recognition and Quilt Presentation for June 4** for Sierra Mueller-Owens and Kole Knickmeier.

-----**Pastor Ken's Retirement Arrangements for June 4 and 11:** The worship team and retirement committee wish all to know that June 4, Pentecost, will be the last time Pastor Ken will preside at Holy Communion at St. Johns. June 11 is Pastor Ken's last Sunday and Bishop Froiland will be with us that day for the ritual. On June 11, after he preaches his last sermon, Pastor Ken will formally resign his office, be retired from the active clergy roster, be seated in the congregation, and will receive communion with his family as a regular member of St. Johns; while the Bishop leads the congregation in Holy Communion and closes the service. Presiding at Holy Communion is the Bishop's first act of pastoral care for the congregation in its time of transition and allows everyone to see Ken simply as baptized friend.

-----**The Quilters are assembling the green altar and pulpit hangings.** It's coming together!

-----**Spring 2017 Adult Forum Schedule**

April 30 *Gathering Space Art Exhibits* with Kristie Halverson and Susan Hunt

May 7 *Being A Welcoming Community* with Jill Ness

May 14 Currently not scheduled

May 21 *Wisdom Action Plan* with Bonnie Block

MAY

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10am Emergency Assistance	9am Deb Gone				1pm Steinhauer/Bodner Wedding
	12pm OA	12pm Alanon	10am Emergency Assistance	Dick Gone		8pm Men's Shelter
	5pm NA	8pm Men's Shelter	1pm Women's Mosaic	9am Women's Group	10am Emergency Assistance	
	6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal		7pm NA	12pm OA	12pm Alanon	
	7pm NA		8pm Men's Shelter	8pm Men's Shelter	5:30pm Steinhauer/Bodner Wedding Rehearsal	
	8pm Men's Shelter				8pm Men's Shelter	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:15am Choir Rehearsal	10am Emergency Assistance	12pm Alanon	9am Blanket Workshop	11am Emergency Fund Volunteer Luncheon	10am Emergency Assistance	8pm Men's Shelter
9:30am Worship	12pm OA	6:30pm Safe Space Restorative Circle	10am Emergency Assistance	12pm OA	11am Oakwood East Communion Service	
10:45am Godly Play, Confirmation	5pm NA	8pm Men's Shelter	1pm Women's Mosaic	8pm Men's Shelter	12pm Alanon	
10:45am Brunch	6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal		7pm NA		8pm Men's Shelter	
8pm Men's Shelter	7pm NA		8pm Men's Shelter			
	8pm Men's Shelter					
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day	10am Emergency Assistance	12pm Alanon	10am Emergency Assistance	12pm OA	10am Emergency Assistance	8pm Men's Shelter
8:15am Choir Rehearsal	12pm OA	7pm Council	1pm Women's Mosaic	8pm Men's Shelter	12pm Alanon	
9:30am Worship	5pm NA	8pm Men's Shelter	7pm NA		12pm Connections Articles Discussion	

May



05/01	Susan Fitzgerald	05/10	Hilleree Marx	05/23	Gail Engelberger
05/03	Chuck Hutchens	05/11	Andy Stebnitz		Lori Haack
	Thomas Hassett	05/12	Karen Helfrecht		Tammy Knickmeier
	Lindsey Krey		Maruby Radke	05/24	Frances Goglio
05/04	Amy Trentham-Dietz		Bryan Myrold		Luverne Rosenbaum
05/05	Pamela Waddell	05/13	Gwendolyn Pelletier		Hedwig Jacobson
	Stacy Simon	05/14	Marcus Nelson		Steven Wagner
05/06	Lori Clayton		Lilo Abbott	05/25	Samuel DiPietro
05/07	Ervin Reinhardt	05/15	Makayla Eddy		Kristine Martiny
	Chuck Steinhauer	05/17	Jason Dopkins	05/27	Kiyrrauh Thomas
	Carter Dommershausen	05/18	Ben Puls		Eric Westlund
05/08	Tom Knickmeier		Lorin Larson	05/28	Katy Baranowski
	Christopher Stebnitz		Joni Schwenn		Jennifer Latek
05/09	Lorraine Aldahl	05/20	Kyle Magyera	05/29	Jennifer Reinke
	Susan Haney		Ron Caucutt		Todd Schneider
	Christopher Mobry	05/21	Richard Marble	05/30	Megan Martingilio
05/10	Richard Schwenk		Laura Veith		Steven Miller
	Cynthia Crane	05/22	James Steinke	05/31	Mary Mittelstadt
	Bryon Dopkins		Craig Collins		Joel Myrold
	Diane McFarlin		David Wolobah		Megan Ackerman
	Lisa Borchardt		Graham Dommershausen		Beth Baranowski
			Tilla Quam		
			Barb Meyer		
			T.J. Gould		
			Katie Gilkerson		

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	7-May-2017	14-May-2017	21-May-2017	28-May-2017	4-Jun-2017
Greeters	Pat Biba	Lindsay and Marcus Nelson	Elaine Mittelsteadt	Charlene Caucutt	Dee and Merle Zimmerman
Acolytes	Anja Forberger	Micah Asplund	Caden Collins	Annika Mueller-Owens	Micah Asplund
Assisting Minister	Karl Gutknecht	Tim Asplund	Shari Stephenson	Bob Block	Bonnie Block
Lector	Ronda Collins	Shari Stephenson	Sierra Mueller-Owens	Don Clevon	Barbie Pietz
Communion Assistants	Dick Gundlach and Charlene Caucutt	Tom and Carol Rivers	Dick and Winnie Severson	Gary Stebnitz and Karl Gutknecht	Elisabet Pietz and Sierra Mueller-Owens
Ushers	Team #1 - Dick Paulson	Team # 2 - Marcia and Marc Williamson	Team # 3 - Jim Johnson	Team # 6 - Lindsay and Marcus Nelson	Team #1 - Dick Paulson
Altar	Team #5 - Teena and Teresa Wagner	Team #5 - Teena and Teresa Wagner	Team #5 - Teena and Teresa Wagner	Team #5 - Teena and Teresa Wagner	Team #2 - Carole Buchsteiner and Elaine Mittelsteadt
Welcome Center	Carol Rivers	Elaine Mittelsteadt	Marcia Williamson	Carol Rivers	Charlene Caucutt
Brunch	Lindsay and Marcus Nelson	Elaine Mittelsteadt and Dee Zimmerman	Winnie and Dick Severson	Pat Biba	Carole Buchsteiner
Adult Forum	Being A Welcoming Community with Jill Ness	None currently scheduled	May 21 Wisdom Action Plan with Bonnie Block	None currently scheduled	None currently Scheduled

Individual, Committee and Group News

-----The Blanket Workshop is assembling the green altar and pulpit hangings. New Green altar hangings are being constructed for St John's for the Spring of 2017. From a book entitled *Skinny Quilts and Table Runners* the quilters found a pattern that we liked called Arc-I-Texture. Using various shades of green fabric, the Blanket Workshop stitched blocks together using the rail fence pattern. The Women's Back Yard Mosaic Project loomed several pieces as well. Next arcs were added in a series of three representing the Holy Trinity. Green is the liturgical color symbolizing our growth in Christ. We often think about renewal and growth every spring as our earth regenerates and comes to life. We hope we get many years of enjoyment from these new hangings. It's coming together!



Spring Retreat at Bethel Horizons



St. John's Lutheran Church
322 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No. 922

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MAY

«MAILING LABEL»
«ADDRESS1»
«ADDRESS2»
«CITY STATE» «ZIP CODE»

