

---

---



# THE PULSE BEAT



---

Volume 45, Number 4

May 2020

---

## *A Word from the Pastor*

I don't have to tell you that these are strange days! There are some Facebook posts going around that January had 31 days, & February 29, this year. But March had 500 days, and April, who knows? And it makes sense!

Some writings in the Biblical Psalms & the Prophets, recognize the times of Israel's suffering, such as in the Wilderness with Moses. And among the prophets; i.e. Amos, Isaiah, & Jeremiah. And the basic account of the dark feelings of Israelites carried off into exile in Lamentations. Not to mention those left behind to pick up the pieces & simply carry on are in mourning!

So yes there have been tragic times before, which seem endless while they are going on! Time has seemed to be endless when the Corona Virus hit, shutting down our regular worship and liturgical practices, as well as ministries of Bible study, Lenten services and even our Holy Week and Easter activities.

And yet "the work of the people," the real meaning of the word "Liturgy" goes on in new ways, while church buildings are closed down from public worship.

While I surely do NOT believe God has brought about Corona Virus, and its destruction of life, and the fear it creates; God can use even the toughest of times, to bring "new creation" out of the ashes.

Perhaps God is challenging us with a wake-up call that the old "normal" was not working for many people, and for creation! With too much greed, selfishness, political & racial divisions among us, perhaps there is now an opportunity for rethinking. Which is what repentance is all about! *Metanoia* --- *Repent = turn in a new direction.* God uses the events of our lives to bring about *life-change, & mind change!*

A fascinating, & notable happening is that, with human activity curtailed, & shut down, creation seems to be renewing itself! In the canals of Venice, dolphins & other sea creatures have returned! Sea turtles are now laying eggs on beaches, free of humans. Other animals are spreading out in cities.

If we are not too overly destructive, nature can heal itself! Just like the human body --- when we get rid of the toxic poison within & around us, we humans can cleanse & heal body & soul! Or better yet, God's Holy Spirit can rid us of the darkness within, so we can experience and share "Shalom," healing, well-being, meaning, health, peace, integrity, etc. All the things that help us become truly human! Just as Jesus said: ***"The kingdom of God is among you, and within you!"*** And so it is!

In these days, may God help us, through the Holy Spirit to reexamine who we are --- as individuals, children of God, "body of Christ," --- that is, church. And re-examine who we are as human beings, citizens, Americans, & children of the world! Do we really, ***"Love our neighbors as we love ourselves?"***

We mourn the loss of so many affected by the deaths & severe illnesses of those who are indeed suffering from the effects of Corona Virus! And we do honestly pray for them!

And as we are able to come through these days, let us remember that Jesus went into death on the cross for the sake of humanity and the whole world, and came out on the other side into a resurrected life never to die again! The tomb of Christ was empty! It was the "first day of the new creation!" As Dr. Tom Wright says.

Let us be reminded that even in suffering, we can remember with St. Paul: ***"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God!"*** . . . (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

So be encouraged, even now, especially now, by our God, who, through the Holy Spirit's power gives us faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these (gifts) is love! Which can and will see us through!

May we be blessed, to be a blessing to other people! And may we also be renewed by the Spirit of God, so that we too, can become renewers!

*Peace be with you! Pastor Jim*

# NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

---

Such crazy times we find ourselves in the middle of right now. New terms we have quickly learned – safer at home, social distancing, flattening the curve – all meant to keep us healthy and safe as we battle an unseen virus. Our lives have been put on hold as many workplaces have closed, events have been cancelled, school has been suspended, and families are not able to gather together. Even our church, which has always been a safe space for me and my family, has become a place where we are not allowed to gather. Social media and the internet have become our new best friends, and have become an important connection to keep us in touch with the people around us. St. John has been fortunate that the business of the church has been able to continue through online meetings and conference calls.

Our church services at St. John, together with all the services in the area, were also included in the closures, as gatherings of over 10 people are not currently allowed. But as a church family, we have still found a way to worship together through our online services on Facebook Live. These services have also allowed us to reach out to people who may not have their own church, but still search for God's words to help them through these tough times we currently find ourselves in. We celebrated communion together on Easter Sunday via Facebook Live, and were together in spirit, regardless if we were together in body. As I read in numerous Facebook posts, the churches may have been empty on Easter Sunday, but so was the tomb! Amen to that!

Read through the PulseBeat and see the other missions that we will support as a congregation as we wait for our world to get a little closer to normal. The Port Washington and Saukville Food Pantries are looking for our help, as many people are finding themselves in need now, and the shelves are not as full as they need to be. Family Sharing has found themselves in the same situation. Please look at the lists published and see if you can help. Our week for hosting Family Promise is also coming up in May, and although we cannot physically host the families in the program, we are able to support them by sponsoring and paying for their meals for our week. Please see if this is something you feel you can help with.

There are many prayers that are needed now. Pray big and pray often. Pray for our leaders, that they may make good decisions. Pray for the sick and the dying, that they may find comfort or healing, and know that they are not alone. Pray for our heroes on the front lines, that they may find the strength to tend to the sick and stay healthy, and still find time for themselves and their families. Pray for the small business owners, that they are able to weather the financial hardship they find themselves in. Pray for the unemployed, that they are able to stay sheltered and fed as they wait to get back to work. Pray for all the essential employees who continue to work to keep our lives running along at their new normal. Pray for our family and friends, that they may stay safe and healthy. Pray for ourselves, that we are ready to go forward when the time is right, and that we may find a new appreciation for what we have, and knowledge that going back to "normal" may now appear different than before.

Remember – the church is who we are, not just a place that we go. We will weather this storm together! We have strength with God beside us. From Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

I hope you all stay safe and healthy and that we are able to be back together soon!

Peace and blessings to you all,

*Sandy Allen*

# From the Treasurer

The year-to-date deficit through March 2020 is \$20,900. This compares to a deficit of \$6,700 through March of last year.

Income is \$5,900 less than last year, and expenses are \$8,300 more than last year. The major expense item that is higher than last year is mission support which is \$9,900 higher due to making all of the remaining budgeted 2020 mission payments in March instead of spreading them out over the year. It was prudent to support mission agencies as soon as possible due to Covid-19.

**St John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Financial Summary For March 2020**

	March 2020			Year To Date 2020		
	Actual	Budget	Actual Over (under) Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual Over (under) Budget
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Unified Income	\$ 11,619	\$ 17,095	\$ (5,476)	\$ 30,362	\$ 44,449	\$ (14,087)
<b>Expense Summary:</b>						
Education	\$ 50	\$ 92	\$ (42)	\$ 203	\$ 275	\$ (72)
Evangelism	\$ 536	\$ 167	\$ 369	\$ 657	\$ 501	\$ 156
Worship	\$ 1,442	\$ 1,745	\$ (303)	\$ 4,510	\$ 4,936	\$ (426)
Youth	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ (160)	\$ -	\$ 320	\$ (320)
Stewardship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 197	\$ 230	\$ (33)
Public Relations	\$ 16	\$ 120	\$ (104)	\$ 125	\$ 310	\$ (185)
Property	\$ 1,537	\$ 2,316	\$ (779)	\$ 5,372	\$ 6,947	\$ (1,575)
Finance (incl.Mission Support)	\$ 17,180	\$ 9,806	\$ 7,374	\$ 40,247	\$ 32,747	\$ 7,500
Total Expenses	\$ 20,761	\$ 14,406	\$ 6,355	\$ 51,311	\$ 46,266	\$ 5,045
Net Income (Deficit)	\$ (9,142)	\$ 2,689	\$ (11,831)	\$ (20,949)	\$ (1,817)	\$ (19,132)

**Comparative 2019 Figures:**

	<b>@ 3/31/2019</b>
Unified Income	\$ 36,282
Total Expenses	\$ (43,011)
Net Income (Deficit)	\$ (6,729)

**Major Differences 2020 vs. 2019:** Income YTD 2020 \$5,900 less than last year.  
 Expenses 2020 \$8,300 more than last year.  
 Utilities expense \$800 less than last year.  
 Mission support \$9,900 more than last year.  
 (all 2020 support payments made early due to Covid-19)

	<b>@ 3/31/2020</b>	<b>@ 3/31/2019</b>
Assets At End Of Month	\$192,389	\$ 115,862

**Assets Are Needed to Support The Following Funds:**

Fully Funded	\$ 198		\$ 369
Evangelism Fund	\$ 2,117		\$ 2,157
Sign Fund (started 2017)	\$ 7,643		\$ 6,018
Library Fund	\$ 505		\$ 505
Audio Fund (formerly Cassette)	\$ (1,650)		\$ 460
Family Promise Fund	\$ 20		\$ 326
Memorial Fund	\$ 144,899		\$ 47,508
Music Fund	\$ 162		\$ 162
Property Fund	\$ 12,601		\$ 10,104
Contingency Fund	\$ 33,301		\$ 44,985
Youth Fund	\$ 6,270		\$ 6,352
Pastoral Education Fund	\$ 2,085		\$ 2,407
Organ Repair Fund	\$ 73		\$ 73
Scholarship Fund	\$ 3,265		\$ 1,000
Mercy Fund	\$ 1,850		\$ 165

	<b>\$ 213,338</b>		<b>\$ 122,591</b>
= Asset Excess (Shortage)	<b>\$ (20,949)</b>		<b>\$ (6,729)</b>

(Excess = budget surplus; Shortage = budget deficit)

	2020		2019	
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	51	50	63	57

**Mission Distributions This Month:**

Milwaukee Synod ELCA - Mission Support	\$ 2,000
Navajo Lutheran Mission	\$ 600
Feeding America	\$ 400
Pine Ridge Retreat Center	\$ 1,050
Milwaukee Rescue Mission	\$ 350
COPE Services of Ozaukee	\$ 300
Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee	\$ 300
Advocates, Inc	\$ 300
Portal Industries	\$ 300
Ozaukee Family Services	\$ 300
Family Sharing of Ozaukee	\$ 300
Family Promise	\$ 2,000

**GENERAL INTEREST NEWS**

**Pastor James O'Reilly-Christensen**

Office hours: Monday – Thursday,  
9:00 am – 2:00 pm  
920 988-9059 (Cell)

E-mail: [stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com)

**Office Manager: Robin Fatla**

Church office hours: Monday – Friday,  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
262-377-0410

E-mail: [stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com)

FaceBook: St. John Lutheran Church-  
Grafton,WI

**Congregation President** – Sandy Allen

**Vice President** – Robin Fatla

**Secretary** – Sheila Kapke

**Treasurer** – Peter Viesselmann

**Church Council:**

Dennis Jaeger – Worship

Donna Dowe – Education

Audrey Crowell – Stewardship

Robin Fatla – Evangelism

OPEN - Finance

Joe Porth – Property & Grounds

Sharlene Sandquist - Public Relations

Dennis Heusdens - Youth

Harold Immekus - at large

Jane Turowski - Financial Secretary

Organist

Paula Juedes

St. John Choir Director

Anita Misun

Glory Ringers Director

Dale Allen

Flutist

Sandy Allen

**Newsletter staff:**

Robin Fatla & Sheila Kapke

**Newspaper Deadline:**

Articles due by the 3rd Sunday of each  
month.

**Church Phone Numbers:**

Office: 262-377-0410 Fax: 262-377-0410

Pastor: 920 988-9059

**E-Mail:** (office) [stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com)  
(pastor) [stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com)

**FaceBook:** St. John Lutheran Church-  
Grafton,WI

**GENERAL INTEREST NEWS**

**We keep in our prayers:**

Barb Beckner (friend of Judy McMullin), Clarice Buchholz (Mary Jaeger's mother), Anna Bullio (great-granddaughter of Florence Van Cleave), Mark Bullio (Florence Van Cleave grandson-in-law), Chris Capelle (friend of Kay Freyer), Jenny Zarling Ceasar (goddaughter of Marian Witte), John Clasen, Cathy Collins (Florence Van Cleave's daughter), Frank DeGaetano (Borgne McClelland's brother-in-law), Roger Faretra (Doug's brother), Audrey Fischer (sister of Monica Faretra & Donna Dowe), Kevin Freier (Marian Witte's grandson), Brian Gadzalinski (Suzette Travis' son), Sugeily Garcia, Mary Jaeger, Sue Larson (cousin of Kay Freyer), Jerry Litvinoff (Jim's brother), Rosemary Litvinoff (Jim's mother), Ken Matthews (Kayla Matthews' father-in-law), Joanne McClelland (Robert McClelland's sister-in-law), Ann, & Ed (Anita Misun's family members), Sue Ellen Nelsen, Gerri Noack (friend of Florence Van Cleave), Sandy & Tom Nyenhuis (friend of Audrey Crowell), Nellie Padilla (Sugeily Garcia's mother), Joe Porth, Eric & Karen Rautenberg (Sue Dowe's mother & step dad), Kelly Robinson (friend of Don Burhop), Tom Rogahn, Ginny Scarborough (sister of Jackie Rogahn), Harry Seaman (friend of Kay Freyer), Wendy Tomter, Suzette Travis, Larry Van Cleave (Florence's son), Tom White (Doug Faretra's nephew), Jim Wick, Marian Witte, Kylene Wright

**Military personnel:** Kenn Matthews, Lisa & Jared Nelson, Kyle Christenson, Andy David, Cooper Hunt, Amber Martin

**"Home away from home" members:** Jeanine Burhop (sister of the late Marilyn Speranza) – Lasata; Tim McClosky & John Clasen – at home with sister Merry Lou Green; Joyce Koss – Serenity Villa, Slinger



*"...I am the resurrection and  
the life.  
He who believes in Me,  
though he may die,  
he shall live."  
John 11:25*

*Arleen Edna Emily Herman  
September 15, 1918 -April 16, 2020*



- 5/1 Harold Immekus
- 5/3 Heather Fiedler
- 5/8 Evie Matthews
- 5/14 Nathan Levra
- 5/15 Audrey Crowell
- 5/16 Jackie Rogahn
- 5/19 Marion Meyer
- 5/23 Nancy Shock
- 5/23 Joe Christensen
- 5/24 Mackenzie O'Reilly-Christensen
- 5/25 Dan Tetzlaff
- 5/28 Emma Levra

Please notify Church Office if we have missed someone. Thank you!



- 5/7/2016 Mike & Maren Foti
- 5/28/1988 Fritz & Sue Dowe
- 5/28/1999 Steve & Dinah Tetzlaff
- 5/31/1969 Bob & Mari Schmidt

Please notify Church Office if we have missed someone. Thank you!



Affirmation of Baptism, originally set for May 17th, has been postponed to a later date.

**GENERAL INTEREST NEWS**



**Donate Blood and Be a Hero!**

Because it is critically important to maintain an adequate blood supply, Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin is continuing to hold blood drives, and has **implemented additional protocol for sanitizing, scheduling and social distancing.** The community is welcome and encouraged to give blood at a blood drive hosted by

Trinity Lutheran in Cedarburg (N60 W6047 Columbia Road) on

**Saturday, May 16 from 8:30am-12:30pm.**

Anyone who is at least 17 years old (16-year-olds can donate with parental consent), weighs a minimum of 110 lbs. and is in generally good health can donate blood.

The entire process takes about an hour, and all blood types are needed. By donating just one pint of blood, you have the potential to save up to three lives.

**Appointments are preferred,** and donors should bring a photo ID. To sign up for your life-saving appointment, call 1-877-BE-A-HERO, contact Jill Klitz (377-6074, [djklitz@milwpc.com](mailto:djklitz@milwpc.com)) or reserve a spot online at [bit.ly/trinitymay2020](http://bit.ly/trinitymay2020). Thank you!



Scholarship applications are now available. Please contact the church office if you would like one.

### MISSION TEAM

At the recommendation of our treasurer and agreement of the church council, the vertical lift, outdoor sign, sound system upgrade, and the adult day center projects have all been put on hold until the Covid-19 emergency has ended and regular operations of St. John resume.

Given our financial situation at this time, moving forward on these projects is in question.

The council will keep you informed of future decisions on these and any other projects of the church.



There are currently 6 families in the program and they are being housed at the Chalet Motel in Mequon. Dinner meals are being prepared and delivered by Crossroads Presbyterian Church in Mequon.

Our next host week is May 10 - 17 and because we will not be actually hosting the families at the church, we are being asked to make a financial donation toward the cost of the meals. Robin will be notified **following** our host week as to what monies are needed to cover the expenses for our host week meals.

You will be asked, **if possible**, to help cover that expense.

Since the families are isolated in the motel, items for them to help pass the time are being sought: adult coloring books and colored pencils, word search and crossword puzzle books, playing cards, current magazines that you have read.

There will be a basket inside the south door of the church for any donations you can/wish to make. Stop by between 9-noon, Monday-Friday.

During the recent church council meeting, it was agreed that we should take up collections for the Family Sharing and Saukville Food Pantries.

### MISSION TEAM CONT.

**Specific items of need for the Saukville Food Pantry are:** Chef-Boy-R-Dee canned pasta meals, corned beef hash, Spam, canned chicken, canned fruit, Chunky soups (any brand), **and for Family Sharing:** dry pasta, pasta sauce, baked or pork & beans, black beans, refried beans, and the elusive toilet paper.

There will be marked barrels inside the south door of the church for these items along side the Family Promise basket.

Those of us that are able, please consider helping. There are increased requests for help at ALL county agencies due to unemployment during this Covid-19 emergency.

### PROPERTY & GROUNDS



Our long time property caretaker, **Steve Tetzlaff**, is retiring from his lawn mowing and snow plowing donations to St.

John. We are forever grateful to Steve for making that work part of his offering to his church and we wish him a healthy, happy future.

That being said, Joe Porth, our Property and Grounds Team leader, is looking for a new company or individual to do our lawn mowing this summer. If you know of someone or are interested yourself, please contact Joe with that information.



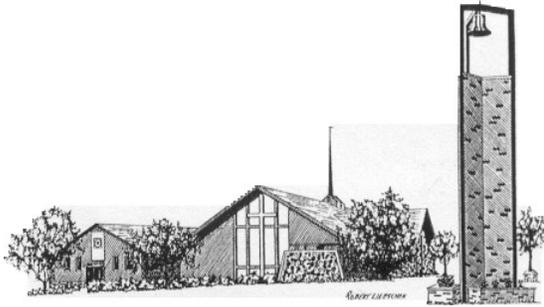
Our Peace Garden is going to need attention very soon. If you have the desire to get out of your house for a while and want to do some work there, please contact Joan Horsefield for suggestions on what needs and can be done.

# May 2020 Pulse Beat

## St. John Lutheran Church

*"In God's Word, Serving You and the World"*

1193 Lakefield Road  
Grafton, WI 53024  
Address Service Requested



**IT IS OUR MISSION** as people called by God into the Congregation of St. John Lutheran Church to:

- Proclaim the Gospel in worship and daily life.
- Study and teach God's Word.
- Fellowship among people of this congregation.
- Serve people in our surrounding community.

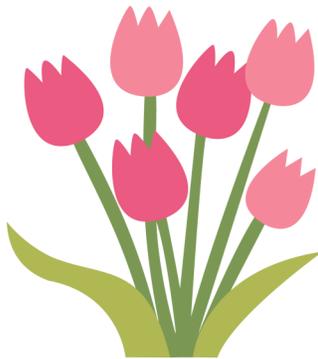
This is the **MISSION** and **MINISTRY** that we accept as fellow Christians at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lakefield.

*"Faithfully Serving Christ Since 1866"*

### Worship Schedule

- Sunday Morning - 9:30 a.m.
- Education hour - 11:00 a.m.

HAPPY  
Mother's  
DAY



### *Love Leaves the Dust*

If I live in a house of spotless beauty with everything in place, but have not love, I am a housekeeper, not a homemaker.

If I have time for waxing, polishing, and decorative achievements, but have not love, my children learn cleanliness, not Godliness.

Love leaves the dust in search of a child's laugh.

Love smiles at the tiny fingerprints on a newly cleaned window.

Love wipes away tears before wiping up spilled milk.

Love picks up the child before it picks up the toys.

Love is present through the trials.

Love reprimands, reproves, and is responsive.

Love crawls with the baby, walks with the toddler,

runs with the child, then stands aside to let the youth walk into adulthood.

Love is the key that opens salvation's message to a child's heart.

Before I became a mother, I took glory in my house of perfection.

Now I glory in God's perfection of my child.

**As a mother, there is much I must teach my child,  
but the greatest of all...is love.**

*Taken from-"Touched by an E-mail"*